

The
G7 Research Group
at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at Trinity College
in the University of Toronto presents the

2018 Charlevoix G7 Final Compliance Report

10 June 2018 — 25 July 2019

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“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues — a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme,
in *G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit*

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Contents

Preface	3
Dedication.....	5
Research Team	5
Lead Analysts	5
Compliance Analysts.....	5
Executive Summary.....	7
The Interim Compliance Score	7
Compliance by Member	7
Compliance by Commitment.....	7
The Compliance Gap Between Members.....	7
Future Research and Reports.....	7
Table A: 2018 Priority Commitments Selected for Assessment*	8
Table B: 2018 G7 Charlevoix Final Compliance Scores	10
Table C: 2018 G7 Charlevoix Final Compliance Scores by Country	10
Table D: 2018 G7 Charlevoix Fnal Compliance Scores by Commitment	12
1. Democracy: Terrorism	13
2. Democracy: Transparency	59
3. Trade: International Rules and Intellectual Property Rights	71
4. Macroeconomic Policy: Growth that Works for Everyone	98
5. Labour and Employment: Skills and Education.....	152
6. Health: Mental Health	203
7. Development: African Union Agenda 2063	224
8. Development: International Development Partnerships and Private Sector Investments.....	263
9. Gender: Development Finance	292
10. Climate Change: Gender	322
11. Climate Change: Paris Agreement.....	345
12. Climate Change: Insurance Risk	395
13. Environment: Earth Observation Technologies.....	413
14. Environment: Coastal Resilience	437
15. Environment: Ocean Plastics Charter	454
16. Environment: Marine Litter	482
17. Energy: Energy Security	515
18. Gender: Quality Education for Girls and Women	560
19. Gender: Equality in Labour Markets.....	622
20. Gender: Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Digital Contexts	657

Preface

Each year since 1996, the G7 Research Group has produced a compliance report on the progress made by the G7 members in meeting the commitments their leaders issue at each summit. Since 2002, the group has usually published an interim report to assess progress at the time of the transition from the outgoing presidency to incoming presidency, in addition to the final report issued just before the annual summit. These reports, which monitor a carefully chosen selection of the many commitments announced at the end of each summit, are offered to the general public and to policy makers, academics, civil society, the media and interested citizens around the world in an effort to make the work of the G7 more transparent and accessible, and to provide scientific data to enable meaningful analysis of this unique and informal institution. Compliance reports are available at the G7 Information Centre at <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance>.

Based at the University of Toronto and founded in 1987, the G7 Research Group strives to be the leading independent source of information and analysis on the institutions, performance, issues and participants of the G7 summit and system of global governance. It is a global network of scholars, students and professionals. The group oversees the G7 Information Centre, which publishes freely available research on the G7 as well as official documents issued by the G7.

For the interim and final compliance reports on the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, hosted by Canada on June 8–9, 2018, 20 priority commitments were selected from the total 315 commitments made. This interim report covers actions taken by G7 members between 10 June 2018 until 10 December 2018. The final report will cover the full period between the day after the Charlevoix Summit until the eve of the Biarritz Summit that France will host on 24–26 August 2019.

To make its assessments, the G7 Research Group relies on publicly available information, documentation and media reports. To ensure the accuracy, comprehensiveness and integrity of these reports, we encourage comments and suggestions. Indeed, this is a living document, and the scores can be recalibrated if new material becomes available. All feedback remains anonymous and is never attributed. Responsibility for this report's contents lies exclusively with the report's authors and the analysts of the G7 Research Group.

This report is produced entirely on a voluntary basis. It receives no direct financial support from any source, by a process insulated from the other major activities of the G7 Research Group, such as the “background books” produced GT Media or the pre-summit conferences sponsored by various institutions.

The work of the G7 Research Group would not be possible without the steadfast dedication of many people around the world. This report is the product of a team of energetic and hard-working analysts led by Angela Min Yi Hou and Julia Tops, co-chairs of summit studies, and Cindy Xinying Ou, editor-in-chief, and their team of lead analysts and analysts. It would also not be possible without the support of Dr. Ella Kokotsis, director of accountability, and Brittaney Warren, senior researcher. We are also indebted to the many people who provide feedback on our drafts, whose comments will be carefully considered in the published report.

John Kirton
Director, G7 Research Group

Dedication

We dedicate this year's report to Carey Davis, who was a compliance director and a member of our field team at the 2018 Charlevoix Summit. Carey died by suicide in January 2018. She made a deep and positive impression on those who knew her, and lasting contribution to the G7 Research Group, and to Trinity College and the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy. Her family has launched an endowment called the Carey Projects to help support students at the University of Toronto in their exploration of solutions to global challenges and to address suicide education and awareness on campus. Donations are welcome at thecareyprojects.org.

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Executive Summary

The University of Toronto G7 Research Group's Final Compliance Report on the 2018 Charlevoix Summit assesses the compliance of the G7 members with 20 priority commitments selected from the total 315 made at their summit in Canada on 8-9 June 2018 (see Table A). This selection reflects the breadth and focus of the summit agenda. The analysis covers actions taken by G7 members since 10 June 2018, the day after the summit, until 25 July 2019.

The Final Compliance Score

Compliance is measured on a three-point scientific scale. A score of +1 indicates full compliance with a commitment, a score of 0 indicates partial compliance, and a score of -1 indicates non-compliance as in a failure to comply or action taken that is directly opposite to the commitment. The final compliance scores are listed in Table B.

For the period of 10 June 2018 to 25 July 2019, the average compliance score for these 20 commitments was +0.66 (83%). This is an increase from the interim compliance score of +0.50 (75%) and is a slight increase from the 2017 Taormina final compliance score of +0.60 (80%). Table C contains scores since 2015.

Compliance by Member

The European Union ranked first with an average compliance score of +0.90 (95%), followed by Canada and the United Kingdom at +0.85 (93%) and Canada at +0.80 (90%). Italy had the lowest score at +0.40 (70 percent). Japan's average of +0.68 (84%) is based on 19 commitments as it was not party to the commitment on Ocean Plastics Charter. The average of +0.47 (74%) for the United States was calculated on 17 commitments as it was not party to the commitments on Ocean Plastics Charter, climate gender, and the Paris Agreement. Table C contains the scores by country.

Compliance by Commitment

Seven commitments had complete compliance of +1.00 (100%): the commitment on skills and education, climate change and the Paris Agreement, the African Union's Agenda 2063, gender equality in labour markets, macroeconomic policy on growth that works for everyone, energy security, and international development partnerships and private sector investments. The lowest scores were the commitments on sexual and gender-based violence in digital contexts and on climate change insurance risk at 0 (50%). Table D contains the scores by issue.

The Compliance Gap Between Members

These final results from the Charlevoix Summit show a difference of 0.60 between the highest and lowest compliance scores, a smaller spread than the 2017 final compliance gap of 0.78.

Future Research and Reports

The information contained within this report provides G7 members and other stakeholders with an indication of their compliance with 20 commitments for the full year between the Charlevoix Summit in June 2018 and the Biarritz Summit in August 2019. As with previous compliance reports, this report has been produced as an invitation for others to provide additional or more complete information on country compliance. Comments are always welcomed and would be considered as part of an analytical reassessment. Please send your feedback to g7@utoronto.ca.

Table A: 2018 Priority Commitments Selected for Assessment*

Number	Commitment
40	“We commit to take concerted action in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine our democratic societies and institutions, our electoral processes, our sovereignty and our security as outlined in the Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats.”
234	“In accordance with applicable laws, ensure a high level of transparency around sources of funding for political parties and all types of political advertising, especially during election campaigns.”
17	“We will work together to enforce existing international rules and develop new rules where needed to foster a truly level playing field, addressing in particular non-market oriented policies and practices, and inadequate protection of intellectual property rights, such as forced technology transfer or cyber-enabled theft.”
5	“We will continue monitoring market developments and using all policy tools to support strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth that generates widespread prosperity.”
30	“We are resolved to ensure that all workers have access to the skills and education necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies.”
19	“To support growth and equal participation that benefits everyone, and ensure our citizens lead healthy and productive lives, we commit to bringing greater attention to mental health.”
53	“We reiterate our commitment to work in partnership with the African continent, supporting the African Union Agenda 2063 in order to realize Africa’s potential.”
116	“Fostering new international development partnerships, and capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development, with particular attention to inclusive growth.”
136	“Supporting development finance programs that strive to advance women’s economic empowerment and gender equality while promoting mutually reinforcing economic prosperity and stability in partner countries, including by providing access to capital that enhance economic opportunities for women.”
261	“We encourage the collection, analysis, dissemination and use of gender-sensitive data to bridge gaps in understanding the way women and girls are impacted by risks and catastrophic events, and how they can be engaged in developing and implementing solutions.”
66	“Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the European Union reaffirm their strong commitment to implement the Paris Agreement, through ambitious climate action; in particular through strengthening and financing resilience and reducing vulnerability.”
252	“We will explore broadening disaster risk insurance coverage, including through global and regional facilities, such as the InsuResilience Global Partnership, to extend high-quality insurance coverage to vulnerable developing countries and beneficiaries in need and to encourage new types of insurance products for emerging risks.”
256	“We intend to leverage innovation in the field of Earth observation technologies and related applications and make them broadly available in the poorest and most vulnerable regions of the world in order to support ... infrastructure and building design (environment)”
243	“Our efforts will support resilient and quality infrastructure in coasts and coastal communities, particularly in SIDS. This will include advancing the development and deployment of clean and resilient energy systems, including from renewable sources.”
289	“Supporting secondary markets for plastics including using policy measures and developing international incentives, standards or requirements for product stewardship, design and recycled content.”
276	“Further, we will promote the harmonization of monitoring methodologies for marine litter and collaboration on research on its impacts, in cooperation, for example with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to facilitate this work.”

63	“We commit to ongoing action to strengthen our collective energy security and demonstrate leadership in ensuring that our energy systems continue to drive sustainable economic growth.”
176	“We will ensure commitment to gender equality and prioritize improved access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts, while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.”
113	“Support gender equality in labour market opportunities and in the distribution of unpaid care work, with measures such as paid maternity leave and parental leave, as well as initiatives to ensure women’s equal access to decent employment opportunities, leadership opportunities, resources and finance.”
217	“Mobilize the international community, including through working with] civil society [to develop strategies to improve prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based abuse, harassment and the threat of violence in digital contexts and learn lessons from current models of industry-government collaboration on emerging digital challenges.”

*For the full list of commitments, please contact the G7 Research Group at g7@utoronto.ca.

Table B: 2018 G7 Charlevoix Final Compliance Scores

		Canada	France	Germany	Italy	Japan	United Kingdom	United States	European Union	Average	
1	Democracy: Terrorism	+1	+1	+1	-1	0	+1	+1	+1	+0.63	81%
2	Democracy: Transparency	+1	-1	-1	0	0	+1	+1	+1	+0.25	63%
3	Trade: International Rules and Intellectual Property Rights	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	-1	+1	+0.50	75%
4	Macroeconomics: Inclusive Growth	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
5	Labour and Employment: Skills and Education	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
6	Health: Mental Health	+1	0	0	+1	0	+1	0	+1	+0.50	75%
7	Development: African Union Agenda 2063	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
8	Development: International Development Partnerships and Private Sector Investments	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
9	Gender: Development Finance	0	0	+1	+1	-1	+1	+1	+1	+0.50	75%
10	Climate Change: Gender	+1	+1	+1	-1	+1	+1	-	+1	+0.71	86%
11	Climate Change: Paris Agreement	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	-	+1	+1.00	100%
12	Climate Change: Insurance Risk	0	-1	+1	-1	0	+1	-1	+1	0.00	50%
13	Environment: Earth Observation Technologies	0	+1	0	0	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.50	75%
14	Environment: Coastal Resilience	+1	+1	0	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+0.75	88%
15	Environment: Ocean Plastics Charter	+1	+1	0	0	-	+1	-	+1	+0.67	83%
16	Environment: Marine Litter	+1	+1	0	0	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.63	81%
17	Energy: Energy Security	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
18	Gender: Quality Education for Girls and Women	+1	0	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+0.63	81%
19	Gender: Equality in Labour Markets	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
20	Gender: Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Digital Contexts	+1	+1	-1	0	+1	-1	-1	0	0.00	50%
	2018 Final Compliance Average	+0.80	+0.65	+0.50	+0.40	+0.68	+0.85	+0.47	+0.90	+0.66	83%
		90%	83%	75%	70%	84%	93%	74%	95%		

Table C: 2018 G7 Charlevoix Final Compliance Scores by Country

	2018 final		2018 interim		2017 final		2017 interim		2016 final		2016 interim		2015 final	
European Union	+0.90	95%	+0.85	93%	+0.95	98%	+0.94	97%	+0.67	84%	+0.91	96%	+1.00	100%
United Kingdom	+0.85	93%	+0.70	85%	+0.84	92%	+0.56	78%	+0.53	77%	+0.64	82%	+0.86	93%
Canada	+0.80	90%	+0.70	85%	+0.68	84%	+0.44	72%	+0.58	79%	+0.55	78%	+0.48	74%
Japan	+0.68	84%	+0.58	79%	+0.47	74%	+0.25	63%	+0.28	64%	+0.18	59%	+0.48	74%
France	+0.65	83%	+0.45	73%	+0.68	84%	+0.50	75%	+0.26	63%	+0.27	64%	+0.67	84%
Germany	+0.50	75%	+0.24	62%	+0.17	59%	+0.13	57%	+0.63	82%	+0.82	91%	+0.81	91%
United States	+0.47	74%	+0.40	70%	+0.63	82%	+0.44	72%	+0.67	84%	+0.55	78%	+0.90	95%
Italy	+0.40	70%	+0.15	58%	+0.37	69%	+0.31	66%	+0.21	61%	+0.18	59%	+0.24	62%
Average	+0.66	83%	+0.51	75%	+0.60	80%	+0.44	72%	+0.49	75%	+0.51	76%	+0.68	84%
Spread	0.50		0.70		0.78		0.69		0.46		0.73		0.76	

Table D: 2018 G7 Charlevoix Final Compliance Scores by Commitment

1	Labour and Employment: Skills and Education	+1.00	100%
	Development: African Union Agenda 2063		
	Climate Change: Paris Agreement		
	Energy: Energy Security		
	Gender: Equality in Labour Markets		
	Macroeconomic Policy: Growth that Works for Everyone		
	Development: International Development Partnerships and Private Sector Investments		
8	Environment: Coastal Resilience	+0.75	88%
9	Climate Change: Gender	+0.71	86%
10	Environment: Ocean Plastics Charter	+0.67	83%
11	Democracy: Terrorism	+0.63	81%
	Gender: Quality Education for Girls and Women		
	Environment: Marine Litter		
14	Trade: International Rules and Intellectual Property Rights	+0.50	75%
	Health: Mental Health		
	Environment: Earth Observation Technologies		
	Gender: Development Finance		
18	Democracy: Transparency	+0.25	63%
19	Gender: Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Digital Contexts	0	50%
	Climate Change: Insurance Risk		

1. Democracy: Terrorism

“We commit to take concerted action in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine our democratic societies and institutions, our electoral processes, our sovereignty and our security as outlined in the *Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats*.”

Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats

Assessment

	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy	-1		
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.63	

Background

In 1978, the G7 members met in Bonn, Germany for the fourth G7 summit. The summit produced 35 commitments in total, of which two commitments were dedicated to terrorism.¹ This was the first mention of terrorism and was stipulated in the *G7 Statement on Air Hijacking*.² The commitment included reference to intensifying cooperation to combat international terrorism and the halting of flights to and from the country.³

In 1980, the G7 members met during the sixth summit hosted in Venice, Italy. The members mention terrorism commitments as an extension of the previous 1978 commitments regarding hijacking and hostages.⁴ The four commitments under the *Statement on the Taking of Diplomatic Hostages* stipulated the influence of real-world catalysts like the Iran Embassy siege.⁵ The commitments included the reaffirmation of deterring hostage-taking, the call to become a party to the *Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes Against Internationally Protected Persons* of 1973, and supporting general assistance to diplomatic and consular establishments during situations involving terrorism.⁶

In 1981, the G7 members met in Ottawa, Canada. Among the 40 commitments made that year, the members produced the *Ottawa Summit Statement on Terrorism*, which included seven commitments.⁷ The general outlook of the commitments included the transition to monitor the supply of money and

¹ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

² All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

³ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

⁴ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

⁵ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

⁶ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

⁷ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

arms to terrorist groups, sanctuary and training offered to terrorists, along with aircraft hijacking and hostage-taking.⁸ The commitments also include the mention of the hijacking of a Pakistan International Airlines aircraft and the conduct of the Babrak Karmal government in Afghanistan which gave refuge to the hijackers.⁹ This culminated in the commitment to propose the suspension of all flights to and from Afghanistan as an implementation of the *Bonn Declaration* from 1978.¹⁰ There was also a call for an international response to states that directly aid and abet terrorist acts as condemned in the earlier Venice Statement, and the agreement to exchange information regarding terrorist threats and activities among members.¹¹

In 1984, the G7 members met in London, England. This summit produced the *Declaration on International Terrorism*, consisting of five commitments.¹² These commitments included closer cooperation and coordination between police and security organizations to promote the exchange of information.¹³ Furthermore, there was mention of each member to review the sale of weapons to states supporting terrorism.¹⁴

In 1987, the G7 members met in Venice, Italy. The summit produced the *Statement on Terrorism* which included 13 commitments.¹⁵ The commitments included the reaffirmation of previous statements on terrorism from Bonn, Venice, Ottawa, London, and Tokyo.¹⁶ It also welcomed improvements in airport and maritime security and encouraging the work of ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization) and IMO (International Maritime Organization).¹⁷ It also included the support for the rule of law in bringing terrorists to justice. Lastly, it pledged to cooperate regarding extradition of those who perpetrated acts of terrorism.¹⁸

In 1990, the G7 members met in Houston, US. The summit's *Statement on Transnational Issues* included 11 commitments on terrorism including the previous call to continue to negotiate a convention requiring the introduction of additives into plastic explosives to aid in their detection.¹⁹ The statement also included the objective to provide training and technical assistance to other nations.²⁰

⁸ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

⁹ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

¹⁰ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

¹¹ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

¹² All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

¹³ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

¹⁴ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

¹⁵ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

¹⁶ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

¹⁷ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

¹⁸ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

¹⁹ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

²⁰ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

In 1992, the G7 members met in Munich, Germany. The Chairman's Statement by German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinsel included one statement on terrorism to renounce support for terrorism, including financial support, and deny the use of their territory for terrorist organizations.²¹

In 1995, the G7 members met in Halifax, Canada. The members promoted new approaches including the sharing of lessons learned from major terrorist incidents and strengthening cooperation through research and technology transfer.²² Additionally, it called upon a group of terrorism experts to report to a ministerial-level meeting on specific cooperative measures to deter, prevent, and investigate terrorist acts.²³ The meeting would be held before the next summit.

In 1997, the G7 members met in Denver, US. The summit introduced the notion of intensifying diplomatic efforts to ensure that by the year 2000 all states join the international counterterrorism conventions specified in the 1996 UN resolution on measures to counter terrorism.²⁴ The summit also introduced commitments regarding increasing hostage negotiation capabilities, counterterrorism response units, and deterring the use of materials of mass destruction in terrorist attacks.²⁵ This was also the first mention of the development of a means to deter terrorist attacks on electronic and computer infrastructure.²⁶ Similarly, there were commitments made regarding developing training for law enforcement personnel to fight high-technology and computer-related crime and the adoption of OECD Guidelines for Cryptography Policy as a mechanism to prevent terrorism.²⁷ The history of terrorism commitments in the G7 saw a huge shift due to this transition towards electronics and computers.

In 2000, the G7 members met in Okinawa, Japan. The members agreed on the call for all states to become parties to the 12-international counter-terrorism conventions and the full implementation of the UNSCR 1267.²⁸

In 2002, the G7 members met in Kananaskis, Canada. The commitments under the Kananaskis Summit Chair's Summary agreed on a set of six non-proliferation principles aimed at preventing terrorists, or those who harbor them, from acquiring or developing nuclear, chemical, radiological and biological weapons; missiles; and related materials, equipment or technologies.²⁹ Lastly, it included the launch of a new G8 Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction, under which cooperative projects would be undertaken and the commitment to

²¹ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

²² All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

²³ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

²⁴ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

²⁵ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

²⁶ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

²⁷ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

²⁸ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

²⁹ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

raise up to USD \$20 billion to support the projects over the next ten years.³⁰ Additionally, it focused on Africa and combating money laundering and terrorist financing on the continent.³¹

In 2003, the G7 members met in Evian-les-Bains, France. The summit introduced building international political will and capacity to combat terrorism, which included supporting the UNSC's Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) by ensuring efficient staffing, fulfilling obligations under UNSCR 1373, and increasing outreach efforts in third world countries.³²

In 2004, the G7 members met in Sea Island, US. The *G8 Action Plan on Nonproliferation* outlined the need to safely enjoy peaceful nuclear energy without allowing it to be exported to states that may seek to use them for weapons purposes, or allow them to fall into terrorist hands.³³ There was also a unique commitment based on bioterrorism and establishing new biosurveillance capabilities to detect attacks against humans, animals, crops, and improving response and prevention capabilities.³⁴

In 2006, the G7 members met in St. Petersburg, Russia. The summit introduced for the first time the countering of terrorism in the cyberspace, including the incitement to commit terrorist attacks, to communicate and plan terrorist acts, as well as recruitment and training of terrorists.³⁵

In 2007, the G7 members met in Heiligendamm, Germany. The *G8 Summit Statement on Counter Terrorism* was established during the summit which outlined the connection between globalization and violent extremism and the call to protect nations against these threats.³⁶

In 2009, the G7 members met in Abruzzo, Italy. This summit included specific attention to specific states and their terrorist activities, including Afghanistan and Pakistan, in which commitments were made to promote stability and development to counterterrorism in the regions.³⁷ Furthermore, the *G8 Declaration on Counter-Terrorism* provided unique commitments tackling counterterrorism by establishing a dialogue with the younger generation. It also promoted the implementation of sanctions in working towards universal compliance with international standards in the area of counter terrorism financing.³⁸

In 2010, the G7 members met in Huntsville, Canada. Here, the members agreed that actions against terrorism include helping countries address their basic development needs.³⁹

³⁰ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

³¹ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

³² All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

³³ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

³⁴ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

³⁵ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

³⁶ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

³⁷ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

³⁸ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

³⁹ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

In 2015, the G7 members gathered in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany in which terrorism commitments included a particular focus on Libya and its growing terrorist threat, arms proliferation, migrant smuggling, and humanitarian suffering at the hands of terrorist groups.⁴⁰ A call was made to stand ready to provide support to rebuild Libya with a representative government, build state institutions, and rid the country of terrorists and criminal networks.⁴¹

In 2016, the G7 members met in Ise-Shima, Japan. This summit paid close attention to the cyber aspect of terrorism, with a *G7 Action Plan on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism* along with *G7 Principles and Actions on Cyber*.⁴² The former Action Plan included three action items divided among counterterrorism Measures, Empowering Alternative Voices and Tolerance in Society, and Capacity Building.⁴³

In 2018, the G7 members met in Charlevoix, Canada. The terrorist commitments included a focus on the internet for terrorist purposes including recruitment, training, propaganda, and financing.⁴⁴ This was also the first summit to include gender into the topic of terrorism. This includes gender-sensitive measures to promote women’s participation and perspectives to prevent and eradicate terrorism, protection from sexual and gender-based violence, and prevent abuses.⁴⁵ Lastly, there was a call to commit to responding to the undermining of democratic societies and institutions.⁴⁶ This was catalyzed by the global climate of attacks against electoral processes. The commitment was outlined in the *Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats*.⁴⁷

Commitment Features

The G7 “commit[s] to take concerted action in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine [their] democratic societies and institutions, our electoral processes, our sovereignty and our security as outlined in the *Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats*.”

To “commit to taking concerted action” should be interpreted to mean a direct commitment entailing a pledge. To “take concerted action” is understood to mean a joint effort towards responding to foreign actors. “Concerted action” is defined as “the cooperation of different interest groups in a specific action with a common goal. The mention of the *Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats* requires establishing compliance based on the stipulations presented in the document. The document poses seven priority items which include:

⁴⁰ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 June 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

⁴¹ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 June 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

⁴² G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 24 May 2018. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>.

⁴³ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 24 May 2018. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>.

⁴⁴ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

⁴⁵ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

⁴⁶ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

⁴⁷ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

1. Action 1: Respond to foreign threats, both together and individually, in order to meet the challenges facing our democracies.⁴⁸
2. Action 2: Strengthen G7 cooperation to prevent, thwart and respond to malign interference by foreign actors aimed at undermining the democratic processes and the national interests of a G7 state.⁴⁹
3. Action 3: Establish a G7 Rapid Response Mechanism to strengthen our coordination to identify and respond to diverse and evolving threats to our democracies, including through sharing information and analysis, and identifying opportunities for coordinated response.⁵⁰
4. Action 4: Share lessons learned and best practices in collaboration with governments, civil society and the private sector that are developing related initiatives including those that promote free, independent and pluralistic media; fact-based information; and freedom of expression.⁵¹
5. Action 5: Engage directly with internet service providers and social media platforms regarding malicious misuse of information technology by foreign actors, with a particular focus on improving transparency regarding the use and seeking to prevent the illegal use of personal data and breaches of privacy.⁵²
6. Action 6: Support public learning and civic awareness aimed at promoting critical thinking skills and media literacy on intentionally misleading information, and improving online security and safety.⁵³
7. Action 7: In accordance with applicable laws, ensure a high level of transparency around sources of funding for political parties and all types of political advertising, especially during election campaigns.⁵⁴

Due to this commitment being independent of the points listed in the document, compliance will be measured based on the completion of the sub-commitments. The sub-commitments are weighed equally as a depiction of “concerted action.”

Thus, for full compliance, the members must have taken actions in 5 or more of those listed in the *Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats*. This can take the form of a member’s

⁴⁸ Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/democracy-commitment.html>.

⁴⁹ Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/democracy-commitment.html>.

⁵⁰ Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/democracy-commitment.html>.

⁵¹ Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/democracy-commitment.html>.

⁵² Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/democracy-commitment.html>.

⁵³ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

⁵⁴ Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/democracy-commitment.html>.

verbal response, diplomatic actions including sanctions or declaring the offending state’s ambassador as persona non-grata, or physical actions.

Partial compliance of the commitment, receiving a score of 0, is achieved through the completion of 4 of the action items. A score of -1 for non-compliance will be awarded if the G7 member took action in less than 4 action areas or took action that is antithetical to the commitment.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member does not take concerted action in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine our democratic societies and institutions, our electoral processes, our sovereignty and our security or addressed less than 50 percent of the seven action areas through verbal response, diplomatic actions including sanctions or declaring the offending state’s ambassador as persona non-grata, or physical action.
0	The G7 member takes concerted action in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine our democratic societies and institutions, our electoral processes, our sovereignty in at least 50 percent, or four of the seven action areas through verbal response, diplomatic actions including sanctions or declaring the offending state’s ambassador as persona non-grata, or physical action.
+1	The G7 member takes concerted action in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine our democratic societies and institutions, our electoral processes, our sovereignty in more than 50 percent, or at least five of the seven action areas through verbal response, diplomatic actions including sanctions or declaring the offending state’s ambassador as persona non-grata, or physical action.

*Compliance Director: Tasnia Khan
Lead Analyst: Jamelah Salman*

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to take concerted action in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine democratic societies and institutions, electoral processes, sovereignty and security.

On 21 June 2018, Canada and the United States began sharing information about suspected terrorists under the revised version of a program known as Tuscan, short for Tipoff U.S./Canada.⁵⁵ The new version addresses Canada’s concern on privacy and disclosure issues resulting from information sharing.⁵⁶ Tuscan procedures will now consist of the U.S. Terrorist Screening Center providing “derogatory indicators” to the Canada Border Services Agency if a name matched the U.S. list, which would then allow the border services agency to inform the U.S. centre about the encounter on a “case by case basis” if the border agency deems the individual as posing a threat to national security.⁵⁷

On 6 September 2018, Canada, alongside Germany, the United States, France, and the United Kingdom, released a joint statement condemning the use of a chemical nerve agent that was used in

⁵⁵ Canada, U.S. start sharing info about terror suspects, but privacy concerns remain, Global News (Ottawa) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 27 October 2018. <https://globalnews.ca/news/4290088/canada-u-s-terror-sharing-list-privacy/>.

⁵⁶ Canada, U.S. start sharing info about terror suspects, but privacy concerns remain, Global News (Ottawa) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 27 October 2018. <https://globalnews.ca/news/4290088/canada-u-s-terror-sharing-list-privacy/>.

⁵⁷ Canada, U.S. start sharing info about terror suspects, but privacy concerns remain, Global News (Ottawa) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 27 October 2018. <https://globalnews.ca/news/4290088/canada-u-s-terror-sharing-list-privacy/>.

the poisoning of Dawn Sturgess and Charles Rowley in Salisbury, England, on 4 March 2018.⁵⁸ They also urged Russia to provide full disclosure to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons.⁵⁹

On 1 October 2018, the Canadian Revenue Agency (CRA) suspended the Islamic Society of North America-Canada (ISNA-Canada) effective September 12 and ordered ISNA to pay a CAD550,000 penalty. The CRA raised concern that ISNA had provided resources that may have supported armed militancy.⁶⁰

On 20 October 2018, Ontario's Progressive Conservative government confirmed that they will propose a bill called the Terrorist Activities Sanctions Act, which will strip any returning Canadian terrorists of their "driver's licenses, hunting, and fishing licenses, access to OHIP [Ontario Health Insurance Plan], and several other benefits."⁶¹ Peterborough-Kawartha member of the provincial legislature Dave Smith stated that "If they (terrorists) are not in a jail cell, they do not deserve the same privileges of every Ontarian."⁶² The Terrorist Activities Sanctions Act amends sections 83.18 to 83.221 of the Criminal Code to include "participating in or facilitating terror activities as well as harboring known terrorists and promoting terrorism offences."⁶³

On 22 October 2018, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau voiced his support for the Tory Opposition Day Motion, which calls for justice against Canadians who participated in terrorist activity.⁶⁴ Specifically, this motion calls for the Canadian government to not integrate known terrorists back into society and to have the intelligence service and police "bring justice to anyone who has fought as an ISIS terrorist or participated in any terrorist activity ... within 45 days of the motion passing."⁶⁵

⁵⁸ Salisbury Attack: Joint Statement by Leaders of France, Germany, the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom, France Diplomatie (Paris) 6 September 2018. Access Date: 6 October 2018. 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/united-kingdom/events/article/salisbury-attack-joint-statement-by-leaders-of-france-germany-the-united-states>.

⁵⁹ Salisbury Attack: Joint Statement by Leaders of France, Germany, the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom, France Diplomatie (Paris) 6 September 2018. Access Date: 6 October 2018. 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/united-kingdom/events/article/salisbury-attack-joint-statement-by-leaders-of-france-germany-the-united-states>.

⁶⁰ CRA suspends, fines major Islamic charity over concerns it may have 'provided resources' to armed militants, Global News (Toronto) 1 October 2018. Access Date: 27 October 2018. <https://globalnews.ca/news/4490892/cra-suspends-fines-major-islamic-charity-over-concerns-it-may-have-provided-resources-to-armed-militants/>.

⁶¹ Ontario Pcs will table bill to strip returning extremist fighters of license, benefits, Global News (Toronto) 20 October 2018. Access Date: 27 October 2018. <https://globalnews.ca/news/4575780/ontario-bill-strip-returning-terrorist-benefits/>.

⁶² Ontario Pcs will table bill to strip returning extremist fighters of license, benefits, Global News (Toronto) 20 October 2018. Access Date: 27 October 2018. <https://globalnews.ca/news/4575780/ontario-bill-strip-returning-terrorist-benefits/>.

⁶³ Ontario Pcs will table bill to strip returning extremist fighters of license, benefits, Global News (Toronto) 20 October 2018. Access Date: 27 October 2018. <https://globalnews.ca/news/4575780/ontario-bill-strip-returning-terrorist-benefits/>.

⁶⁴ Feds back Tory call for plan to deal with Canadians who have joined ISIS, CTV News (Ottawa) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 27 October 2018. <https://www.ctvnews.ca/politics/feds-back-tory-call-for-plan-to-deal-with-canadians-who-have-joined-isis-1.4144362>.

⁶⁵ Feds back Tory call for plan to deal with Canadians who have joined ISIS, CTV News (Ottawa) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 27 October 2018. <https://www.ctvnews.ca/politics/feds-back-tory-call-for-plan-to-deal-with-canadians-who-have-joined-isis-1.4144362>.

On 26 October 2018, the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada issued a deportation order for Jordanian national Othman Hamdan.⁶⁶ Hamdan was accused of glorifying terrorism and the Islamic State group on his Facebook posts.⁶⁷ The board ruled that Hamdan used his Facebook posts to not only report news but to also display his allegiance to a terrorist organization.⁶⁸

On 13 November 2018, on behalf of the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, the Honourable Ralph Goodale, member of parliament Ron McKinnon announced close to CAD2 million over five years from the Community Resilience Fund to the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General in British Columbia to develop intervention programs for individuals vulnerable to becoming radicalized to violence.⁶⁹

On 14 November 2018, Member of Parliament for Pierrefonds-Dollard Frank Baylis announced on behalf of the Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness that CAD1.5 million will be donated to Canadian Practitioners Network for the Prevention of Radicalization and Extremist Violence to strengthen intervention programs across the nation.⁷⁰

On 29 November 2018, it was reported that Canada took its first concrete measure to protest the killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi inside Saudi Arabia's consulate in Istanbul.⁷¹ Seventeen Saudi nationals have been denied access to Canada and have any Canadian assets frozen.⁷² Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs Chrystia Freeland continued to state, "this case is not closed. Those responsible for Mr. Khashoggi's death must be held to account and must face justice."⁷³

On 30 November 2018, Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland announced that the federal government spearheaded the G7 Foreign Ministers' statement, which condemned Russia's actions against Ukraine while urging the release of detained sailors. The statement urged the aggressing party to respect international law and escalate no further.⁷⁴

⁶⁶ Deportation order issued for B.C. man who 'glorified' terrorism on Facebook, CTV News (Vancouver) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 27 October 2018. <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/deportation-order-issued-for-b-c-man-who-glorified-terrorism-on-facebook-1.4151321>.

⁶⁷ Deportation order issued for B.C. man who 'glorified' terrorism on Facebook, CTV News (Vancouver) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 27 October 2018. <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/deportation-order-issued-for-b-c-man-who-glorified-terrorism-on-facebook-1.4151321>.

⁶⁸ Deportation order issued for B.C. man who 'glorified' terrorism on Facebook, CTV News (Vancouver) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 27 October 2018. <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/deportation-order-issued-for-b-c-man-who-glorified-terrorism-on-facebook-1.4151321>.

⁶⁹ Government of Canada provides funding for intervention programs to prevent violent extremism in BC, Public Safety Canada (Ottawa) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 17 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2018/11/government-of-canada-provides-funding-for-intervention-programs-to-prevent-violent-extremism-in-bc.html>.

⁷⁰ Federal support of 1.5 million to UQAM to prevent radicalization to violence, Public Safety Canada (Ottawa) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 17 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2018/11/federal-support-of-15-million-to-uqam-to-prevent-radicalization-to-violence.html>.

⁷¹ Canada sanctions 17 Saudis linked to Khashoggi killing, CBC (Ottawa) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 22 December 2018. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/thursday-saudi-sanctions-1.4925382>.

⁷² Canada sanctions 17 Saudis linked to Khashoggi killing, CBC (Ottawa) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 22 December 2018. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/thursday-saudi-sanctions-1.4925382>.

⁷³ Canada sanctions 17 Saudis linked to Khashoggi killing, CBC (Ottawa) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 22 December 2018. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/thursday-saudi-sanctions-1.4925382>.

⁷⁴ Canada led joint g7 statement condemning Russian aggression in Ukraine: Freeland, CBC News (Buenos Aires) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2018/11/government-of-canada-provides-funding-for-intervention-programs-to-prevent-violent-extremism-in-bc.html>.

On 25 January 2019, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) charged a minor with attempting to facilitate a terrorist attack and encouraging the placement and detonation of an explosive. The Canadian Security Intelligence Service and Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada, along with the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation, were also involved in the arrest. Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale stated Canada's commitment to monitoring and responding to terrorist threats. Canada's threat level has remained unchanged at medium since 2014.⁷⁵

On 14 February 2019, the Canadian government announced that Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland will be attending the Munich Security Conference held between 15-17 February. The conference aimed to address effective responses to security threats faced today. Issues such as arms control, human rights, the crisis in Venezuela, support for Ukrainian sovereignty, and Russia's violations of the rules-based international order were discussed, among other topics.⁷⁶

On 14 February 2019, Justice Maureen Forestell sentenced Rehab Dugmosh to seven years in prison for the June 2017 attack on her coworkers at a Toronto Canadian Tire.⁷⁷ Dugmosh had previously informed her brother of her intentions to join ISIS, who then informed police forces. The incident took place after the case was dismissed by the police.⁷⁸

On 14 February 2019, Minister of Foreign Affairs Chrystia Freeland released a statement condemning the actions against Indian security forces. Freeland offered her condolences on behalf of the Canadian government and strongly urged the "fight to prevent radicalization and defeat terrorism in all forms."⁷⁹

On 19 February 2019, Global News reported that Kevin Omar Mohamed, previously sentenced to 4.5 years in prison for attempting to join al Qaeda in Syria, is set to be released on a date that has yet to be set by the Correctional Services of Canada. The Parole Board expressed concern at the pending release as Mohamed has not participated in de-radicalization training and has not made any efforts to change his radicalized views. "The laws under which Mr. Mohamed was sentenced and will receive statutory release remain the same as they were under the previous Conservative government," Goodale's spokesperson, Scott Bardsley, stated "While we cannot comment on national security operational matters, we can assure the public that the government of Canada has robust measures in place to address potential terrorist threats," he added "Our professional security agencies will take

⁷⁵Canadian Minor Charged with Terror-Related Crimes, Guardian World (Toronto) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/jan/25/canada-ontario-terrorism-minor-charged-fbi>.

⁷⁶Foreign Affairs Minister to Attend Munich Security Conference, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/02/foreign-affairs-minister-to-attend-munich-security-conference.html>.

⁷⁷Woman Guilty of Terror Charges for Canadian Tire Attack Sentenced to 7 Years in Prison, CBC News (Toronto) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/rehab-dughmosh-canadian-tire-sentencing-1.5018987>.

⁷⁸Her Brother Told Police She Wanted to Join ISIS. They Dropped the Case. Then she Attacked a Canadian Tire, CBC News (Toronto) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/canadian-tire-rehab-dughmosh-isis-admits-1.4980849>.

⁷⁹Canada Strongly Condemns Terrorist Attack on Indian Security Forces, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/02/canada-strongly-condemns-terrorist-attack-on-indian-security-forces.html>.

the appropriate steps to ensure the safety of Canadians, and can deploy measures such as surveillance, No-Fly listings, peace bonds and legally authorized threat reduction measures.”⁸⁰

On 28 February 2019, Pamir Hakimzadah was sentenced to an additional six months for attempting to join ISIS in 2016, in addition to time served since his June 2016 arrest. The sentence in 2019 was based on his attempt in 2014, where he was intercepted by Turkish officers for attempting to cross over into Syria and banned from entering Turkey for one year. He has not been charged for the 2016 attempt where he was intercepted by police forces while attempting to board a flight to Istanbul, Turkey.⁸¹

On 6 March 2019, Public Safety Canada announced that the University of Ontario Institute of Technology will receive CAD366,985 over the next three years in order to examine right-wing extremism via interviews with law enforcement, community anti-hate activists, and former and current extremists.⁸² It will also work with the Institute for Strategic Dialogue in the United Kingdom where they will conduct innovative analysis of online content and media coverage, designed to inform local responses to hate speech and hate crime.⁸³

On 29 March 2019, the unnamed youth arrested in the terror probe in Kingston Ontario, on 24 January 2019 was charged with two federal charges of allegedly making or possessing an explosive and taking action to cause an explosion.⁸⁴

On 3 April 2019, the minor charged in 24 January was released on bail, with the conditions of surrendering his passport, not leaving Ontario, restricted access to the internet unless deemed necessary for educational purposes and wearing an RCMP-issued electronic tracking device at all times.⁸⁵

On 17 May 2019, Canada became one of seventeen countries to set commitments for technological companies and governments to tackle online extremism and terrorism.⁸⁶ The document was followed by a week-long meeting of state heads in Paris, France.⁸⁷

⁸⁰Canadian Who Tried to Join Terror Group in Syria Set for Release Despite Being “High Risk to Public Safety”, Global News (Ottawa) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019.
<https://globalnews.ca/news/4986036/canadian-trying-join-terror-group-syria-released-parole-despite-high-risk-public-safety/>.

⁸¹‘Fulfilling the Wishes of God’: The Inside Story of a Police Investigation into a Toronto ISIS Supporter, Global News (Ottawa) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019.
<https://globalnews.ca/news/5008031/inside-story-investigation-toronto-isis/>.

⁸²Funding to Strengthen Understanding of Right-Wing Extremism in Canada, Public Safety Canada (Ottawa) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019.
<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2019/03/funding-to-strengthen-understanding-of-right-wing-extremism-in-canada.html>.

⁸³Funding to Strengthen Understanding of Right-Wing Extremism in Canada, Public Safety Canada (Ottawa) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019.
<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2019/03/funding-to-strengthen-understanding-of-right-wing-extremism-in-canada.html>.

⁸⁴New Charges Laid Against Youth Suspected of Terrorism-Related Activity, Global News (Ottawa) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019.
<https://globalnews.ca/news/5112031/new-charges-kingston-youth-terrorism-related-activity/>.

⁸⁵Minor Charged in Kingston Terror Probe Released on Bail, CBC News (Ottawa) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019.
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/kingston-terror-minor-released-1.5083623>.

⁸⁶Jacinda Arden Wraps Up Paris Trip Meeting Canadian PM Justin Trudeau, Says Engagement with US Will Continue, Stuff (New Zealand) 16 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019.

On 5 June 2019, Global News reported that the RCMP is looking into whether captured Canadian ISIS members can be charged with crimes against humanity.⁸⁸

On 6 June 2019, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced that approximately 60 of the 190 known Canadian ISIS members had returned to Canada, and the government has a responsibility to ensure it does its part to eradicate violent behaviour.⁸⁹

Canada acted in more than 50% of the seven action areas in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine democratic societies and institutions, electoral processes, sovereignty and security. Canada has taken measures to collaborate with its G7 allies and has put funds towards countering terrorism. Canada has demonstrated leadership in championing states that are undermining the sovereignty of others.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Jamela Salman and Sila Naz Elgin

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to take concerted action in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine democratic societies and institutions, electoral processes, sovereignty and security.

On 25 June 2018, six European Union member countries signed a declaration for the development of an EU Cyber Rapid Response Force. France was mentioned as a signatory later in the year.⁹⁰ This response force is part of the larger EU and NATO plan to remove terrorist propaganda and recruiting networks online, as well as to identify and apprehend the actors who are propagating these networks.⁹¹

On 4 September 2018, a joint report by the Centre for Analysis, Planning and Strategy and the Military School Strategic Research Institute was released stating that information manipulation has

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/christchurch-shooting/112791552/jacinda-ardern-wraps-up-paris-trip-meeting-canadian-pm-justin-trudeau-says-engagement-with-us-will-continue>.

⁸⁷Jacinda Arden Wraps Up Paris Trip Meeting Canadian PM Justin Trudeau, Says Engagement with US Will Continue, Stuff (New Zealand) 16 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019.

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/christchurch-shooting/112791552/jacinda-ardern-wraps-up-paris-trip-meeting-canadian-pm-justin-trudeau-says-engagement-with-us-will-continue>.

⁸⁸RCMP Explores Crimes Against Humanity Charges for Canadian ISIS Members, Global News (Ottawa) 5 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019.

<https://globalnews.ca/news/5346883/crimes-against-humanity-charges-canadians-syria/>.

⁸⁹Trudeau has 'Confidence' in RCMP to Investigate Canadian Extremist Travelers, National Post (Ottawa) 6 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019.

<https://nationalpost.com/news/canada/trudeau-has-confidence-in-rcmp-to-investigate-canadian-extremist-travellers>.

⁹⁰New tool to address cyber threats: the EU's Rapid Response Force", European External Action Service, European Union Newswire (Luxembourg) 27 June 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/common-security-and-defence-policy-csdp/47525/new-tool-address-cyber-threats-eus-rapid-response-force_en.

⁹¹New tool to address cyber threats: the EU's Rapid Response Force", European External Action Service, European Union Newswire (Luxembourg) 27 June 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/common-security-and-defence-policy-csdp/47525/new-tool-address-cyber-threats-eus-rapid-response-force_en.

threatened democracies and the sovereignty of institutions, and thus are joining together to study the issue.⁹²

On 6 September 2018, France, alongside Germany, the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom, released a joint statement condemning the use of a chemical nerve agent that was used in the poisoning of Dawn Sturgess and Charles Rowley in Salisbury, England on 4 March 2018.⁹³ They also urged Russia to provide full disclosure to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons.⁹⁴

On 14 September 2018, the French government presented a press release stating that France condemns any glorification of Nazism put out by the chair of the Ukrainian parliament, Andriy Parubiy.⁹⁵

On 17 September 2018, the French government put out a press release condemning the attack that killed an Israeli citizen, Ari Fuld, in the West Bank on 16 September 2018.⁹⁶

On 25 September 2018, President Emmanuel Macron addressed the United Nations General Assembly stating that France is “continuing the fight against Islamist terrorism” in Syria and the world to allow its sovereignty, and that “it is our duty to stand together to establish contemporary rules that will make it possible to reconcile the development of artificial intelligence with our ethical rules, to guide the digital transformation of our societies.”⁹⁷

On 14 October 2018, the UK Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt stated that another package of sanctions initiated by the United Kingdom and France after attacks in Syria and Britain’s Salisbury attack would be officially adopted by the EU foreign ministers in Luxembourg on 15 October 2018.⁹⁸ Earlier, foreign ministers from 28 states of the European Union backed a new regime that introduces

⁹² Joint report by the CAPS/IRSEM — Information Manipulation: A Challenge for Our Democracies, France Diplomatie (Paris) 4 September 2018. Access Date: 6 October 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/manipulation-of-information/article/joint-report-by-the-caps-irsem-information-manipulation-a-challenge-for-our>.

⁹³ Salisbury Attack: Joint Statement by Leaders of France, Germany, the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom, France Diplomatie (Paris) 6 September 2018. Access Date: 6 October 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/united-kingdom/events/article/salisbury-attack-joint-statement-by-leaders-of-france-germany-the-united-states>.

⁹⁴ Salisbury Attack: Joint Statement by Leaders of France, Germany, the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom, France Diplomatie (Paris) 6 September 2018. Access Date: 6 October 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/united-kingdom/events/article/salisbury-attack-joint-statement-by-leaders-of-france-germany-the-united-states>.

⁹⁵ Ukraine — Q&A — Excerpts from the daily press briefing, France Diplomatie (Paris) 14 September 2018. Access Date: 6 October 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/ukraine/events/article/ukraine-q-a-excerpts-from-the-daily-press-briefing-14-09-18>.

⁹⁶ Israel — Palestinian Territories, France Diplomatie (Paris) 17 September 2018. Access Date: 6 October 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/peace-process/events/article/israel-palestinian-territories-17-09-18>.

⁹⁷ United Nations General Assembly: Speech by President Emmanuel Macron, France Diplomatie (New York) 25 September 2018. Access Date: 6 October 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/events/united-nations-general-assembly-sessions/unga-s-73rd-session/article/united-nations-general-assembly-speech-by-president-emmanuel-macron-25-09-18>.

⁹⁸ U.K.’s sanctions efforts geared to spoil Moscow-EU ties after Brexit, says Russian embassy, Russian News Agency (Moscow) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <http://tass.com/politics/1026031>.

sanctions against individuals and legal entities, that are responsible for using and proliferating chemical weapons.⁹⁹

On 16 October 2018, the French government released a statement stating that they “reiterate (their) condemnation of any attack against journalists or on the freedom of expression.”¹⁰⁰

On 18 October 2018, the International Counter-Terrorism Academy was launched by Jean-Yves Le Drian and Hamed Bakayoko, the Côte d’Ivoire Minister of Defence. The objectives are to “help African countries fight terrorist threats, enhance cooperation between African states, an enhance cooperation between France and Côte d’Ivoire.”¹⁰¹

On 2 November 2018, the French government presented a press release stating that France condemns to the strongest terms the attack on buses travelling to a Coptic Monastery in Minya, Egypt, which has been claimed by Daesh.¹⁰²

On 6 November 2018, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean Yves Le Drian opened a new school in Dakar, Senegal, to train African officials on cybersecurity issues.¹⁰³ He stated that it “is an innovative project that seeks to build our African partners’ capacities to deal with cyber threats, whether this means protecting networks, responding to cyber-attacks or fighting cyber-crime and terrorism, all of which are real threats that are not confined to Europe or the United States.”¹⁰⁴

On 9 November 2018, the French government presented a press release stating that France condemns the terrorist attack that took place in Melbourne, Australia, on 8 November 2018, an attack for which Daesh claimed responsibility.¹⁰⁵

On 11 November 2018, President Macron, alongside the heads of government or state of Burkina Faso, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Norway, Senegal, Switzerland, and Tunisia, released a joint statement commending the work of the Information and Democracy Commission by Reporters Without Borders.¹⁰⁶ In a declaration published 5 November 2018, the members proposed that the “global information and communication space be acknowledged as a

⁹⁹ U.K.’s sanctions efforts geared to spoil Moscow-EU ties after Brexit, says Russian embassy, Russian News Agency (Moscow) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <http://tass.com/politics/1026031>.

¹⁰⁰ Murder of a Journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia, France Diplomatie (Paris) 16 October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/malta-republic/events/article/murder-of-journalist-daphne-caruana-galizia-16-10-2017>.

¹⁰¹ Africa: Creation of an International Counter Terrorism Academy, France Diplomatie (Paris) 18 October 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/defence-security/events/article/africa-creation-of-an-international-counter-terrorism-academy-18-10-18>.

¹⁰² Egypt — Attack on buses carrying Coptic Christians, France Diplomatie (Paris) 2 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/egypt/events/article/egypt-attack-on-buses-carrying-coptic-christians-02-11-18>.

¹⁰³ Regionally-oriented national school for cyber security opens in Dakar, Senegal, France Diplomatie (Paris) 6 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/defence-security/events/article/regionally-oriented-national-school-for-cyber-security-opens-in-dakar-senegal>.

¹⁰⁴ Regionally-oriented national school for cyber security opens in Dakar, Senegal, France Diplomatie (Paris) 6 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/defence-security/events/article/regionally-oriented-national-school-for-cyber-security-opens-in-dakar-senegal>.

¹⁰⁵ Australia — Terrorist attack in Melbourne, France Diplomatie (Paris) 9 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/australia/events/article/australia-terrorist-attack-in-melbourne-09-11-18>.

¹⁰⁶ Initiative for information and democracy — Joint statement, France Diplomatie (Paris) 11 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/governance/news-7907/article/initiative-for-information-and-democracy-joint-statement-11-11-2018>.

common good of humankind, where freedom, pluralism, and integrity of information must be guaranteed.”¹⁰⁷

On 12 November 2018, President Macron launched the Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace.¹⁰⁸ In this declaration, supporters are committed to working in conjunction with each other to “increase prevention against and resilience to malicious online activity; protect the accessibility and integrity of the Internet; cooperate in order to prevent interference in electoral processes; work together to combat intellectual property violations via the Internet; prevent the proliferation of malicious online programs and techniques; improve the security of digital products and services as well as everybody’s “cyber hygiene”; clamp down on online mercenary activities and offensive action by non-state actors; and work together to strengthen the relevant international standards.”¹⁰⁹

On 19 November 2018, France, the United States, and the United Kingdom accepted the adoption on the UN Security Council of individual sanctions against Libyan national Salah Badi.¹¹⁰ Badi has played a primary role in the clash in Tripoli, which led to the losses of many civilian lives. France “will continue to support, together with its various partners, the adoption of sanctions against individuals and entities that pose a threat to Libya’s peace, stability and security, and which obstruct the political process.”¹¹¹

On 19 November 2018, the French government issued a press release with concerns over events in Central Africa.¹¹² The government condemned the fighting between the anti-Balaka groups and those of the UPC in Alindao, resulting in more than 40 victims. It also condemned the attack in Gambia, which is in the province of Mambéré-Kadéï. France also welcomed the arrest of Alfred Yekatom a former leader of the self-proclaimed, self-defence anti-Balaka militia to the International Criminal Court.¹¹³

On 22 November 2018, the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian, in consolation with European partners, particularly Germany, stated that France adopted sanctions against 18 Saudi nationals in connection with the murder of the Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi in

¹⁰⁷ Initiative for information and democracy — Joint statement, France Diplomatie (Paris) 11 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/governance/news-7907/article/initiative-for-information-and-democracy-joint-statement-11-11-2018>.

¹⁰⁸ Cybersecurity: Paris Call of 12 November 2018 for Trust and Security in Cyberspace, France Dipolatie (Paris) 12 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/digital-diplomacy/france-and-cyber-security/article/cybersecurity-paris-call-of-12-november-2018-for-trust-and-security-in>.

¹⁰⁹ Cybersecurity: Paris Call of 12 November 2018 for Trust and Security in Cyberspace, France Dipolatie (Paris) 12 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/digital-diplomacy/france-and-cyber-security/article/cybersecurity-paris-call-of-12-november-2018-for-trust-and-security-in>.

¹¹⁰ Libya — Imposition of sanctions against Salah Badi, France Diplomatie (Paris) 19 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/libya/events/2018/article/libya-imposition-of-sanctions-against-salah-badi-19-11-18>.

¹¹¹ Libya — Imposition of sanctions against Salah Badi, France Diplomatie (Paris) 19 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/libya/events/2018/article/libya-imposition-of-sanctions-against-salah-badi-19-11-18>.

¹¹² Central African Republic, France Diplomatie (Paris) 19 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/central-african-republic/events/article/central-african-republic-19-11-18>.

¹¹³ Central African Republic, France Diplomatie (Paris) 19 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/central-african-republic/events/article/central-african-republic-19-11-18>.

Istanbul on 2 October 2018.¹¹⁴ France “demands that full light be shed on how such an act could have been committed. It is waiting for a transparent, detailed and exhaustive response from the Saudi authorities.”¹¹⁵

On 23 November 2018, the French government presented a press release stating that France condemns the terrorist attacks on a police station in the town of Tanzirbu, in southeastern Libya.¹¹⁶ Daesh claimed responsibility for this attack which killed at least nine people.¹¹⁷

On 30 November 2018, Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland announced that the federal government spearheaded the G7 Foreign Ministers’ statement, which condemned Russia’s actions against Ukraine while urging the release of detained sailors. France took part in the joint statement urging the aggressing party to respect international law and escalate no further.¹¹⁸

On 5 December 2018, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian attended the G5 Sahel meeting of the five Sahel countries (Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Chad) in order to raise funds for the G5 Sahel’s Priority Investment Program. This alliance will “boost the effectiveness of development assistance for the Sahel and to deploy it more swiftly in vulnerable areas, areas at war and those threatened by terrorism.”¹¹⁹

On 7 December 2018, the French government restated their concern over the conviction of Selahattin Demirtaş, a former Parliamentarian and Turkey’s Peoples’ Democratic Party’s presidential candidate, for terrorist propaganda. Despite their support for Turkey’s fight against terrorism, the French government “calls on Turkey to respect the right of every individual to a fair trial and urges it to promote political pluralism, in respect of its European and international commitments.”¹²⁰

On 25 December 2018, the French government presented a press release stating that France condemns to the strongest terms the attack on a Kabul compound housing government ministry. This attack left several dozen killed and injured.¹²¹

¹¹⁴ Khashoggi affair-Individual Measures, France Diplomatie (Paris) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/saudi-arabia/events/article/khashoggi-affair-individual-measures-22-11-18>.

¹¹⁵ Khashoggi affair-Individual Measures, France Diplomatie (Paris) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/saudi-arabia/events/article/khashoggi-affair-individual-measures-22-11-18>.

¹¹⁶ Libya- Terrorist attack, France Diplomatie (Paris) 23 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/libya/events/2018/article/libya-terrorist-attack-23-11-18>.

¹¹⁷ Libya- Terrorist attack, France Diplomatie (Paris) 23 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/libya/events/2018/article/libya-terrorist-attack-23-11-18>.

¹¹⁸ Canada led joint g7 statement condemning Russian aggression in Ukraine: Freeland, CBC News (Buenos Aires) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2018/11/government-of-canada-provides-funding-for-intervention-programs-to-prevent-violent-extremism-in-bc.html>.

¹¹⁹ Mauritania – G5 Sahel – Visit by Jean-Yves Le Drian, France Diplomatie (Paris) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/mauritania/events/article/mauritania-g5-sahel-visit-by-jean-yves-le-drian-5-6-12-18>.

¹²⁰ Turkey - Q&A - Excerpts from the Daily Press Briefing, France Diplomatie (Paris) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/turkey/events/article/turkey-q-a-excerpts-from-the-daily-press-briefing-07-12-18>.

¹²¹ Afghanistan – Attack on a Government Compound in Kabul, France Diplomatie (Paris) 25 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/afghanistan/events/article/afghanistan-attack-on-a-government-compound-in-kabul-25-12-18>.

On 25 December 2018, the French government presented a press release stating that France condemns to the strongest terms the attack on the headquarters of the Libyan Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Tripoli, an attack for which Daesh claimed responsibility.¹²²

On 15 January 2019, the French government presented a press release stating that France condemns the attack in Nairobi. This attack, which killed an estimated 15 people, was claimed by the al Qaeda connected terrorist group al-Shabab.¹²³

On 18 January 2019, the French government presented a press release stating that France vehemently condemns the attack on the General Santander Policy Academy in Bogotá. The attack killed and injured dozens.¹²⁴

On 27 January 2019, the French government presented a press release stating that France condemns the attack on the cathedral on Jolo Island. Daesh claimed responsibility for the attack, which killed and injured an estimated 20 people.¹²⁵

On 25 January 2019, the French government presented a press release stating that France condemns the attack on the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali near Douentza, in the Mopti region of Mali. The French government “reaffirms its determination to fight alongside its partners to combat the scourge of terrorism.”¹²⁶ This attack killed two peacekeepers and injured several others.¹²⁷

On 2 February 2019, the French government stated that it “supports all Libyan forces fighting against terrorism.”¹²⁸ The government also recognized that the exploitation of the oil in the region should benefit the citizens of Libya.¹²⁹

On 7 February 2019, the French government stated that they will not suspend military cooperation with Cameroon. France “aims to assist Cameroon’s security and defense forces to combat terrorism and particularly Boko Haram in the northern part of the country, while protecting local populations.”¹³⁰

¹²² Libya – Attack on the Libyan Foreign Ministry, France Diplomatie (Paris) 25 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/libya/events/2018/article/libya-attack-on-the-libyan-foreign-ministry-25-12-18>.

¹²³ Kenya-Nairobi Attack, France Diplomatie (Paris) 15 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/kenya/events/article/kenya-nairobi-attack-15-01-19>.

¹²⁴ Colombia-Car Bomb Attack, France Diplomatie (Paris) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/colombia/events/article/colombia-car-bomb-attack-17-01-19>.

¹²⁵ Philippines-Attack Against the Cathedral on Jolo Island, France Diplomatie (Paris) 27 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/philippines/events/article/philippines-attack-against-the-cathedral-on-jolo-island-27-01-19>.

¹²⁶ Mali-Attack on MINUSMA, France Diplomatie (Paris) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/mali/events/article/mali-attack-on-minusma-25-01-19>.

¹²⁷ Mali-Attack on MINUSMA, France Diplomatie (Paris) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/mali/events/article/mali-attack-on-minusma-25-01-19>.

¹²⁸ Libya-Q&A-Excerpts from the Daily Press Briefing, France Diplomatie (Paris) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/libya/events/2018/article/libya-q-a-excerpts-from-the-daily-press-briefing-05-02-19>.

¹²⁹ Libya-Q&A-Excerpts from the Daily Press Briefing, France Diplomatie (Paris) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/libya/events/2018/article/libya-q-a-excerpts-from-the-daily-press-briefing-05-02-19>.

¹³⁰ Cameroon-Q&A-Excerpts from the Daily Press Briefing, France Diplomatie (Paris) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/cameroon/events/article/cameroon-q-a-excerpts-from-the-daily-press-briefing-07-02-19>.

On 26 February 2019, the French government stated in a press release that it condemns the attacks carried out on 14 February 2019 against the Indian security forces in Pulwama.¹³¹ The terrorist group Jaish-e-Mohammed claimed responsibility.¹³²

On 15 March 2019, Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian condemned the attack in the two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand.¹³³ The death toll reached at several dozen.¹³⁴

On 18 March 2019, Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian reiterated the country's solidarity with India in the fight against terrorism and will ensure that the attackers against security forces in Pulwama are punished.¹³⁵

On 19 March 2019, the French government released a statement condemning the attacks carried out against the Malian armed forces camp in Dioura, Mali on 17 March in which at least 20 soldiers were killed.¹³⁶

On 23 March 2019, Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian stated that is it still necessary to prevent a resurgence of the terrorist group Daesh in Syria and that France will continue to take action against it.¹³⁷

On 1 May 2019, the French government accepted the designation of Masood Azhar on the UN ISIL and Al-Qaida Sanctions list by the UN Security Council 1267 Sanctions Committee. Azhar is the head of the terrorist group responsible for the Pulwama attack in February.¹³⁸

On 16 May 2019, the French government released a statement condemning the attacks carried out against the Tillabéry region in Nigeria that took the lives of many soldiers on 15 May.¹³⁹

On 20 May 2019, the French government presented a press release stating that France condemns the attacks carried out against the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in

¹³¹India-Fight Against Terrorism, France Diplomatie (Paris) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/india/events/article/india-fight-against-terrorism-26-02-2019>.

¹³²India-Fight Against Terrorism, France Diplomatie (Paris) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/india/events/article/india-fight-against-terrorism-26-02-2019>.

¹³³New Zealand-Christchurch Attack-Statement by M. Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, France Diplomatie (Paris) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/new-zealand/events/article/new-zealand-christchurch-attack-statement-by-m-jean-yves-le-drian-minister-for>.

¹³⁴New Zealand-Christchurch Attack-Statement by M. Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, France Diplomatie (Paris) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/new-zealand/events/article/new-zealand-christchurch-attack-statement-by-m-jean-yves-le-drian-minister-for>.

¹³⁵Statement by Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, France Diplomatie (Paris) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/india/events/article/statement-by-jean-yves-le-drian-minister-for-europe-and-foreign-affairs-india>.

¹³⁶Mali-Attack Against the Malian Armed Forces, France Diplomatie (Paris) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/mali/events/article/mali-attack-against-the-malian-armed-forces-17-03-19>.

¹³⁷Daesh-Statement by M. Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, France Diplomatie (Paris) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/syria/events/article/daesh-statement-by-m-jean-yves-le-drian-minister-for-europe-and-foreign-affairs>.

¹³⁸United Nations-Combating Terrorism, France Diplomatie (Paris) 1 May 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/events/events-2019/article/united-nations-combating-terrorism-01-05-19>.

¹³⁹Niger-Attack on Nigerian Armed Forces, France Diplomatie (Paris) 16 May 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/niger/events/article/niger-attack-on-nigerien-armed-forces-15-05-19>.

Mali.¹⁴⁰ The government reiterated its continued support for the Malian authorities in their fight against terrorism.¹⁴¹

On 6 June 2019, the government presented a press release stating that it condemns the attacks carried out against the Egyptian security forces in the city of el-Arish in the Sinai Peninsula.¹⁴² Daesh claimed responsibility.¹⁴³

France has taken action in more than 50% of the seven action areas in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine our democratic societies and institutions, our electoral processes, our sovereignty and our security. Although France is lacking actions regarding protecting their cyberspace. France has demonstrated collaboration alongside other G7 members and institutes to promote sovereignty including the imposition of sanctions. France has also shown acts of denouncing terrorists and terrorist attacks.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Micaela Pacheco

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to take concerted action in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine democratic societies and institutions, electoral processes, sovereignty and security.

On 20 June 2018, the German Minister of Justice Katarina Barley signed a joint statement with the justice departments of France, Spain and Belgium supporting the creation of a European Judicial Counter-Terrorism Register at the European Union organization Eurojust.¹⁴⁴ The aim of the register is to collect and share information about terror investigations and convictions at the European level.¹⁴⁵

On 28-29 June 2018, the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations organized the Leveraging Partnerships and Strengthening Cooperation with Women to Counter and Prevent Violent Extremism and Terrorism in Africa side event at the United Nations High-Level Conference on Counter-Terrorism along with the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, UN Women, the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel and the Permanent Mission of Japan to the UN.¹⁴⁶

¹⁴⁰Mali-Attacks on MINUSMA, France Diplomatie (Paris) 16 May 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/mali/events/article/mali-attacks-on-minusma-18-05-19>.

¹⁴¹Mali-Attacks on MINUSMA, France Diplomatie (Paris) 16 May 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/mali/events/article/mali-attacks-on-minusma-18-05-19>.

¹⁴²Egypt-Attack in the City of el-Arish, France Diplomatie (Paris) 6 June 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/egypt/events/article/egypt-attack-in-the-city-of-el-arish-05-06-19>.

¹⁴³Egypt-Attack in the City of el-Arish, France Diplomatie (Paris) 6 June 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/egypt/events/article/egypt-attack-in-the-city-of-el-arish-05-06-19>.

¹⁴⁴ Joint statement by France, Germany, Spain and Belgium supporting the creation of a 'European Judicial Counter Terrorism Register' at Eurojust, Eurojust (The Hague) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. http://www.eurojust.europa.eu/press/Documents/2018-06-20_DECLARATION%20FR-DE-ES-BE_ENGLISH.pdf.

¹⁴⁵ Joint statement by France, Germany, Spain and Belgium supporting the creation of a 'European Judicial Counter Terrorism Register' at Eurojust, Eurojust (The Hague) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. http://www.eurojust.europa.eu/press/Documents/2018-06-20_DECLARATION%20FR-DE-ES-BE_ENGLISH.pdf.

¹⁴⁶ Report of the United Nations High-Level Conference on Counter-Terrorism, United Nations (New York) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctitf/sites/www.un.org.counterterrorism.ctitf/files/Report_UNHLC_FINAL_WEB.pdf.

As of 18 July 2018, The German Ministry of Finance is expected to add 310 more staff to its Financial Intelligence Unit.¹⁴⁷ The ministry is also expanding the unit's powers concerning data accessibility and stopping suspicious monetary transfers, including from terrorist sources.¹⁴⁸ The Financial Intelligence Unit is responsible for investigating reports of suspicious money laundering.¹⁴⁹

On 20 July 2018, German Chancellor Angela Merkel stated at a news conference that social media platforms need to take responsibility for the content displayed on them.¹⁵⁰

On 6 September 2018, Germany, alongside France, the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom, released a joint statement condemning the use of a chemical nerve agent that was used in the poisoning of Dawn Sturgess and Charles Rowley in Salisbury, England on 4 March 2018.¹⁵¹ They also urged Russia to provide full disclosure to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons.¹⁵²

On 2 October 2018, the German government extended its military involvement in Iraq by one year. The German army has been training Kurdish and Iraqi forces that are fighting against the Islamic State terrorist group.¹⁵³

On 5 October 2018, the German government issued a statement accusing Russia of cyber attacks on targets across Europe, including the Bundestag.¹⁵⁴ The statement also called on Russia to end the provocations.¹⁵⁵

On 5 October 2018, the German Minister of Defence Ursula von der Leyen and British Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson signed a Joint Vision Statement committing to increase defence cooperation in the future, including in combatting violent extremism.¹⁵⁶

¹⁴⁷ Germany overhauls chaotic anti-money-laundering unit, Handelsblatt (Düsseldorf) 18 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://global.handelsblatt.com/finance/germany-overhauls-chaotic-anti-money-laundering-unit-946669>.

¹⁴⁸ Germany overhauls chaotic anti-money-laundering unit, Handelsblatt (Düsseldorf) 18 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://global.handelsblatt.com/finance/germany-overhauls-chaotic-anti-money-laundering-unit-946669>.

¹⁴⁹ Fighting effectively against tax cheating, devious tax avoidance and money laundering, German Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 12 April 2016. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Topics/Taxation/Articles/2016-04-12-10-points-plan.html>.

¹⁵⁰ Social media platforms must take responsibility for content: Merkel, Reuters (London) 20 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-germany-merkel-socialmedia/social-media-platforms-must-take-responsibility-for-content-merkel-idUSKBN1KA1OD>.

¹⁵¹ Salisbury Attack: Joint Statement by Leaders of France, Germany, the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom, France Diplomatie (Paris) 6 September 2018. Access Date: 6 October 2018. 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/united-kingdom/events/article/salisbury-attack-joint-statement-by-leaders-of-france-germany-the-united-states>.

¹⁵² Salisbury Attack: Joint Statement by Leaders of France, Germany, the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom, France Diplomatie (Paris) 6 September 2018. Access Date: 6 October 2018. 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/united-kingdom/events/article/salisbury-attack-joint-statement-by-leaders-of-france-germany-the-united-states>.

¹⁵³ Germany extends military mandate in Iraq, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 02 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-extends-military-mandate-in-iraq/a-45728646>.

¹⁵⁴ Germany warns Russia over cyberattacks, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 05 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-warns-russia-over-cyberattacks/a-45767953>.

¹⁵⁵ Germany warns Russia over cyberattacks, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 05 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-warns-russia-over-cyberattacks/a-45767953>.

¹⁵⁶ UK deepens defence cooperation with Germany, U.K. Ministry of Defence (London) 5 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-deepens-defence-cooperation-with-germany>.

On 16 October 2018, German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas signed a G7 statement on the disappearance of Jamal Khashoggi, affirming its commitment to defending freedom of expression and a free press.¹⁵⁷

On 12 November 2018, the German Government became a signatory to the Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace,¹⁵⁸ pledging to fight cybercrime, secure elections and “welcome collaboration among governments, the private sector, and civil society to create new cybersecurity standards that enable infrastructures and organizations to improve cyber protections.”¹⁵⁹

On 30 November 2018, German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas signed a G7 Foreign Ministers’ Statement concerning Russian aggression in the Kerch Strait.¹⁶⁰ The statement asserted that “There is no justification for Russia’s use of military force against Ukrainian ships and naval personnel” and that “We urge restraint, due respect for international law, and the prevention of any further escalation.”¹⁶¹

On 30 November 2018, Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland announced that the federal government spearheaded the G7 Foreign Ministers’ statement, which condemned Russia’s actions against Ukraine while urging the release of detained sailors. Germany took part in the joint statement urging the aggressing party to respect international law and escalate no further.¹⁶²

On 1 December 2018, the German government signed the Argentina G20 Leaders’ Declaration, reaffirming its previous G20 commitments to fighting terrorism, including urging the “digital industry to work together to fight exploitation of the internet and social media for terrorist purposes.”¹⁶³

On 22 January 2019, the governments of France and Germany signed the Treaty of Aachen, affirming commitments to cooperation and symbolically renewing the Élysée Treaty of 1963. Specifically, the treaty called for a “Franco-German economic area” in which legislation is harmonized, and a mutual defense agreement.¹⁶⁴ In a speech made at the signing, German Chancellor Angela Merkel stated that “we, Germany and France, pledge to offer one another any form of assistance and support that we can in the event of an armed attack on our respective territories,” further announcing that “we are committed to developing a common military culture, a common

¹⁵⁷ G7 Foreign Ministers’ Statement on Disappearance of Jamal Khashoggi, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/181016-khashoggi.html>.

¹⁵⁸ List of Supporters of the Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace, French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 12 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/digital-diplomacy/france-and-cyber-security/article/cybersecurity-paris-call-of-12-november-2018-for-trust-and-security-in>.

¹⁵⁹ Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace, French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 12 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/paris_call_text_-_en_cle06f918.pdf.

¹⁶⁰ G7 Foreign Ministers’ Statement on Recent Events near Kerch Strait, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 30 November 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/181130-kerch.html>.

¹⁶¹ G7 Foreign Ministers’ Statement on Recent Events near Kerch Strait, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 30 November 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/181130-kerch.html>.

¹⁶² Canada led joint g7 statement condemning Russian aggression in Ukraine: Freeland, CBC News (Buenos Aires) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2018/11/government-of-canada-provides-funding-for-intervention-programs-to-prevent-violent-extremism-in-bc.html>.

¹⁶³ G20 Leaders’ Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>.

¹⁶⁴ Merkel and Macron Sign Treaty of Aachen to Revive EU, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 22 January 2019. Access date: 23 January 2019. <https://p.dw.com/p/3Bvdi>.

defence industry and a common approach to arms exports. In so doing, we intend to help to create a European army.”¹⁶⁵

On 7 February 2019, the German Federal Cartel Office ruled that Facebook abused its users’ personal data by collecting third-party information and using it on the Facebook platform.¹⁶⁶ The ruling restricts future data collection by the company, particularly when consent is not explicitly given by users. The ruling does not yet have legal force as it is subject to appeal.¹⁶⁷

On 15 May 2019, A spokesperson for the German Ministry of Defence announced that the German Army had temporarily suspended its training mission in Iraq amid security concerns in the region.¹⁶⁸ The mission had previously trained Iraqi forces, who were involved in conflicts with the Islamic State terror group.¹⁶⁹

On 17 May 2019, Minister von der Leyen announced that the German Ministry of Defence would increase spending levels by EUR5,000,000,000 in the upcoming federal budget, increasing the total amount of defence funding to 1.35 per cent of Germany’s gross domestic product.¹⁷⁰

On 6 June 2019, German delegates took part in a meeting of the European Union Security Commission, where member states agreed to give the commission mandates to “engage in international negotiations to improve cross-border access to electronic evidence in criminal investigations.”¹⁷¹ These mandates also include provisions for the protection of data and internet privacy.¹⁷²

On 10 June 2019, German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas stated that Germany remained committed to the nuclear deal between Iran and a number of world powers in the interest of global security, noting that “the situation in the region here is highly explosive and extremely serious.”¹⁷³

Germany has taken action in more than 50% of the seven action areas in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine our democratic societies and institutions, our electoral processes, our

¹⁶⁵Speech by Federal Chancellor Dr Angela Merkel at the Signing of the Treaty Between the Federal Republic of Germany and the French Republic on Franco-German Cooperation and Integration in Aachen on 22 January 2019, The Press and Information Office of the Federal Government (Berlin) 22 January 2019. Access date: 23 January 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/issues/europe/speech-by-federal-chancellor-dr-angela-merkel-at-the-signing-of-the-treaty-between-the-federal-republic-of-germany-and-the-french-republic-on-franco-german-cooperation-and-integration-in-aachen-on-22-january-2019-1572746>.

¹⁶⁶Germany’s Anti-trust Watchdog Restricts Facebook’s Data Collection via Other Sites, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 07 February 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://p.dw.com/p/3CtcH>.

¹⁶⁷Germany’s Anti-trust Watchdog Restricts Facebook’s Data Collection via Other Sites, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 07 February 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://p.dw.com/p/3CtcH>.

¹⁶⁸Germany Suspends Iraq Training Mission as US Pulls out Diplomatic Staff, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 15 May 2019. Access Date: 21 May 2019. <https://p.dw.com/p/3lWxl>.

¹⁶⁹Germany Suspends Iraq Training Mission as US Pulls out Diplomatic Staff, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 15 May 2019. Access Date: 21 May 2019. <https://p.dw.com/p/3lWxl>.

¹⁷⁰Germany Informs NATO of Huge Defense Budget Increase: Report, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 17 May 2019. Access Date: 21 May 2019. <https://p.dw.com/p/3ldP2>.

¹⁷¹Security Union: Commission Receives Mandate to Start Negotiating International Rules for Obtaining Electronic Evidence, European Commission (Luxembourg City) 06 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2891_en.htm.

¹⁷²Security Union: Commission Receives Mandate to Start Negotiating International Rules for Obtaining Electronic Evidence, European Commission (Luxembourg City) 06 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2891_en.htm.

¹⁷³Germany’s Maas: Europe will Stick to Iran’s Nuclear Deal, but Cannot Work Miracles, Yahoo! News (Sunnyvale) 10 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.yahoo.com/news/germanys-maas-europe-stick-irans-092913217.html>.

sovereignty and our security. Germany has demonstrated collaboration with other G7 members and has also opened up modes of transparency. Germany has denounced cyber-attacks and has also taken physical actions to counter terrorism.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Justin O'Brien

Italy: -1

Italy has not complied with its commitment to take concerted action in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine our democratic societies and institutions, our electoral processes, our sovereignty, and our security.

On 28-29 June 2018, Italy attended the United Nations High-Level Conferences of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies, participating in discussions regarding “combating the evolving threat from Foreign Terrorist Fighters.”¹⁷⁴ Italy discussed the “need to make better use of tools such as Passenger Name Record and Advanced Passenger Information and improve partnership with Organizations such as INTERPOL, the World Customs Organization, and others.”¹⁷⁵ Italy pledged to “focus on removing all obstacles to our [international] cooperation.”¹⁷⁶

On 10 October 2018, Italy, as a member nation of the ATLAS network, signed an enhanced cooperation agreement with Europol.¹⁷⁷ The agreement dictates the establishment of an ATLAS Support Office, which “will be the main interface of ATLAS with Europol and will support the ATLAS chairmanship by providing contacts to strategic and operational experts at Europol in the relevant areas of combating terrorism.”¹⁷⁸

Between 8-11 October 2018, the Italian government participated in a series of counter-terrorism exercises known as the ATLAS Common Challenge, which “aims to test the effectiveness and readiness of European special intervention units as regards cross-border operations.”¹⁷⁹ The Italian delegation participated in exercise scenarios that simulated an aircraft hijacking, as well as a bomb situation on a passenger train.¹⁸⁰

On 30 November 2018, Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland announced that the federal government spearheaded the G7 Foreign Ministers’ statement, which condemned Russia’s

¹⁷⁴ Statement from Italy at United Nations High-Level Conference on Counter Terrorism, United Nations (New York) 28 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018.

<https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctitf/sites/www.un.org.counterterrorism.ctitf/files/S2-Italy.pdf>.

¹⁷⁵ Statement from Italy at United Nations High-Level Conference on Counter Terrorism, United Nations (New York) 28 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018.

<https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctitf/sites/www.un.org.counterterrorism.ctitf/files/S2-Italy.pdf>.

¹⁷⁶ Statement from Italy at United Nations High-Level Conference on Counter Terrorism, United Nations (New York) 28 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018.

<https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctitf/sites/www.un.org.counterterrorism.ctitf/files/S2-Italy.pdf>.

¹⁷⁷ Closer International Cooperation to Fight Hostage-Taking, Kidnapping and Terrorism, Europol (The Hague) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_CLDR-18-5866_en.htm.

¹⁷⁸ Closer International Cooperation to Fight Hostage-Taking, Kidnapping and Terrorism, Europol (The Hague) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_CLDR-18-5866_en.htm.

¹⁷⁹ Closer International Cooperation to Fight Hostage-Taking, Kidnapping and Terrorism, Europol (The Hague) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_CLDR-18-5866_en.htm.

¹⁸⁰ Closer International Cooperation to Fight Hostage-Taking, Kidnapping and Terrorism, Europol (The Hague) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_CLDR-18-5866_en.htm.

actions against Ukraine while urging the release of detained sailors. Italy took part in the joint statement urging the aggressing party to respect international law and escalate no further.¹⁸¹

On 1 December 2018, Italy, as a member of the G20, issued a joint communiqué with other G20 members affirming various commitments in the coming next year.¹⁸² In the communiqué, Italy reaffirmed its “strong condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations”¹⁸³ and to “commit to the full implementation of the Hamburg G20 Leaders Statement on Countering Terrorism.”¹⁸⁴ Italy also pledged to “step up our efforts in fighting terrorist and proliferation financing, and money laundering.”¹⁸⁵ Italy also urged greater efforts to deter cyber-terrorism.¹⁸⁶

Between 6-7 December 2018, Italy hosted the 2018 Ministerial Council of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE).¹⁸⁷ Minister of Foreign Affairs and 2018 OSCE Chair Angelino Alfano reiterated Italy’s commitment to national and transnational security, and promised to “promote a holistic approach to countering terrorism.”¹⁸⁸ As well as pursuing transparent military strategies with other European states to strengthen national security.¹⁸⁹

On 10 May 2019, Italy, alongside other G7 members, announced it would be participating in a simulated “major cross-border cyber security attack on the financial sector.”¹⁹⁰ The purpose of the simulation “will be based on the scenario of a technical component widely used in the financial sector

¹⁸¹ Canada led joint g7 statement condemning Russian aggression in Ukraine: Freeland, CBC News (Buenos Aires) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2018/11/government-of-canada-provides-funding-for-intervention-programs-to-prevent-violent-extremism-in-bc.html>.

¹⁸² G20 Leaders’ Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, Group of 20 (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/buenos_aires_leaders_declaration.pdf.

¹⁸³ G20 Leaders’ Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, Group of 20 (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/buenos_aires_leaders_declaration.pdf.

¹⁸⁴ G20 Leaders’ Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, Group of 20 (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/buenos_aires_leaders_declaration.pdf.

¹⁸⁵ G20 Leaders’ Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, Group of 20 (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/buenos_aires_leaders_declaration.pdf.

¹⁸⁶ G20 Leaders’ Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, Group of 20 (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/buenos_aires_leaders_declaration.pdf.

¹⁸⁷ Programme of the Italian OSCE Chairmanship 2018: Dialogue, Ownership, Responsibility, Organization for Security and Co-Operation in Europe (Milan) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.osce.org/chairmanship/405179?download=true>.

¹⁸⁸ Programme of the Italian OSCE Chairmanship 2018: Dialogue, Ownership, Responsibility, Organization for Security and Co-Operation in Europe (Milan) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.osce.org/chairmanship/405179?download=true>.

¹⁸⁹ Programme of the Italian OSCE Chairmanship 2018: Dialogue, Ownership, Responsibility, Organization for Security and Co-Operation in Europe (Milan) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.osce.org/chairmanship/405179?download=true>.

¹⁹⁰ G7 Countries to Simulate Cross-Border Cyber-Attack Next Month: France, Reuters (Paris) 10 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-g7-france-cyber/g7-countries-to-simulate-cross-border-cyber-attack-next-month-france-idUSKCN1SG1KZ>.

becoming infected with malware,”¹⁹¹ which could present immense danger to state financial sectors in the face of a cyber-attack.¹⁹²

On 15 May 2019, As a member of the G7, Italy signed the Christchurch Call with its fellow G7 members and other states affirming their commitment to fight the spread of online extremism.¹⁹³ The Call pledged to “counter the drivers of terrorism and violent extremism ... [and] Ensure effective enforcement of applicable laws that prohibit the production or dissemination of terrorist and violent extremist content.”¹⁹⁴ Furthermore, the document pledged greater interstate cooperation between its signatories with regards to information sharing, committing to “collaborate, and support partner countries, in the development and implementation of best practice in preventing the dissemination of terrorist and violent extremist content online, including through operational coordination and trusted information exchanges.”¹⁹⁵

Italy has taken action in less than 50 percent of the seven action areas in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine our democratic societies and institutions, our electoral processes, our sovereignty, and our security. Italy has demonstrated a commitment to working with foreign governments to counter the threat of terrorism through its agreement with Europol, as well as to improve and enhance its counter-terrorism capabilities through its participation in the ATLAS Common Challenge exercises. Italy has also shown a commitment to counter cyber terrorism through its signing of the Christchurch Call and its participation in simulations of such attacks. However, Italy has taken little concrete action domestically, such as through the introduction of legislation or other similar actions, to demonstrate a further commitment towards countering cyber-terrorism, nor has it taken any action to prevent electoral interference.

Thus, Italy receives a score of -1 .¹⁹⁶

Analyst: Nadin Ramadan

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to take concerted action in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine our democratic societies and institutions, our electoral processes, our sovereignty, and our security.

On 19 June 2018, Japan attended its fifth India-Japan two-plus-two vice-ministerial level dialogue in New Delhi.¹⁹⁷ The dialogue focused on “measures to strengthen cooperation in fields such as

¹⁹¹ G7 Countries to Simulate Cross-Border Cyber-Attack Next Month: France, Reuters (Paris) 10 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-g7-france-cyber/g7-countries-to-simulate-cross-border-cyber-attack-next-month-france-idUSKCN1SG1KZ>.

¹⁹² G7 Countries to Simulate Cross-Border Cyber-Attack Next Month: France, Reuters (Paris) 10 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-g7-france-cyber/g7-countries-to-simulate-cross-border-cyber-attack-next-month-france-idUSKCN1SG1KZ>.

¹⁹³ The Christchurch Call: To Eliminate Terrorist & Violent Extremist Content Online (text), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Auckland) 15 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.christchurchcall.com/call.html>.

¹⁹⁴ The Christchurch Call: To Eliminate Terrorist & Violent Extremist Content Online (text), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Auckland) 15 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.christchurchcall.com/call.html>.

¹⁹⁵ The Christchurch Call: To Eliminate Terrorist & Violent Extremist Content Online (text), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Auckland) 15 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.christchurchcall.com/call.html>.

¹⁹⁶ This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu>, <https://www.difesa.it/EN>, www.governo.it, <https://www.thelocal.it>, <https://www.euronews.com>, www.politico.eu, www.bbc.com.

¹⁹⁷ Fifth India-Japan 2+2 Dialogue, Ministry of External Affairs Government of India (New Delhi) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/29988/5th+IndiaJapan+2432+Dialogue>.

counter-terrorism, maritime security, defense equipment and technology, and peacekeeping operations.”¹⁹⁸

On 28-29 June 2018, Japan attended the first United Nations High-Level Conference on Counter-Terrorism which focused on “strengthening international cooperation to combat the evolving threat of terrorism.”¹⁹⁹ Eiji Yamamoto who is Japan’s ambassador of International Cooperation for Countering Terrorism and International Organized Crime gave a statement on “opportunities and challenges in strengthening international cooperation through the sharing of information, expertise, and resources.”²⁰⁰

On 11 July 2018, Japan attended its fourth Japan-China Counter-Terrorism Consultation in Beijing.²⁰¹ Both countries exchanged views on the “international and regional terrorism situation and counter-terrorism cooperation.”²⁰²

On 10 October 2018, the Japan Times published the Finance Ministry of Japan’s intention to increase the number of customs officers for border control in April 2019 for the purpose of implementing “thorough measures to prevent terrorism and other crimes.”²⁰³ This objective resulted from the rapid increase in foreign tourists visiting Japan and a future projected increase in tourists’ due to the 2020 Olympic Games.²⁰⁴

On 1 August 2018, Japan opened a counterterrorism information center to “prevent terrorist attacks before and during the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics by sharing intelligence among government ministries and agencies.”²⁰⁵

On 12 November 2018, Japan signed the Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace with 50 countries and over 150 technology companies in a vow to step up cybersecurity.²⁰⁶ The declaration is about “governments, industry and civil society coming together to increase trust, security, and stability in cyberspace.”²⁰⁷

¹⁹⁸ Fifth India-Japan 2+2 Dialogue, Ministry of External Affairs Government of India (New Delhi) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/29988/5th+IndiaJapan+2432+Dialogue>.

¹⁹⁹ United Nations High-level Conference on Counter-Terrorism, UN (New York City) 28 June 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://www.un.org/en/counterterrorism/hlc/index.shtml>.

²⁰⁰ United Nations High-level Conference on Counter-Terrorism Statements, UN (New York City) 28 June 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://www.un.org/en/counterterrorism/hlc/statements.shtml>.

²⁰¹ Japan-China Relations: The 4th Japan-China Counter-Terrorism Consultation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 11 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/is_sc/page25e_000208.html.

²⁰² Japan-China Relations: The 4th Japan-China Counter-Terrorism Consultation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 11 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/is_sc/page25e_000208.html.

²⁰³ Japan facing customs officer shortage as foreign visitors surge, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/10/10/national/japan-facing-customs-officer-shortage-foreign-visitors-surge/#.W8jRGi8ZORt>.

²⁰⁴ Japan facing customs officer shortage as foreign visitors surge, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/10/10/national/japan-facing-customs-officer-shortage-foreign-visitors-surge/#.W8jRGi8ZORt>.

²⁰⁵ Terrorist attack prevention body formed ahead of 2020 Olympics, The Asahi Shimbun (Tokyo) 2 August 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <http://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/AJ201808020033.html>.

²⁰⁶ Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace, France Diplomatie (Paris) 12 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/digital-diplomacy/france-and-cyber-security/article/cybersecurity-paris-call-of-12-november-2018-for-trust-and-security-in>.

²⁰⁷ Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace, France Diplomatie (Paris) 12 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/digital-diplomacy/france-and-cyber-security/article/cybersecurity-paris-call-of-12-november-2018-for-trust-and-security-in>.

On 30 November 2018, Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland announced that the federal government spearheaded the G7 Foreign Ministers' statement, which condemned Russia's actions against Ukraine while urging the release of detained sailors.²⁰⁸ Japan took part in the joint statement urging the aggressing party to respect international law and escalate no further.²⁰⁹

On 15 February 2019, on behalf of Japan, Foreign Minister Taro Kono offered condolences in a press release to the Northern Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir regarding a terrorist attack that occurred 14 February. Kono stated that "such acts of terrorism cannot be justified for any reason and Japan firmly condemns it. Japan expresses its solidarity with India in combatting terrorism."²¹⁰

On 21-22 February 2019, Japan attended its eleventh Association of Southeast Asian Nations-Japan Counter Terrorism Dialogue co-chaired by Japan's Ambassador of International Cooperation for Countering Terrorism and International Organized Crime, Eiji Yamamoto, and Brunei Darussalam's Permanent Secretary of Security and Enforcement, Pengiran Muhamad Sazali Pengiran Yakob. The dialogue focused on the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2396 regarding the "return and relocation of foreign terrorist fighters."²¹¹

On 27 February 2019, Japan attended the Third Japan-India Cyber Dialogue in Tokyo. The Japanese delegation was led by the Ambassador of Cyber Policy and Deputy Director General of Foreign Policy Bureau, Masato Otaka.²¹² The Indian delegation was led by the Joint Secretary of E-Governance, Information Technology and Cyber Diplomacy, Upender Singh Rawat. Both representatives shared the view that cyber security enhances each nation's security, socioeconomic activities, and people's daily lives, as well as reaffirmed their commitment to an "open, free, secure, and stable cyber space."²¹³ The dialogue included information sharing on recent cyber-terrorism-attacks, updates on domestic cyber security strategies and policies, and discussion on "bilateral cooperation in the field of international cooperation and capacity building."²¹⁴

On 22 April 2019, Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary, Yoshihide Suga, stated at a press conference that the Japanese government is sending an emergency response team to Sri Lanka to confirm the safety of Japanese nationals in the area after a series of suicide bombings that killed over 300 people.²¹⁵ In

²⁰⁸ Canada led joint g7 statement condemning Russian aggression in Ukraine: Freeland, CBC News (Buenos Aires) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2018/11/government-of-canada-provides-funding-for-intervention-programs-to-prevent-violent-extremism-in-bc.html>.

²⁰⁹ Canada led joint g7 statement condemning Russian aggression in Ukraine: Freeland, CBC News (Buenos Aires) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2018/11/government-of-canada-provides-funding-for-intervention-programs-to-prevent-violent-extremism-in-bc.html>.

²¹⁰ Press Releases: Message of Condolences from Foreign Minister Taro Kono Following the Terrorist Attack in the Northern Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 15 February 2019. Access date: 27 February 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002339.html.

²¹¹ Japan-China Relations: 11th ASEAN-Japan Counter-Terrorism Dialogue, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 18 January 2019. Access date: 26 February 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/is_sc/page25e_000293.html.

²¹² Third Japan-India Cyber Dialogue, Tokyo, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 27 February 2019. Access date: 20 May 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000113.html.

²¹³ Third Japan-India Cyber Dialogue, Tokyo, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 27 February 2019. Access date: 20 May 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000113.html.

²¹⁴ Third Japan-India Cyber Dialogue, Tokyo, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 27 February 2019. Access date: 20 May 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000113.html.

²¹⁵ Japan Sending Emergency Response Team to Sri Lanka in Wake of Terror Attacks, The Mainichi (Tokyo) 23 April 2019. Access date: 16 June 2019. <https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20190423/p2a/00m/Ona/007000c?fbclid=IwAR3t4-hgVldtIRITsJmTF9kbTyuhA4xaJ0Z-dcv9mPcEvXdX2UHkySDU66k>.

addition to these efforts, the government intends to call on other countries to boost their counter-terrorism measures.²¹⁶

On 24 April 2019, the Nuclear Regulation Authority (NRA) of Japan made the decision that power companies will not be able to operate reactors if they “fail to install sufficient counterterrorism measures by specified deadlines.”²¹⁷ The power plant operators are required to build facilities that can keep reactors cool through remote controls and this prevents the massive release of radioactive materials in the case that the reactors are the target of a terrorist attack.²¹⁸ The NRA has stated that these facilities have to be built within a five-year period, otherwise the plants will not be allowed to operate.²¹⁹

On 29 May 2019, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina met in Tokyo to discuss cooperation in counter-terrorism measures.²²⁰ Counter-terrorism was a point of discussion because of the 2016 terrorism attack in Dhaka, Bangladesh, which killed 22 people, seven of whom were Japanese.²²¹

On 1 June 2019, the Japanese Minister of Defence Takeshi Iwaya held a trilateral meeting in Singapore with the Australian Minister of Defense Linda Reynolds, and the United States Secretary of Defense Patrick Shanahan. The focus of the meeting was increased cooperation “in support of security, stability, transparency, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region.”²²² The ministers agreed on a Strategic Action Agenda that “articulates their shared long-term vision for trilateral cooperation in the Indo-Pacific.”²²³ It will enable their defense organizations to plan and implement “enhanced

²¹⁶ Japan Sending Emergency Response Team to Sri Lanka in Wake of Terror Attacks, The Mainichi (Tokyo) 23 April 2019. Access date: 16 June 2019.

<https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20190423/p2a/00m/0na/007000c?fbclid=IwAR3t4-hgVldtIRITsJmTF9kbTyuhA4xaJ0Z-dcv9mPcEvXdX2UhkySDU66k>.

²¹⁷ Japan to Shut Down Nuclear Plants if Counterterror Steps Not Taken in Time, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 24 April 2019. Access date: 16 June 2019. https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/04/24/business/corporate-business/japan-halt-nuclear-plants-operations-anti-terrorism-steps-not-taken-time/?fbclid=IwAR178GkZpQ_3HO_cmaZkv8OC2XBfJWQwmmCHYwW3YhEnkWWyclxGsvIDfC#.XQZyDS0ZnQJ.

²¹⁸ Japan to Shut Down Nuclear Plants if Counterterror Steps Not Taken in Time, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 24 April 2019. Access date: 16 June 2019. https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/04/24/business/corporate-business/japan-halt-nuclear-plants-operations-anti-terrorism-steps-not-taken-time/?fbclid=IwAR178GkZpQ_3HO_cmaZkv8OC2XBfJWQwmmCHYwW3YhEnkWWyclxGsvIDfC#.XQZyDS0ZnQJ.

²¹⁹ Japan to Shut Down Nuclear Plants if Counterterror Steps Not Taken in Time, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 24 April 2019. Access date: 16 June 2019. https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/04/24/business/corporate-business/japan-halt-nuclear-plants-operations-anti-terrorism-steps-not-taken-time/?fbclid=IwAR178GkZpQ_3HO_cmaZkv8OC2XBfJWQwmmCHYwW3YhEnkWWyclxGsvIDfC#.XQZyDS0ZnQJ.

²²⁰ Japan Bangladesh Leaders Meet to Discuss Economic Ties, Terrorism, Nikkei Asian Review (Tokyo) 29 May 2019. Access date: 16 June 2019. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/Japan-Bangladesh-leaders-meet-to-discuss-economic-ties-terrorism?fbclid=IwAR3eCeGWVCFCPU47RgBuDX0r-MM8xy84KeLxZj4Z7KKkLE8pXYHxli4KGk>.

²²¹ Japan Bangladesh Leaders Meet to Discuss Economic Ties, Terrorism, Nikkei Asian Review (Tokyo) 29 May 2019. Access date: 16 June 2019. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/Japan-Bangladesh-leaders-meet-to-discuss-economic-ties-terrorism?fbclid=IwAR3eCeGWVCFCPU47RgBuDX0r-MM8xy84KeLxZj4Z7KKkLE8pXYHxli4KGk>.

²²² Australia – Japan – United States Defense Ministers Meeting, Mirage News (Wollongong) 2 June 2019. Access date: 16 June 2019. <https://www.miragenews.com/australia-japan-united-states-defense-ministers-meeting/?fbclid=IwAR1ZHRuEiFSNv5B5xHIGLSJOLSxwHSbldANNg3u5IoVYKS1HeKJSxJ9Wzk>.

²²³ Australia – Japan – United States Defense Ministers Meeting, Mirage News (Wollongong) 2 June 2019. Access date: 16 June 2019. <https://www.miragenews.com/australia-japan-united-states-defense-ministers-meeting/?fbclid=IwAR1ZHRuEiFSNv5B5xHIGLSJOLSxwHSbldANNg3u5IoVYKS1HeKJSxJ9Wzk>.

trilateral defense cooperative activities.”²²⁴ They also discussed increasing regional defense engagement activities, such as joint exercises and training and capacity building.²²⁵

On 4 June 2019, delegates from the Japan Ministry of Defense participated in a one-day training program on counter-terrorism at the Philippine Army Headquarters in Fort Bonifacio, Quezon City.²²⁶ The purpose of the training was to strengthen the bilateral relationship of the forces and to counter the rising threat of terrorism.²²⁷ The spokesperson of the Philippine Army, Lieutenant Ramon Zagala, stated that the training “emphasized the importance of joint agency operations of the military and government/non-government organizations in performing its duty of protecting the people and securing territorial integrity.”²²⁸ Providing training and developing readily deployable forces were highlighted as integral to preparing for and addressing terrorism issues.²²⁹

Japan has taken action in at least 50% of the seven action areas in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine our democratic societies and institutions, our electoral processes, our sovereignty and our security. Japan’s has made efforts to facilitate and improve cooperation among countries in countering terrorism and cooperate with technology companies to step up cybersecurity. However, Japan has done little to comply with their commitment to respond to foreign threats.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Sheeriza Azeez

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to take concerted action in responding to foreigners who seek to undermine our democratic societies and institutions, our electoral processes, and our sovereignty.

On 11 June 2018, following the Charlevoix Summit Prime Minister Theresa May addressed the British House of Commons to affirm her Government’s commitment to the decisions taken at Charlevoix.²³⁰ Specifically, Prime Minister Theresa May noted the need to “maintain the global norm

²²⁴ Australia – Japan – United States Defense Ministers Meeting, Mirage News (Wollongong) 2 June 2019. Access date: 16 June 2019. <https://www.miragenews.com/australia-japan-united-states-defense-ministers-meeting/?fbclid=IwAR1ZHRuEiFSNv5B5xHIGLSJOLSXwHSbldANNg3u5IoVYKS1HeKJSxJ9Wzk>.

²²⁵ Australia – Japan – United States Defense Ministers Meeting, Mirage News (Wollongong) 2 June 2019. Access date: 16 June 2019. <https://www.miragenews.com/australia-japan-united-states-defense-ministers-meeting/?fbclid=IwAR1ZHRuEiFSNv5B5xHIGLSJOLSXwHSbldANNg3u5IoVYKS1HeKJSxJ9Wzk>.

²²⁶ Army Shares Counter-Terrorism Strategies to Visiting Japanese Delegates, Manila Bulletin (Manila) 4 June 2019. Access date: 16 June 2019. <https://news.mb.com.ph/2019/06/04/army-shares-counter-terrorism-strategies-to-visiting-japanese-delegates/?fbclid=IwAR3ebNanrHdGaETLGQv3VUa8wwjf7DLLUsvZA4WcGV0b1rvr4aCpcZIKwRU>.

²²⁷ Army Shares Counter-Terrorism Strategies to Visiting Japanese Delegates, Manila Bulletin (Manila) 4 June 2019. Access date: 16 June 2019. <https://news.mb.com.ph/2019/06/04/army-shares-counter-terrorism-strategies-to-visiting-japanese-delegates/?fbclid=IwAR3ebNanrHdGaETLGQv3VUa8wwjf7DLLUsvZA4WcGV0b1rvr4aCpcZIKwRU>.

²²⁸ Army Shares Counter-Terrorism Strategies to Visiting Japanese Delegates, Manila Bulletin (Manila) 4 June 2019. Access date: 16 June 2019. <https://news.mb.com.ph/2019/06/04/army-shares-counter-terrorism-strategies-to-visiting-japanese-delegates/?fbclid=IwAR3ebNanrHdGaETLGQv3VUa8wwjf7DLLUsvZA4WcGV0b1rvr4aCpcZIKwRU>.

²²⁹ Army Shares Counter-Terrorism Strategies to Visiting Japanese Delegates, Manila Bulletin (Manila) 4 June 2019. Access date: 16 June 2019. <https://news.mb.com.ph/2019/06/04/army-shares-counter-terrorism-strategies-to-visiting-japanese-delegates/?fbclid=IwAR3ebNanrHdGaETLGQv3VUa8wwjf7DLLUsvZA4WcGV0b1rvr4aCpcZIKwRU>.

²³⁰ PM statement on G7 summit: 11 June 2018, GOV.UK (London) 11 June 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-statement-on-g7-summit-11-june-2018>.

against the use of chemical weapons” and the shared efforts “to establish a new Rapid Response Mechanism” to further cooperation among the G7 members.²³¹

On 11 June 2018, in a meeting with Michel Barnier, the European Union’s chief negotiator, Brexit Secretary David Davis voiced the UK’s aspiration to remaining cooperative with the European Union and its counter-terrorism policies post-Brexit.²³² Cooperation would be evidenced in the UK’s continued involvement with the European Arrest Warrant, and through the UK’s sustained membership with the Schengen Information System II, and the European Criminal Records Information System.²³³

On 14 June 2018, The National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO) began a counter-terrorism initiative in partnership with former football players to advise sports fans on response measures during potential terrorist attacks at sporting venues.²³⁴ The NaCTSO seeks to build effective cooperation between “the public and the police” to ensure safety in “different sectors such as retail, hospitality, and entertainment.”²³⁵

On 26 June 2018, former British Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson was instrumental in garnering international support at the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) for the British-led motion on being able to delegate responsibility for chemical weapon usage in the conflict in Syria.²³⁶ Addressing the member states, Boris Johnson stated that this motion is part of the UK’s effort “to push back on any efforts to undermine the ban on these vile weapons.”²³⁷

On 20 July 2018, the UK joined France in a counter-terrorism operation in Mali.²³⁸ The Armed Forces Minister Mark Lancaster noted that “this deployment demonstrates our shared commitment to tackling terrorism, instability and reducing threats to European security.”²³⁹

On 6 September 2018, the UK, alongside France, the United States, Canada, and Germany, released a joint statement condemning the use of a chemical nerve agent that was used in the poisoning of

²³¹ PM statement on G7 summit: 11 June 2018, GOV.UK (London) 11 June 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-statement-on-g7-summit-11-june-2018>.

²³² U.K. Demands Post-Brexit Security Cooperation From EU, Bloomberg (New York City) 11 June 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-06-11/u-k-gives-post-brexit-terrorism-warning-as-eu-consults-macron>.

²³³ U.K. Demands Post-Brexit Security Cooperation From EU, Bloomberg (New York City) 11 June 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-06-11/u-k-gives-post-brexit-terrorism-warning-as-eu-consults-macron>.

²³⁴ Know the Game Plan, Counter Terrorism Policing (London) 14 June 2018. Access Date: 7 October 2018. <https://www.counterterrorism.police.uk/knowthegameplan/>.

²³⁵ Know the Game Plan, Counter Terrorism Policing (London) 14 June 2018. Access Date: 7 October 2018. <https://www.counterterrorism.police.uk/knowthegameplan/>.

²³⁶ UK poised to overcome Russian objections in chemical weapons vote, the Guardian (London) 26 June 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jun/26/uk-on-collision-course-with-russia-over-chemical-weapons-vote>.

²³⁷ UK wins bid for OPCW to attribute blame for chemical weapons attacks, Sky News (London) 27 June 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. <https://news.sky.com/story/uk-wins-bid-for-opcw-to-attribute-blame-for-chemical-weapons-attacks-11418767>.

²³⁸ Britain risks 'open ended' conflict in Mali in bid to protect European security, the Telegraph (London) 20 July 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/07/20/britain-risks-open-ended-conflict-mali-bid-protect-european/>.

²³⁹ Britain risks 'open ended' conflict in Mali in bid to protect European security, the Telegraph (London) 20 July 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/07/20/britain-risks-open-ended-conflict-mali-bid-protect-european/>.

Dawn Sturgess and Charles Rowley in Salisbury, England on 4 March 2018.²⁴⁰ They also urged Russia to provide full disclosure to the OPCW.²⁴¹

On 21 September 2018, the Telegraph reported that Secretary of State for Defence Gavin Williamson is in the process of announcing a new cyber-crime offensive pioneered between the Ministry of Defence and the Government Communications Headquarters.²⁴² This new GBP250 million task force will be implemented as a means to undermine threats from Russia and terrorist groups utilizing the internet to cause harm.²⁴³

On 3 October 2018, the delegate from the UK addressed the United Nations Security Council and affirmed the UK's recognition over the need for technological adaptation to counter terrorist threats.²⁴⁴ The delegate encouraged cross-state cooperation to strengthen counter-terrorism initiatives with a specific emphasis on the need to cooperate with the private sector.²⁴⁵ The UK was one of two states in attendance to invite the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate for an assessment visit in 2019.²⁴⁶

On 14 October 2018, the UK Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt stated that another package of sanctions initiated by the United Kingdom and France after attacks in Syria and Britain's Salisbury attack would be officially adopted by the EU foreign ministers in Luxembourg on 15 October 2018.²⁴⁷ Earlier, foreign ministers from 28 states of the European Union backed a new regime that introduces sanctions against individuals and legal entities, that are responsible for using and proliferating chemical weapons.²⁴⁸

²⁴⁰ Salisbury Attack: Joint Statement by Leaders of France, Germany, the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom, France Diplomatie (Paris) 6 September 2018. Access Date: 6 October 2018. 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/united-kingdom/events/article/salisbury-attack-joint-statement-by-leaders-of-france-germany-the-united-states>.

²⁴¹ Salisbury Attack: Joint Statement by Leaders of France, Germany, the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom, France Diplomatie (Paris) 6 September 2018. Access Date: 6 October 2018. 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/united-kingdom/events/article/salisbury-attack-joint-statement-by-leaders-of-france-germany-the-united-states>.

²⁴² Britain steps up cyber offensive with new £250m unit to take on Russia and terrorists, the Telegraph (London) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 30 October 2018. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/09/21/britain-steps-cyber-offensive-new-250m-unit-take-russia-terrorists/>.

²⁴³ Britain steps up cyber offensive with new £250m unit to take on Russia and terrorists, the Telegraph (London) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 30 October 2018. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/09/21/britain-steps-cyber-offensive-new-250m-unit-take-russia-terrorists/>.

²⁴⁴ United Nations Counter-terrorism Mechanisms Must be Flexible, Adapt Rapidly to Fighters' Increasingly Creative, Diffuse Tactics, Security Council Hears, United Nations (New York) 3 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2018/sc13528.doc.htm>.

²⁴⁵ United Nations Counter-terrorism Mechanisms Must be Flexible, Adapt Rapidly to Fighters' Increasingly Creative, Diffuse Tactics, Security Council Hears, United Nations (New York) 3 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2018/sc13528.doc.htm>.

²⁴⁶ United Nations Counter-terrorism Mechanisms Must be Flexible, Adapt Rapidly to Fighters' Increasingly Creative, Diffuse Tactics, Security Council Hears, United Nations (New York) 3 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2018/sc13528.doc.htm>.

²⁴⁷ U.K.'s sanctions efforts geared to spoil Moscow-EU ties after Brexit, says Russian embassy, Russian News Agency (Moscow) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <http://tass.com/politics/1026031>.

²⁴⁸ U.K.'s sanctions efforts geared to spoil Moscow-EU ties after Brexit, says Russian embassy, Russian News Agency (Moscow) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <http://tass.com/politics/1026031>.

On 21 October 2018, Williamson stated that the UK stands “absolutely resolute” with the United States’ decision to rescind previous nuclear weapons pacts with Russia.²⁴⁹ Williamson added that Russia has made a “mockery” of the provisions stipulated within previous nuclear weapons treaties.²⁵⁰

On 19 November 2018, the United Kingdom, the United States, and France accepted the adoption on the UN Security Council of individual sanctions against Libyan national Salah Badi.²⁵¹ Badi has played a primary role in the clash in Tripoli, which led to the losses of many civilian lives. France “will continue to support, together with its various partners, the adoption of sanctions against individuals and entities that pose a threat to Libya’s peace, stability and security, and which obstruct the political process.”²⁵²

On 19 November 2018, the National Counter Terrorism Policing launched “its biggest-ever winter advertising campaign to the public, as part of ACT: Action Counters Terrorism.”²⁵³ ACT was set-up in 2017 as a means to foster greater public-private cooperation in undermining potential terrorist threats.²⁵⁴

On 30 November 2018, Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland announced that the federal government spearheaded the G7 Foreign Ministers’ statement, which condemned Russia’s actions against the Ukraine while urging the release of detained sailors. The UK took part in the joint statement urging the aggressing party to respect international law and escalate no further.²⁵⁵

On 5 December 2018, UK Home Secretary Sajid Javid asserted the importance of May’s Brexit plan in assuring the UK’s continued cooperation with the European Union in maintaining communication over security concerns. May’s Brexit plan would sanction the UK the continued use of “DNA databases to catch criminals, and the fast-track extradition of suspects.”²⁵⁶

On 22 January 2019, Minister of State for Security Ben Wallace announced that the deradicalization “Prevent” initiative is set to undergo an independent review. The review would follow a series of

²⁴⁹ UK backs Trump withdrawal from Russia nuclear treaty, the Guardian (London) 21 October 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/oct/21/uk-backs-trumps-nuclear-treaty-withdrawal-blames-russia-for-breakdown>.

²⁵⁰ UK backs Trump withdrawal from Russia nuclear treaty, the Guardian (London) 21 October 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/oct/21/uk-backs-trumps-nuclear-treaty-withdrawal-blames-russia-for-breakdown>.

²⁵¹ Libya — Imposition of sanctions against Salah Badi, France Diplomatie (Paris) 19 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/libya/events/2018/article/libya-imposition-of-sanctions-against-salah-badi-19-11-18>.

²⁵² Libya — Imposition of sanctions against Salah Badi, France Diplomatie (Paris) 19 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/libya/events/2018/article/libya-imposition-of-sanctions-against-salah-badi-19-11-18>.

²⁵³ Counter Terrorism Policing wants Christmas security all wrapped up, gov.uk (London) 19 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/counter-terrorism-policing-wants-christmas-security-all-wrapped-up>.

²⁵⁴ Action Counters Terrorism, gov.uk (London) 7 March 2017. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/action-counters-terrorism>.

²⁵⁵ Canada led joint g7 statement condemning Russian aggression in Ukraine: Freeland, CBC News (Buenos Aires) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2018/11/government-of-canada-provides-funding-for-intervention-programs-to-prevent-violent-extremism-in-bc.html>.

²⁵⁶ Sajid Javid warns of security risks if May’s Brexit plan rejected, the Guardian (London) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/dec/05/sajid-javid-debate-warns-of-security-risks-if-mays-brexit-plan-rejected>.

criticisms from human rights organizations, such as Amnesty International, an organization that held “Prevent” liable for fostering “discrimination against people of Muslim faith.”²⁵⁷

On 23 January 2019, Senior National Coordinator for Counterterrorism Policing Neil Basu noted his concerns over a “no-deal Brexit,” which would remove the UK from EU data-sharing on terrorist activities. Basu also noted that given the potential for far-right exploitation of the Brexit process, the Counterterrorism Policing department began to monitor “public order difficulties because of Brexit” to plan for potential problems in the future.²⁵⁸

On 5-6 March 2019, the Security and Counter Terror Expo was held in London, which showcased “the capabilities, strategies and intelligence to keep nations, infrastructure, business and people safe.”²⁵⁹ Senior security professionals from the UK government were present to discuss means to improve communication from the central government to local communities.²⁶⁰

On 19 March 2019, a few days after the terrorist attacks in Christchurch, New Zealand, Prime Minister Theresa May’s official spokesman stated that “intensive work was taking place across government and by the police and security services to combat the threat” of domestic, far-right terrorism.²⁶¹ As part of the effort to thwart extremism from the far-right, the Guardian reported that official “threat-level warnings for far-right terrorism” from the MI5’s Joint Terrorism Analyst Centre.²⁶²

On 5 April 2019, following a two-day meeting in Paris between the Foreign Ministers of the G7 members, a statement was released calling for greater cooperation between the members to provide asylum for refugees.²⁶³ Remarks were also made on the future of domestic fighters who joined terrorist groups in Iraq and Syria.²⁶⁴ Viewpoints differed on this issue of handling foreigners who joined Islamic State in Syria and Iraq.²⁶⁵

On 8 April 2019, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport proposed legislation that would form an independent watchdog to monitor tech companies.²⁶⁶ The purpose of this

²⁵⁷ Prevent Strategy on Radicalization Faces Independent Review, the Guardian (London) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/jan/22/prevent-strategy-on-radicalisation-faces-independent-review>.

²⁵⁸ Far Right May Exploit Brexit Tensions, says U.K. Counter-terror Chief, the Guardian (London) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/jan/23/no-deal-brex-it-incredibly-damaging-security-says-uk-counter-terror-head-neil-basu>.

²⁵⁹ The UK’s Leading National Security Event, SCTX (London) Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.counterterrorexp.com/>.

²⁶⁰ The UK’s Leading National Security Event, SCTX (London) Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.counterterrorexp.com/>.

²⁶¹ UK to Start Issuing Far-Right Terrorism Alerts, The Guardian (London) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/mar/19/uk-to-start-issuing-far-right-terrorism-alerts>.

²⁶² Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre, Security Service MI5 (London) Access Date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.mi5.gov.uk/joint-terrorism-analysis-centre>.

²⁶³ G7 Divided Over How to Handle Return of Jihadists Still in Syria and Iraq, France 24 (Paris) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190405-g7-meeting-interior-ministers-division-handle-jihadists-families-syria-iraq>.

²⁶⁴ G7 Divided Over How to Handle Return of Jihadists Still in Syria and Iraq, France 24 (Paris) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190405-g7-meeting-interior-ministers-division-handle-jihadists-families-syria-iraq>.

²⁶⁵ G7 Divided Over How to Handle Return of Jihadists Still in Syria and Iraq, France 24 (Paris) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190405-g7-meeting-interior-ministers-division-handle-jihadists-families-syria-iraq>.

²⁶⁶ Websites to be Fined Over 'Online Harms' Under New Proposals, BBC (London) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-47826946>.

independent body would be to write a “code of practice” for social networks to ensure that websites that fail to tackle terrorist propaganda are fined.²⁶⁷

On 12 April 2019, the Counter-Terrorism and Border Security Act 2019 came into force.²⁶⁸ These federal laws stipulate “designated areas” overseas that the Government regards as terrorist hotspots.²⁶⁹ Accordingly, British citizens travelling to live in those areas could be sentenced to ten years in prison. Although intended for protecting “the public from a risk of terrorism,” these laws have been criticized for infringing on free speech by human rights organizations.²⁷⁰ Home Secretary Sajid Javid affirmed that “these new laws give the police the powers they need to disrupt terrorist plots earlier and ensure that those who seek to do us harm face just punishment.”²⁷¹

On 20 May 2019, Javid spoke in favour of updating the U.K.’s treason laws for ensuring that those who support foreign terrorism are given life sentences.²⁷² He claimed that these updates are necessary given the context of twenty-first-century terrorism.²⁷³ Alongside these updates, he announced a proposal for new espionage bills to tackle “gaps” in already-existing laws.²⁷⁴

The United Kingdom has acted in more than 50% of the seven action areas in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine our democratic societies and institutions, our electoral processes, our sovereignty and our security. The United Kingdom has demonstrated collaboration, actions to promote control of chemical weapons and educating its civilians.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Mohid Malik

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to take concerted action in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine our democratic societies and institutions, our electoral processes, our sovereignty, and our security.

²⁶⁷ Websites to be Fined Over 'Online Harms' Under New Proposals, BBC (London) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-47826946>.

²⁶⁸ Britons Going to Terror Hotspots Face 10 Years in Jail Under New Laws, The Guardian (London) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/apr/12/britons-moving-terror-hotspots-face-10-years-jail-under-new-laws>.

²⁶⁹ Britons Going to Terror Hotspots Face 10 Years in Jail Under New Laws, The Guardian (London) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/apr/12/britons-moving-terror-hotspots-face-10-years-jail-under-new-laws>.

²⁷⁰ Britons Going to Terror Hotspots Face 10 Years in Jail Under New Laws, The Guardian (London) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/apr/12/britons-moving-terror-hotspots-face-10-years-jail-under-new-laws>.

²⁷¹ Britons Going to Terror Hotspots Face 10 Years in Jail Under New Laws, The Guardian (London) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/apr/12/britons-moving-terror-hotspots-face-10-years-jail-under-new-laws>.

²⁷² British Citizens Who Help Isil Could Face Life in Prison Under Updated Treason Laws, Sajid Javid Suggests, The Telegraph (London) 20 May 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/05/20/british-citizens-help-isil-could-face-life-prison-updated-treason/>.

²⁷³ British Citizens Who Help Isil Could Face Life in Prison Under Updated Treason Laws, Sajid Javid Suggests, The Telegraph (London) 20 May 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/05/20/british-citizens-help-isil-could-face-life-prison-updated-treason/>.

²⁷⁴ British Citizens Who Help Isil Could Face Life in Prison Under Updated Treason Laws, Sajid Javid Suggests, The Telegraph (London) 20 May 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/05/20/british-citizens-help-isil-could-face-life-prison-updated-treason/>.

On 12 June 2018, the U.S. Congress passed the Whistleblower Protection Coordination Act.²⁷⁵ This bill allows for “whistleblowers to (now) have a dedicated official permanently at each agency to educate the workforce and work with Office of Special Counsel to protect against retaliation.”²⁷⁶

On 19 June 2018, the spokesperson for the U.S. State Department, Heather Nauret, condemned the furlough release of a convicted terrorist, Dimitris Koufodinas, from a Greek prison.²⁷⁷

On 21 June 2018, the United States and Canada began sharing information about suspected terrorists under the revised version of a program known as Tuscan, short for Tipoff U.S./Canada.²⁷⁸ Tuscan procedures will now consist of the U.S. Terrorist Screening Center providing “derogatory indicators” to the Canada Border Services Agency if a name matched the U.S. list, which would then allow the border services agency to inform the U.S. center about the encounter on a “case by case basis” if the border agency deems the individual as posing a threat to national security.²⁷⁹

On 23 August 2018, Senior Representatives from the United States and Chile participated in an Executive Cyber Consultation in Washington D.C. in order to create more cooperation between both countries on cyber issues, including both governments’ capacity to face potential threats in cyberspace.²⁸⁰

On 27 August 2018, the United States sanctions against Russia over the March poisoning in Britain of a former Russian agent and his daughter went into effect. This sanction targeted foreign aid, the sale of defense and security goods and U.S government loans for exports in Russia.²⁸¹

On 6 September 2018, a joint statement between France, Germany, the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom was released condemning the use of a chemical nerve agent that was used in the poisoning of two British nationals, Dawn Sturgess and Charles Rowley, in Salisbury, England on 4 March 2018.²⁸²

On 20 September 2018, U.S. President Donald J. Trump released a statement detailing his plan to strengthen the country’s cybersecurity which includes “defending the homeland by protecting networks, systems, functions, and data; promote American prosperity by nurturing a secure, thriving digital economy and fostering strong domestic innovation; preserve peace and security by strengthening the ability of the United States — in concert with allies and partners — to deter and, if

²⁷⁵ S. 1869: Whistleblower Protection Coordination Act, Gov Track (Washington D.C) 12 June 2018. Access Date: 1 October 2018. <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s1869/text>.

²⁷⁶ Whistleblower Protection Coordination Act Becomes Law, Fed Manager (Washington D.C.) 3 July 2018. Access Date: 3 October 2018. <https://www.fedmanager.com/columns/case-law-update/3088-whistleblower-protection-coordination-act-becomes-law>.

²⁷⁷ Department Press Briefing — June 19, 2018, State Department (Washington D.C) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 3 October 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/dpb/2018/06/283340.htm>.

²⁷⁸ Canada, U.S. start sharing info about terror suspects, but privacy concerns remain, Global News (Ottawa) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 27 October 2018. <https://globalnews.ca/news/4290088/canada-u-s-terror-sharing-list-privacy/>.

²⁷⁹ Canada, U.S. start sharing info about terror suspects, but privacy concerns remain, Global News (Ottawa) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 27 October 2018. <https://globalnews.ca/news/4290088/canada-u-s-terror-sharing-list-privacy/>.

²⁸⁰ U.S.-Chile Executive Cyber Consultation, State Department (Washington D.C.) 18 September 2018. Access Date: 3 October 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/09/285999.htm>.

²⁸¹ U.S. Sanctions on Russia Over Poisoning In Britain Go Into Force, Radio Free Europe Radio Liberty (Prague) 27 August 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.rferl.org/a/u-s-sanctions-on-russia-over-poisoning-in-britain-go-into-force/29455293.html>.

²⁸² Salisbury Attack: Joint Statement by Leaders of France, Germany, the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom, France Diplomatie (Paris) 6 September 2018. Access Date: 6 October 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/united-kingdom/events/article/salisbury-attack-joint-statement-by-leaders-of-france-germany-the-united-states>.

necessary, punish those who use cyber tools for malicious purposes; and expand American influence abroad to extend the key tenets of an open, interoperable, reliable, and secure Internet.”²⁸³

On 25 September 2018, the United States government announced that it is imposing sanctions on four Venezuelan government officials in order to restore democratic order and deter the human rights abuses.²⁸⁴

On 2 November 2018, the United States government issued a statement stating its condemnation for the deadly attack on a bus heading towards a Coptic Christian monastery in Upper Egypt.²⁸⁵ The government stated that they “remain steadfast in our support of Egypt’s efforts to combat terrorism and violence against religious communities.”²⁸⁶

On 6 November 2018, the United States government issued a statement stating its condemnation for the kidnapping of students and staff from the Presbyterian Secondary School of Nkwen near Bamenda, Cameroon on 5 November 2018.²⁸⁷ The government urged an “immediate halt to the indiscriminate targeting of civilians and burning of houses by Cameroonian government forces and to attacks perpetrated by both Anglophone separatists against security forces and civilians.”²⁸⁸

On 8 November 2018, the United States government imposed financial sanctions “on three individuals and nine entities that are supporting Russia’s attempt to integrate the Crimea region of Ukraine through private investment and privatization projects or who are engaging in serious human rights abuses in furtherance of Russia’s occupation or control over parts of Ukraine.”²⁸⁹

On 9 November 2018, the United States government issued a statement stating its concern for the attacks and legislative actions by the Tanzanian government, which are violating “civil liberties and human rights, creating an atmosphere of violence, intimidation, and discrimination.”²⁹⁰

On 12 November 2018, Canada signed the Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace with 50 countries and over 150 technology companies in a vow to step up cybersecurity.²⁹¹ The declaration is

²⁸³ National Cyber Strategy of United States of America, White House (Washington D.C) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 6 October 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/National-Cyber-Strategy.pdf>.

²⁸⁴ The United States Imposes Sanctions on Venezuelan Individuals and Entities, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 25 September 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/09/286190.htm>.

²⁸⁵ U.S. Condemns Deadly Attack in Egypt, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 2 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/11/287102.htm>.

²⁸⁶ U.S. Condemns Deadly Attack in Egypt, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 2 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/11/287102.htm>.

²⁸⁷ U.S. Concern Over Violence Uptick in Cameroon, US Department of State (Washington D.C) 6 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/11/287178.htm>.

²⁸⁸ U.S. Concern Over Violence Uptick in Cameroon, US Department of State (Washington D.C) 6 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/11/287178.htm>.

²⁸⁹ U.S. Government Imposes Sanctions on Supporters of Russia’s Occupation of Crimea and Forcible Control of Eastern Ukraine, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 8 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/11/287218.htm>.

²⁹⁰ Deterioration of Civil Liberties and Human Rights in Tanzania, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 9 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/11/287242.htm>.

²⁹¹ Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace, France Diplomatie (Paris) 12 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/digital-diplomacy/france-and-cyber-security/article/cybersecurity-paris-call-of-12-november-2018-for-trust-and-security-in>.

about “governments, industry and civil society coming together to increase trust, security and stability in cyberspace.”²⁹²

On 12 November 2018, the United States government issued a statement stating its condemnation for the 11 November 2018 sham “elections” in Russia-controlled eastern Ukraine.²⁹³ This statement was shared along with European Allies as well.²⁹⁴ The government stated that “These entities have no place within the Minsk agreements or within Ukraine’s constitutional government, and they should be dismantled along with the illegal armed formations.”²⁹⁵

On 13 November 2018, the United States Congress passed the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency Act of 2018.²⁹⁶ This bill “redesignates the Department of Homeland Security’s National Protection and Programs Directorate as the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).”²⁹⁷ The bill directed CISA to be headed by a Director of National Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security to lead national efforts to protect and enhance the security and resiliency of U.S. cybersecurity, emergency communications, and critical infrastructure.²⁹⁸

On 16 November 2018, the United States government issued a statement stating its concern for the detention of journalists, academics, and civil society activists with ties to the Anatolia Culture Association.²⁹⁹ Further stating that “transparency, rule of law, and freedom of expression and association are fundamental elements of every healthy democracy” and that they “urge Turkey to respect and ensure freedom of expression, association, and assembly, fair trial guarantees, judicial independence, and other human rights and fundamental freedoms, and to release those held arbitrarily.”³⁰⁰

On 19 November 2018, the United States, the United Kingdom and France accepted the adoption on the UN Security Council of individual sanctions against Libyan national Salah Badi.³⁰¹ Badi has played a primary role in the clash in Tripoli, which led to the losses of many civilian lives. France “will continue to support, together with its various partners, the adoption of sanctions against

²⁹² Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace, France Diplomatie (Paris) 12 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/digital-diplomacy/france-and-cyber-security/article/cybersecurity-paris-call-of-12-november-2018-for-trust-and-security-in>.

²⁹³ Condemning Sham “elections in Russia Controlled Eastern Ukraine, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 12 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/11/287293.htm>.

²⁹⁴ Condemning Sham “elections in Russia Controlled Eastern Ukraine, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 12 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/11/287293.htm>.

²⁹⁵ Condemning Sham “elections in Russia Controlled Eastern Ukraine, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 12 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/11/287293.htm>.

²⁹⁶ H.R. 3359: Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency Act of 2018, Gov Track (Washington D.C) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr3359/summary>.

²⁹⁷ H.R. 3359: Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency Act of 2018, Gov Track (Washington D.C) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr3359/summary>.

²⁹⁸ H.R. 3359: Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency Act of 2018, Gov Track (Washington D.C) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr3359/summary>.

²⁹⁹ On the Detention of Civil Society Leaders, US State Department (Washington D.C.) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/11/287426.htm>.

³⁰⁰ On the Detention of Civil Society Leaders, US State Department (Washington D.C.) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/11/287426.htm>.

³⁰¹ Libya — Imposition of sanctions against Salah Badi, France Diplomatie (Paris) 19 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/libya/events/2018/article/libya-imposition-of-sanctions-against-salah-badi-19-11-18>.

individuals and entities that pose a threat to Libya's peace, stability and security, and which obstruct the political process."³⁰²

On 20 November 2018, the United States government issued a statement condemning the attack on Kabul that occurred on 20 November 2018, killing at least 40 and wounded over 60 civilians.³⁰³ The government stated that it "remains committed to peace and stability in Afghanistan, and stands by the people of Afghanistan who want peace and a future free from these horrific acts of violence."³⁰⁴

On 27 November 2018, President Donald Trump signed an Executive Order for sanctions to fight the "worst abuses of the Ortega regime in Nicaragua, including its dismantling of democratic institutions and serious human rights violations and abuses."³⁰⁵

On 30 November 2018, Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland announced that the federal government spearheaded the G7 Foreign Ministers' statement, which condemned Russia's actions against the Ukraine while urging the release of detained sailors. The United States took part in the joint statement urging the aggressing party to respect international law and escalate no further.³⁰⁶

On 30 November 2018, the Trump administration stated that the United States is "dedicated to securing human rights in Cuba and Venezuela and strengthening our cultural and philosophical ties with all our Latin American partners."³⁰⁷ The statement included imposing sanctions on the Cuba, Nicaragua, and Venezuela for undermining democracy and human rights abuses. Also, the statement included a partnership "with Argentina to push for greater law enforcement cooperation to help combat organized crime and terrorism."³⁰⁸

On 1 December 2018, Secretary of State Michael Pompeo issued a press release stating that the U.S. condemns the launch of a ballistic missile launch in Iran, which violates the United Nations Security Council resolution 2231.³⁰⁹ The United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231 bans Iran from undertaking "any activity related to ballistic missiles designed to be capable of delivering nuclear weapons, including launches using such ballistic missile technology."³¹⁰

³⁰² Libya — Imposition of sanctions against Salah Badi, France Diplomatie (Paris) 19 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/libya/events/2018/article/libya-imposition-of-sanctions-against-salah-badi-19-11-18>.

³⁰³ Condemnation of the Bombing in Kabul, US State Department (Washington D.C.) 20 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/11/287491.htm>.

³⁰⁴ Condemnation of the Bombing in Kabul, US State Department (Washington D.C.) 20 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/11/287491.htm>.

³⁰⁵ The United States Sanctions Two Close Associates of Nicaraguan President Ortega, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 27 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/11/287604.htm>.

³⁰⁶ Canada led joint g7 statement condemning Russian aggression in Ukraine: Freeland, CBC News (Buenos Aires) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2018/11/government-of-canada-provides-funding-for-intervention-programs-to-prevent-violent-extremism-in-bc.html>.

³⁰⁷ President Donald J. Trump Is Promoting Regional Prosperity And Security, White House (Washington D.C.) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trump-promoting-regional-prosperity-security/>.

³⁰⁸ President Donald J. Trump Is Promoting Regional Prosperity And Security, White House (Washington D.C.) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trump-promoting-regional-prosperity-security/>.

³⁰⁹ Iran Test Launches Ballistic Missile Violating UN Security Council Ban, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/secretary/remarks/2018/12/287722.htm>.

³¹⁰ Resolution 2231 (2015), United Nations Security Council (New York) 16 January 2016. Access Date: 13 December 2018. <http://www.un.org/en/sc/2231/>.

On 8 December 2018, U.S. Ambassador Alice Wells visited Kazakhstan for the U.S.-Kazakhstan Enhanced Strategic Partnership Dialogue. This discussion included “global and regional security issues, counterterrorism co-operation,” as well as other topics.³¹¹

On 12 December 2018, the United States government presented a press release stating that the United States condemns to the strongest terms the terrorist attack in Strasbourg.³¹² The U.S. Mission to France issued a security alert to inform U.S. citizens of the attack.³¹³

On 13 December 2018, in conjunction with Germany, the United States launched the Initiative to Counter Unmanned Aerial Systems (C-UAS) under the auspices of the Global Counterterrorism Forum. This system aims to “to develop a set of non-binding good practices that can assist countries in developing or expanding national action plans to identify, prioritize, and implement policies and measures to counter terrorist use of UAS.”³¹⁴

On 14 December 2018, the United States imposed sanctions on Israel Ziv, Obac William Olawo and Gregory Vasili, the leaders of the entities responsible for extending the conflict in South Sudan and undermining its security.³¹⁵

On 19 December 2018, the United States imposed sanctions on Russia due to its continued efforts to “undermine democratic elections and delegitimize international organizations” as a whole.³¹⁶

On 21 December 2018, Secretary of State Michael Pompeo called on Albanian Foreign Minister Ditmir Bushati to commend the Albanian government for expelling two Iranian officials, in response to an Iran-sponsored plot to carry out a terrorist attack in Albania.³¹⁷

On 28 December 2018, the United States government presented a press release stating that they condemn to the strongest terms the terrorist attack on the tourist bus in Giza.³¹⁸

On 3 January 2019, the United States government presented a press release warning the Iranian regime on space launches that defy the UN Security Council Resolution 2231. The U.S. government “will not stand by and watch the Iranian regime’s destructive policies place international stability and security at risk.”³¹⁹

³¹¹ U.S.-Kazakhstan Enhanced Strategic Partnership Dialogue, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/12/287943.htm>.

³¹² On the Attack in Strasbourg, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/12/288062.htm>.

³¹³ On the Attack in Strasbourg, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/12/288062.htm>.

³¹⁴ Launch Event and Frist Regional Workshop of the GCTF Initiative to Counter Unmanned Aerial Systems Threats, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/12/288077.htm>.

³¹⁵ The United States Sanctions Three Individuals for Threatening Peace in South Sudan, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/12/288097.htm>.

³¹⁶ Sanctions Announcement on Russia, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/12/288213.htm>.

³¹⁷ Secretary Pompeo's Call with Albanian Foreign Minister Ditmir Bushati, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/12/288252.htm>.

³¹⁸ Attack in Giza, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 28 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/12/288285.htm>.

³¹⁹ Warning to the Iranian Regime on Space Launches That Defy UNSCR 2231, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 3 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.state.gov/secretary/remarks/2019/01/288312.htm>.

On 11 January 2019, the United States government, along with the Polish government, issued a joint statement on the Ministerial to Promote a Future of Peace and Security in the Middle East. The statement addressed “a range of critical issues including terrorism and extremism, missile development and proliferation, maritime trade and security, and threats posed by proxy groups across the region.”³²⁰ The statement noted how the partnership between the U.S. and Poland will advance both countries’ common interests.³²¹

On 16 January 2019, the United States government presented a press release stating that they condemn to the strongest terms the terrorist attack in the DusitD2 Hotel Complex in Nairobi, Kenya.³²²

On 18 January 2019, the United States government presented a press release stating that they condemn to the strongest terms the terrorist attack in the Escuela de Cadetes de Policía “General Francisco De Paula Santander” police academy in Bogota, Colombia. The National Liberation Army terrorist group is suspected to be responsible for the attack.³²³

On 18 January 2018, President Donald Trump signed the H.R. 251: Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program Extension Act, enacting it into law. This bill extended the Department of Homeland Security’s Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program by 15 months.³²⁴

On 14 February 2019, the United States government presented a press release stating that the United States condemns to the strongest terms the terrorist attack on an Indian Central Reserve Police Force convoy in the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir. The group Jaish-e-Muhammad claimed responsibility for this attack.³²⁵

On 14 February 2019, the United States government presented a press release stating that the government is concerned with the tensions in southern Libya as it may escalate further to acts of terrorism. The United States “reaffirms its unwavering commitment to stand with all Libyans in our shared fight against terrorism.”³²⁶

On 21 April 2019, the United States government stated that it condemns the terror attacks in Sri Lanka that occurred during the celebrations on Easter morning.³²⁷ The United States stands with the Sri Lankan government in confronting extremism and for the pursuit of justice.³²⁸

³²⁰ Joint Statement on the Ministerial to Promote a Future of Peace and Security in the Middle East, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2019/01/288428.htm>.

³²¹ Joint Statement on the Ministerial to Promote a Future of Peace and Security in the Middle East, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2019/01/288428.htm>.

³²² Terrorist Attack in Nairobi, Kenya, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2019/01/288483.htm>.

³²³ Secretary Pompeo’s Call with Colombian President Ivan Duque, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2019/01/288505.htm>.

³²⁴ H.R. 251: Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program Extension Act, Gov Track (Washington D.C.) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/116/hr251>.

³²⁵ Terrorist Attack on Indian Security Forces Convoy, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2019/02/289486.htm>.

³²⁶ Situation in Southern Libya, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2019/02/289485.htm>.

³²⁷ Terrorist Attacks in Sri Lanka, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 21 April 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.state.gov/terrorist-attacks-in-sri-lanka/>.

³²⁸ Terrorist Attacks in Sri Lanka, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 21 April 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.state.gov/terrorist-attacks-in-sri-lanka/>.

On 20 May 2019, the United States government presented a press release stating that the United States condemns to the strongest terms the terrorist attacks in Niger, Mali, and Burkina Faso.³²⁹ The government reiterated its plight to defeat terrorism by fighting ISIS and other terrorist networks.³³⁰

On 29 May 2019, the United States government met alongside the Government of India in the U.S.-India Counterterrorism Working Group.³³¹ Both participants discussed matters regarding their counter-terrorism cooperation and resolving to keep close coordination in the bilateral relationship.³³²

The United States has taken action in more than 50% of the seven action areas in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine our democratic societies and institutions, our electoral processes, our sovereignty and our security. There are still areas of weakness including its lack of transparency regarding elections and absence of collaboration with its internal internet providers. However, the United States has collaborated with other states and have denounced specific terrorists and attacks with hard actions including sanctions.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Micaela Pacheco

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to take concerted action in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine our democratic societies and institutions, our electoral processes, and our sovereignty.

On the 13 June 2018, the European Commission published a joint communiqué to the EU Parliament and Council for the reduction and prevention for small-arms and military grade weapons trafficking in the EU and surrounding territories, including in North Africa and the Middle East.³³³ In this communiqué, the EU set down specific rules for regional allies related to mitigating the import and use of contraband weapons in their territories, and for the cooperation and coordination of various stakeholders like border control agents, police, and intelligence bureaus within European borders.³³⁴

On 18 June 2018, the EU High Representative Frederica Mogherini hosted a ministerial-level meeting for the EU-G5 Sahel highlighting the needs to find common answers to North Africa and the EU's terrorism concerns, from foreign terrorist organization fighters, to black market arms and

³²⁹ Terrorist Attacks in Niger, Mali, and Burkina Faso, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 20 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.state.gov/terrorist-attacks-in-niger-mali-and-burkina-faso/>.

³³⁰ Terrorist Attacks in Niger, Mali, and Burkina Faso, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 20 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.state.gov/terrorist-attacks-in-niger-mali-and-burkina-faso/>.

³³¹ Joint Statement on U.S.-India Counter-terrorism Joint Working Group and Designations Dialogue, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 29 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.state.gov/joint-statement-on-u-s-india-counterterrorism-joint-working-group-and-designations-dialogue/>.

³³² Joint Statement on U.S.-India Counter-terrorism Joint Working Group and Designations Dialogue, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 29 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.state.gov/joint-statement-on-u-s-india-counterterrorism-joint-working-group-and-designations-dialogue/>.

³³³ Arms trade: EU adopts comprehensive approach to scourge of illicit weapons, European External Action Service (Belgium) 13 June 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/counter-terrorism/46425/arms-trade-eu-adopts-comprehensive-approach-scourge-illicit-weapons_en.

³³⁴ Arms trade: EU adopts comprehensive approach to scourge of illicit weapons, European External Action Service (Belgium) 13 June 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/counter-terrorism/46425/arms-trade-eu-adopts-comprehensive-approach-scourge-illicit-weapons_en.

drug rings funding terrorist operations in the EU and the Middle East.³³⁵ In doing so she set forth the requirements required of those nations, should they wish to continue economic and diplomatic relations with the EU.³³⁶

On 25 June 2018, six EU member countries signed a declaration for the development of an EU Cyber Rapid Response Force, which more EU countries are soon expected to join.³³⁷ This response force is part of the larger EU and NATO plan to remove terrorist propaganda and recruiting networks online, as well as to identify and apprehend the actors who are propagating these networks.³³⁸

On 26 June 2018, the EU adopted a revised maritime security plan focusing on securing ports of entry of Europe from potential terroristic threats of a wide variety, including cyber, chemical, biological, nuclear and radiological through increased security measures and funding, in accordance with the compliance requirements.³³⁹ The plan also introduced stronger communication channels for cross-border and cross-agency cooperation for countries regionally affected by the black-market maritime imports connected with terrorist actions.³⁴⁰

On 12 September 2018, in his State of the Union Address EU President of the European Council Jean-Claude Juncker announced new rules aimed at targeting terrorist content on the Internet. These rules force any internet service provider or platform who wants to offer its services to EU citizens to police themselves much stricter with regards to the types of content they allow.³⁴¹

On 14 October 2018, the UK Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt stated that another package of sanctions initiated by the United Kingdom and France after attacks in Syria and Britain's Salisbury attack would be officially adopted by the EU foreign ministers in Luxembourg on 15 October 2018.³⁴² Earlier, foreign ministers from 28 states of the European Union backed a new regime that

³³⁵ EU works with partners in Sahel to fight terrorism and trafficking, European External Action Service, European Union Newswire (Belgium) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/counter-terrorism/46965/eu-works-partners-sahel-fight-terrorism-and-trafficking_e.

³³⁶ EU works with partners in Sahel to fight terrorism and trafficking, European External Action Service, European Union Newswire (Belgium) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/counter-terrorism/46965/eu-works-partners-sahel-fight-terrorism-and-trafficking_e.

³³⁷ New tool to address cyber threats: the EU's Rapid Response Force", European External Action Service, European Union Newswire (Luxembourg) 27 June 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/common-security-and-defence-policy-csdp/47525/new-tool-address-cyber-threats-eus-rapid-response-force_en.

³³⁸ New tool to address cyber threats: the EU's Rapid Response Force", European External Action Service, European Union Newswire (Luxembourg) 27 June 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/common-security-and-defence-policy-csdp/47525/new-tool-address-cyber-threats-eus-rapid-response-force_en.

³³⁹ Maritime security: EU adopts new action plan for more secure seas and oceans" European External Action Service, European Union Newswire (Belgium) 26 June 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/counter-terrorism/47365/maritime-security-eu-adopts-new-action-plan-more-secure-seas-and-oceans_en.

³⁴⁰ Maritime security: EU adopts new action plan for more secure seas and oceans" European External Action Service, European Union Newswire (Belgium) 26 June 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/counter-terrorism/47365/maritime-security-eu-adopts-new-action-plan-more-secure-seas-and-oceans_en.

³⁴¹ State of the Union 2018: Commission proposes new rules to get terrorist content off the web", European Commission Press Release Database (Strasbourg) 12 September 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018 http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-5561_en.htm.

³⁴² UK's sanctions efforts geared to spoil Moscow-EU ties after Brexit, says Russian embassy, Russian News Agency (Moscow) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <http://tass.com/politics/1026031>.

introduces sanctions against individuals and legal entities, that are responsible for using and proliferating chemical weapons.³⁴³

On 30 November 2018, Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland announced that the federal government spearheaded the G7 Foreign Ministers' statement, which condemned Russia's actions against the Ukraine while urging the release of detained sailors.³⁴⁴ The EU took part in the joint statement urging the aggressing party to respect international law and escalate no further.³⁴⁵

On the 5 October 2018, the EU Regional Counter Terrorism Law Enforcement project hosted a regional workshop in Nairobi on the issue of counter terrorism case management.³⁴⁶ The Regional Counter Terrorism Law Enforcement project is a four-year regional project based in the Horn of Africa and Yemen, and implements a range of activities with agencies in partner countries in the Horn of Africa with the objective to strengthen collaboration on CT issues and to organize regular policy exchanges.³⁴⁷

On the 4 December 2018, the EU Council adopted enhanced monitoring resolutions for the Anti-Money Laundering Action Plan, initially instated in 2015.³⁴⁸ These new resolutions seek to identify the factors that contributed to recent money laundering cases in EU banks to better inform possible action in the medium and long term, ensure effective cooperation between prudential and money laundering supervisors, and share best practices and grounds for convergence among national authorities.³⁴⁹

On 12 December 2018, the EU Parliament meeting in Strasbourg passed a resolution on findings and recommendations of the Special Committee on Terrorism.³⁵⁰ This resolution calls upon member states to initiate a large number of wide-ranging actions having to do with counter-terrorist actions and with multilateral cooperation and deep involvement with the Counter Terrorism Group (CTG).³⁵¹ The CTG is an informal body outside the EU where all member and non-member states can disseminate information, act in tandem, and coordinate actions against known terrorist groups,

³⁴³ U.K's sanctions efforts geared to spoil Moscow-EU ties after Brexit, says Russian embassy, Russian News Agency (Moscow) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <http://tass.com/politics/1026031>.

³⁴⁴ Canada led joint g7 statement condemning Russian aggression in Ukraine: Freeland, CBC News (Buenos Aires) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2018/11/government-of-canada-provides-funding-for-intervention-programs-to-prevent-violent-extremism-in-bc.html>.

³⁴⁵ Canada led joint g7 statement condemning Russian aggression in Ukraine: Freeland, CBC News (Buenos Aires) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2018/11/government-of-canada-provides-funding-for-intervention-programs-to-prevent-violent-extremism-in-bc.html>.

³⁴⁶ Kenya, EU hosting regional seminar on counter-terrorism (CT) case management, European External Action Service, European Union Newswire (Kenya) 5 October 2018. Access Date: 25 November 2018. <https://goo.gl/htYsyf>.

³⁴⁷ Kenya, EU hosting regional seminar on counter-terrorism (CT) case management, European External Action Service, European Union Newswire (Kenya) 5 October 2018. Access Date: 25 November 2018. <https://goo.gl/htYsyf>.

³⁴⁸ Money laundering: Council adopts conclusions on an action plan for enhanced monitoring, European Council Press Releases, Council of the EU (Brussels) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://goo.gl/i2jdbR>.

³⁴⁹ Money laundering: Council adopts conclusions on an action plan for enhanced monitoring, European Council Press Releases, Council of the EU (Brussels) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://goo.gl/i2jdbR>.

³⁵⁰ European Parliament Resolution of 12 December 2018 on Findings and Recommendations of the Special Committee on Terrorism, European Parliament Newswire (Strasbourg) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://bit.ly/31pQg7e>.

³⁵¹ European Parliament Resolution of 12 December 2018 on Findings and Recommendations of the Special Committee on Terrorism, European Parliament Newswire (Strasbourg) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://bit.ly/31pQg7e>.

and potential terror activities or actors.³⁵² The resolution further calls for the promotion of social inclusion and democratic values in low-income neighborhoods of member-state cities where religious extremism and terrorism can breed as a result of mass unemployment and the breakdown of the rule of law.³⁵³ Apart from these calls to action, the resolution outlined the need to integrate information from large telecom and internet providers relating to the browsing of terrorist propaganda and religious extremist content in order to more quickly respond against troubled individuals which could develop into terrorist threats.³⁵⁴

On 22 January 2019, the Shared and coherent European Railway Protection Approach project funded by the EU's Internal Security Fund Police held its first workshop on Terrorist risk assessment and management.³⁵⁵ Its overall aim is to increase protection levels for stations and trains within Europe by implementing actions with relevant stakeholder cooperation at different governance levels.³⁵⁶ The workshop was attended by around 25 high-ranking officials from seven different countries.³⁵⁷ Participants attended three sessions involving threat analysis, risk assessment and management and lessons to learn from past terror attacks.³⁵⁸ All sessions were headed by experts respective in the field, including Coordination Unit for Threat Analysis Director for Belgium Paul Van Tigchelt, and Kathrin Faber of International Union of Railways.³⁵⁹

On 14 February 2019, the European Parliament and Council reached an agreement related to the regulations to be imposed on the marketing and use of explosives precursors.³⁶⁰ Once in place, these regulations will enable relevant stakeholders and counter-terrorist authorities to close security gaps currently in place with the purchase of chemicals that could be used to make homemade bombs, further restricting some substances with the addition of background checks, and license requirements.³⁶¹

³⁵² European Parliament Resolution of 12 December 2018 on Findings and Recommendations of the Special Committee on Terrorism, European Parliament Newswire (Strasbourg) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://bit.ly/31pQg7e>.

³⁵³ European Parliament Resolution of 12 December 2018 on Findings and Recommendations of the Special Committee on Terrorism, European Parliament Newswire (Strasbourg) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://bit.ly/31pQg7e>.

³⁵⁴ European Parliament Resolution of 12 December 2018 on Findings and Recommendations of the Special Committee on Terrorism, European Parliament Newswire (Strasbourg) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://bit.ly/31pQg7e>.

³⁵⁵ SHERPA: First Workshop on "Terrorist Risk Assessment and Management" held on 22 January 2019, UIC Electronic Newsletter Nr 631 (Paris) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://bit.ly/2IBb5DW>.

³⁵⁶ SHERPA: First Workshop on "Terrorist Risk Assessment and Management" held on 22 January 2019, UIC Electronic Newsletter Nr 631 (Paris) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://bit.ly/2IBb5DW>.

³⁵⁷ SHERPA: First Workshop on "Terrorist Risk Assessment and Management" held on 22 January 2019, UIC Electronic Newsletter Nr 631 (Paris) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://bit.ly/2IBb5DW>.

³⁵⁸ SHERPA: First Workshop on "Terrorist Risk Assessment and Management" held on 22 January 2019, UIC Electronic Newsletter Nr 631 (Paris) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://bit.ly/2IBb5DW>.

³⁵⁹ SHERPA: First Workshop on "Terrorist Risk Assessment and Management" held on 22 January 2019, UIC Electronic Newsletter Nr 631 (Paris) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://bit.ly/2IBb5DW>.

³⁶⁰ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council and the Council Eighteenth Progress Report Towards an Effective and Genuine Security Union, European Commission (Strasbourg) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/sites/homeaffairs/files/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-security/20180417_regulation-proposal-eu-parl-council-marketing-use-explosive-precursors_en.pdf.

³⁶¹ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council and the Council Eighteenth Progress Report Towards an Effective and Genuine Security Union, European Commission (Strasbourg) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/sites/homeaffairs/files/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-security/20180417_regulation-proposal-eu-parl-council-marketing-use-explosive-precursors_en.pdf.

On 26 February 2019, the European Commission organized a comprehensive conference called “EU Cities Against Radicalization” with the ultimate goal of enhancing efforts to prevent and counter radicalization and improve coordination between all stakeholders.³⁶² The conference would be followed by a 13 March expert panel discussion, the results of which will become part of the Radicalization Awareness Network manual in rehabilitating and reintegrating terrorist offenders.³⁶³

On 11 March 2019, the European Parliament’s Plenary reached a political agreement on the extension of the European Criminal Records Information System (COM (2017) 344 final (29.6.2017)).³⁶⁴ In essence, this system would compile data and records on third-country nationals committing crimes within Europe and assist in the identification of potential bad actors prior to their actions as terror actors.³⁶⁵

On 13 March 2019, the European Parliament’s Plenary concluded the first reading of COM (2018) 302 final (16.5.2018), a proposal to strengthen the existing Visa Information System for providing much more thorough background checks on visa applicants and closing information gaps through better information exchange between Member States.³⁶⁶

On 17 April 2019, the European Parliament passed legislative resolution COM (2018)0640-C8-0405/2018 on the proposal on preventing the dissemination of terrorist content online.³⁶⁷ The resolution specifically seeks to prevent the misuse of hosting services for terrorist purposes and making internet service providers more active participants in preventing the spread of religious extremist propaganda, of terrorist propaganda, and of preventing the continuous radicalization of trouble individuals.³⁶⁸ Internet service providers and internet hosting services would be prompted by

³⁶² Steering Board for Union Actions on Preventing and Countering Radicalisation, European Commission (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=groupDetail.groupDetail&groupID=3626&news=1&mod_groups=1&month=08&year=2018.

³⁶³ Steering Board for Union Actions on Preventing and Countering Radicalisation, European Commission (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=groupDetail.groupDetail&groupID=3626&news=1&mod_groups=1&month=08&year=2018.

³⁶⁴ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council and the Council, European Commission (Brussels) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=2ahUKEwjn_O6HmfPiAhUxjK0KHYPuAe_sQFjAAegQIAxAC&url=https%3A%2F%2Fec.europa.eu%2Finfo%2Fsites%2Finfo%2Ffiles%2Fcommission_proposal_for_a_regulation_on_ecris-tcn_system_0.pdf&usg=AOvVaw0f9wUS2-DBJSIBllv1cGOA.

³⁶⁵ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council and the Council, European Commission (Brussels) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=2ahUKEwjn_O6HmfPiAhUxjK0KHYPuAe_sQFjAAegQIAxAC&url=https%3A%2F%2Fec.europa.eu%2Finfo%2Fsites%2Finfo%2Ffiles%2Fcommission_proposal_for_a_regulation_on_ecris-tcn_system_0.pdf&usg=AOvVaw0f9wUS2-DBJSIBllv1cGOA.

³⁶⁶ Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council Amending Regulation (EC) No 767/2008, Regulation (EC) No 810/2009, Regulation (EU) 2017/2226, Regulation (EU) 2016/399, Regulation XX/2018 [Interoperability Regulation], and Decision 2004/512/EC and repealing Council Decision 2008/633/JHA, European Commission (Brussels) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://bit.ly/2XHOVqb>.

³⁶⁷ European Parliament Legislative Resolution of 17 April 2019 on the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Preventing the Dissemination of Terrorist Content Online (COM (2018)0640 – C8-0405/2018 – 2018/0331(COD)), European Parliament (Strasbourg) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://bit.ly/2MNldiv>.

³⁶⁸ European Parliament Legislative Resolution of 17 April 2019 on the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Preventing the Dissemination of Terrorist Content Online (COM (2018)0640 – C8-0405/2018 – 2018/0331(COD)), European Parliament (Strasbourg) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://bit.ly/2MNldiv>.

member states to take down that content in ways that do not infringe upon existing EU commitments to free-speech and expression.³⁶⁹

On 24 April 2019, the EU and the UN published a comprehensive framework on Counter-Terrorism cooperation moving forward.³⁷⁰ Said framework promises to increase wide-reaching informational and operational cooperation between the UN's counter-terrorism organizations and the EU's.³⁷¹

The European Union has taken action in at least five of the seven action areas in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine our democratic societies and institutions, our electoral processes, our sovereignty and our security. Japan's has made efforts to facilitate and improve cooperation among countries in countering terrorism and cooperate with technology companies to step up cybersecurity.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Andres Dovale

³⁶⁹ European Parliament Legislative Resolution of 17 April 2019 on the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Preventing the Dissemination of Terrorist Content Online (COM (2018)0640 – C8-0405/2018 – 2018/0331(COD)), European Parliament (Strasbourg) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://bit.ly/2MNldiv>.

³⁷⁰ Framework on Counter-terrorism Between the United Nations and the European Union, European External Action Service (Brussels) 24 April 2019. Access Date: 12 June 2019. <https://bit.ly/31sUXgu>.

³⁷¹ Framework on Counter-terrorism Between the United Nations and the European Union, European External Action Service (Brussels) 24 April 2019. Access Date: 12 June 2019. <https://bit.ly/31sUXgu>.

2. Democracy: Transparency

“In accordance with applicable laws, ensure a high level of transparency around sources of funding for political parties and all types of political advertising, especially during election campaigns.”

Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats

Assessment

	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France	-1		
Germany	-1		
Italy		0	
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.25	

Background

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 members committed to ensuring a “high level of transparency around sources for funding for political parties and all types of political advertising, especially during election campaigns.”³⁷² The G7 has previously made broad commitments to uphold the rules-based international order and improve cybersecurity. However, this commitment entails a targeted effort to protect the critical infrastructures of election systems.³⁷³

On 22-23 April 2018, the foreign ministers of G7 countries and high representatives of the European Union met in Toronto to discuss the rules-based international order, non-proliferation and disarmament, transnational threats to security, conflict protection and support for the United Nations and reform.³⁷⁴ The G7 foreign ministers and high representatives expressed the collective intent to collaboratively reinforce democracies and prevent electoral interference by hostile states or non-state actors.³⁷⁵ The foreign ministers discussed their commitment to disavow the pattern of destabilizing Russian behaviour in this area, specifically referring to Russia’s interference in the democratic systems of other countries.³⁷⁶ The joint communiqué produced by the foreign ministers in April also urged Russia to fulfill its international obligations as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council.³⁷⁷

On 9 June 2018, the G7 leaders adopted the Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats, in which they reiterated the G7’s shared commitment to “free, open, well-

³⁷² Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/official-documents/charlevoix-commitment-defending-democracy-from-foreign-threats/>

³⁷³ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 5 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>.

³⁷⁴ G7 Foreign Ministers Joint Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 April 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/180423-communiqué.html>.

³⁷⁵ G7 Foreign Ministers Joint Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 April 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/180423-communiqué.html>.

³⁷⁶ G7 Foreign Ministers Joint Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 April 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/180423-communiqué.html>.

³⁷⁷ G7 Foreign Ministers Joint Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 April 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/180423-communiqué.html>.

governed, pluralistic and prosperous societies” and “equality as a core component of democracy.”³⁷⁸ The leaders discussed the challenges facing democracy and the rules-based international order, namely the threat of “authoritarianism and the defiance of international norms.”³⁷⁹ The leaders of the G7 also committed to “respond[ing] to foreign threats, both together and individually, in order to meet the challenges facing our democracy.”³⁸⁰ An additional commitment was made to “engage directly with internet service providers and social media platforms regarding malicious misuse of information technology by foreign actors, with a particular focus on improving transparency regarding the use and seeking to prevent the illegal use of personal data and breaches of privacy.”³⁸¹

The 2018 Charlevoix summit marks the first G7 commitment that specifically aims to improve transparency around funding for political parties and political advertising.

Commitment Features

The G7 commitment states: “in accordance with applicable laws, ensure a high level of transparency around sources of funding for political parties and all types of political advertising, especially during election campaigns.”³⁸² There are two components to this commitment: to ensure a high level of transparency around sources of funding for 1) political parties; and 2) for all political advertising. Particular attention should be paid to the issue of transparency in funding sources “especially during election campaigns.”

“Transparency” is qualified as a state of openness of a collection of people, a system or institution. This standard of high transparency must be reached for both components of this commitment in order to achieve full compliance. A “high level of transparency” includes actions such as regular and/or comprehensive reports on political funding and advertisement, coherent and effectively implemented regulation of public and private funding, high levels of information availability, independent regulatory bodies and more. Low levels of transparency, which would merit a score of non-compliance, include examples such as lack of financial auditing for political organizations, weak organizational structures and institutional oversight for funding and advertisement, anonymous donations, or discretionary power to use political expenditure.³⁸³ Accounting for a score of partial compliance, medium levels of transparency refer to a work in progress. For example, if a regulatory system is in the process of being developed, or a combination of the aforementioned factors between transparent and non-transparent political funding and advertisement are simultaneously present. “Ensure” is defined as “to make something certain to happen,” which indicates a high level of certainty and threshold for action.³⁸⁴

³⁷⁸ Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/democracy-commitment.html>.

³⁷⁹ Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/democracy-commitment.html>.

³⁸⁰ Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/democracy-commitment.html>.

³⁸¹ Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/democracy-commitment.html>.

³⁸² The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

³⁸³ Fixing Political Party Funding For Transparency And Accountability, Democracy Chronicles. 4 April 2017. Access Date: 13 October 2017. <https://democracychronicles.org/political-party-funding/>

³⁸⁴ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 23 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>

The first component of this commitment signifies that G7 members must demonstrate a high level of transparency “around sources of funding for political parties.”³⁸⁵ “Political parties” are defined as organized groups of people with similar political aims and opinions. Such groups seek to influence or be involved in public policy by attempting to elect their candidates to public office.³⁸⁶ Transparency around political party funding applies to both private and public funding. Private funding for campaigns refers to financial contributions originating from citizens, corporations, non-governmental organizations, and other non-state groups. Such resources are provided explicitly for the purpose of supporting a candidate or political party’s candidacy for office. Public funding for campaigns can refer to money allocated by the government and/or the public sector, such as public grants or funding systems designed to support the democratic participation of political parties and candidates.

In the second component of this commitment, “funding for all political advertising” states that members must ensure a high level of transparency around sources of funding for all political advertising. “Political advertising” is defined as public marketing and information that can be seen, heard, or read; created with the purpose of promoting or opposing a political party or candidate.³⁸⁷ The text of the commitment, namely the word “all,” signals the intended comprehensive coverage of this commitment in terms of referring to a wide range of political messaging. The funding for *all* political advertising, both private and public, should be transparent in its source and amount. In the context of the Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats, examples of actions that count towards compliance can take the form of forbidding or regulating the ability of foreign actors to buy or run political advertisements or establishing checks and limits on foreign sources of funding for election advertisements.³⁸⁸

Applicable to both parts of this commitment, the text of the commitment is qualified by the phrase “especially during election campaigns.” “Especially” is defined as “to single out one thing over all others, more than usual, for a particular purpose or person, in particular.”³⁸⁹ In the context of this commitment, the standards for transparency in funding for political parties and all types of political advertising should be especially high during times of political campaigning. “Election campaigns” refer to timeframe preceding election day, during which political candidates prepare and present their ideas and positions to voters in the electorate.³⁹⁰

If a G7 member has or will be holding elections or campaign periods during the compliance cycle (i.e. since 10 June 2018, the day following the conclusion of the 2018 Charlevoix Summit), its compliance will be scored in a way that prioritizes acts to ensure electoral transparency during this time frame. If the G7 member will not be hosting elections or campaign periods during the compliance cycle, its actions should demonstrate a substantive rather than chronological focus on transparency during election campaigns. For instance, the G7 member may adopt legislation that requires political

³⁸⁵ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

³⁸⁶ Key Election Process Categories, Open Election Data Initiative (Washington) Access Date: 5 September 2018. <https://openelectiondata.net/en/guide/key-categories/election-campaigns/>.

³⁸⁷ Differences between Public and Private Sources of Funding, Kent State University (Kent) 2 September 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2018. <http://literacy.kent.edu/Oasis/grants/publicVprivate.html>.

³⁸⁸ Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/democracy-commitment.html>.

³⁸⁹ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 23 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>

³⁹⁰ Key Election Process Categories, Open Election Data Initiative (Washington) Access Date: 5 September 2018. <https://openelectiondata.net/en/guide/key-categories/election-campaigns/>.

advertising platforms to disclose the identities of those who purchase large-scale paid advertisements during campaign periods.³⁹¹

Thus, to achieve full compliance, G7 members must take action to ensure high levels of confidence in the openness of their electoral systems, specifically through improving transparency both in political party funding and *all* forms of the political advertisement; with a particular emphasis on periods of political campaigning. The threshold for full compliance is detailed in the definition of “high level of transparency” above, at the beginning of the commitment features.

If only one of the two thresholds or parts of this commitment is fulfilled, members will receive a score of partial compliance. For instance, if a G7 member ensures transparency around sources of party funding, but address one or no components of political advertising, its minimal action in the second component of the commitment will earn a score of partial compliance, or 0.

A score of -1, or no compliance, will be assigned if the G7 member exemplifies no demonstrable compliance with either component of this commitment.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member does NOT take any efforts to ensure a high level of transparency around sources of funding for political parties NOR all types of political advertising, especially during election campaigns.
0	G7 member has taken efforts to ensure a high level of transparency around sources of funding for political parties OR all types of political advertising, especially during election campaigns.
+1	G7 member has taken efforts to ensure a high level of transparency around sources of funding for political parties AND all types of political advertising, especially during election campaigns.

*Lead Analyst: Anders Bretsen
Compliance Director: Meagan Byrd*

Canada: +1

Canada has complied with its commitment to, in accordance with applicable laws, ensure a high a high level of transparency around sources of funding for political parties and all types of political advertising, especially during election campaigns.

On 21 June 2018, Bill C-50 received Royal Assent.³⁹² Bill C-50 requires that political parties — at least five days in advance — post publicly on the internet the date, time and location of any fundraising event attended by the party leader or a minister outside of an election period.³⁹³ Political parties must further report the names and donation amount of all attendees to said fundraising

³⁹¹ Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/democracy-commitment.html>.

³⁹² Bill C-50 An Act to amend the Canada Elections Act (political financing), LEGISINFO (Ottawa) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 29 September 2018. <https://www.parl.ca/LegisInfo/BillDetails.aspx?Language=E&billId=8978368>.

³⁹³ Bill C-50, LEGISINFO (Ottawa) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 29 September 2018. <https://www.parl.ca/DocumentViewer/en/42-1/bill/C-50/royal-assent>.

events to the Chief Electoral Officer, who shall make the information publicly available.³⁹⁴ Bill C-50 came into force on 21 December 2018.³⁹⁵

On 23 June 2018, Bill C-76 passed Second Reading in the House of Commons.³⁹⁶ Bill C-76 introduces spending limits for partisan advertisements by third-party advocacy groups both within and outside of election periods, requires third-parties identify themselves in any partisan advertisements they produce and requires third-parties release lists of donors who gave money for the purpose of partisan or electoral advertisements.³⁹⁷

On 30 October 2018, Bill C-76 passed Third Reading in the House of Commons.³⁹⁸ The legislation is aimed at preventing foreign interference in domestic elections, as well as limiting the power of “big money” in election influence.³⁹⁹ The Bill will limit the spending abilities by political parties and advocacy groups in a period of three months prior to an election being called.⁴⁰⁰ The bill also expands the right to vote on expatriates, extending the current five-year cap on citizens out of the country to any citizen out of the country, regardless of the length they have been out of the country.⁴⁰¹

Canada has taken efforts to ensure a high level of transparency around sources of funding for political parties and all types of political advertising, especially during election campaigns seen through Bill C-50.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sterling Mancuso

France: -1

France has failed to comply with its commitment to, in accordance with applicable laws, ensure a high a high level of transparency around sources of funding for political parties and all types of political advertising, especially during election campaigns.

No action has yet been taken to increase transparency of financing of political parties or of political or election advertising.

³⁹⁴ Bill C-50, LEGISINFO (Ottawa) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 29 September 2018. <https://www.parl.ca/DocumentViewer/en/42-1/bill/C-50/royal-assent>.

³⁹⁵ Bill C-50, LEGISINFO (Ottawa) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 29 September 2018. <https://www.parl.ca/DocumentViewer/en/42-1/bill/C-50/royal-assent>.

³⁹⁶ Bill C-76, LEGISINFO (Ottawa) 23 June 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.parl.ca/LegisInfo/BillDetails.aspx?Language=E&billId=9808070>.

³⁹⁷ Bill C-76 An Act to amend the Canada Elections Act and other Acts and to make certain consequential amendments, LEGISINFO (Ottawa) 23 June 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.parl.ca/DocumentViewer/en/42-1/bill/C-76/first-reading>.

³⁹⁸ Bill C-76, LEGISINFO (Ottawa) 23 June 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.parl.ca/LegisInfo/BillDetails.aspx?Language=E&billId=9808070>.

³⁹⁹ Bill C-76, LEGISINFO (Ottawa) 23 June 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.parl.ca/LegisInfo/BillDetails.aspx?Language=E&billId=9808070>.

⁴⁰⁰ Bill C-76, LEGISINFO (Ottawa) 23 June 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.parl.ca/LegisInfo/BillDetails.aspx?Language=E&billId=9808070>.

⁴⁰¹ Bill C-76, LEGISINFO (Ottawa) 23 June 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.parl.ca/LegisInfo/BillDetails.aspx?Language=E&billId=9808070>.

Thus, France has been awarded a score of -1 .⁴⁰²

Analyst: Joel McLeod

Germany: -1

Germany has failed to comply with its commitment to, in accordance with applicable laws, ensure a high a high level of transparency around sources of funding for political parties and all types of political advertising, especially during election campaigns.

No action has yet been taken to increase transparency of financing of political parties or of political or election advertising.

Thus, Germany has been awarded a score of -1 .⁴⁰³

Analyst: Geordie Jeakins

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to, in accordance with applicable laws, ensure a high a high level of transparency around sources of funding for political parties and all types of political advertising, especially during election campaigns.

On 6 September 2018, the Italian Council of Ministers approved a bill to strengthen penalties for charges of government corruption and reform rules on political party financing.⁴⁰⁴ The proposed bill “measures to combat crimes against the public administration,” or Spazza Corrotti, contains provisions on transparency of funding for political parties and movements.⁴⁰⁵

On 22 November 2018, the Spazza Corrotti bill passed the Chamber of Deputies, and is currently awaiting a vote in the Italian Senate.⁴⁰⁶

On 9 January 2019, the Spazza Corrotti bill was passed into law. The law intend to address two aspects of government and political corruption. Firstly, the law will suspend the statute of limitations and impose greater penalties concerning corruption charges.⁴⁰⁷ Secondly, the law intends to increase transparency of political campaign financing by eliminating the anonymity provision for donations of under 500 EUR.⁴⁰⁸ The measures of the law will come into force on 1 January 2020.⁴⁰⁹

⁴⁰² This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites: www.politico.eu, www.france24.com, www.bbc.com, www.euronews.com, <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/news>, <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr>,

⁴⁰³ This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites: www.politico.eu, www.france24.com, www.bbc.com, www.euronews.com, <https://www.bundesregierung.de/>, <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de>, <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de>, <https://www.dfa.ie>,

⁴⁰⁴ Comunicato Stampa Del Consiglio Dei Ministri n. 18, Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri. 16 September 2018, Access Date: 18 October 2018. <http://www.governo.it/articolo/comunicato-stampa-del-consiglio-dei-ministri-n-18/9917>.

⁴⁰⁵ Comunicato Stampa Del Consiglio Dei Ministri n. 18, Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri. 16 September 2018, Access Date: 18 October 2018. <http://www.governo.it/articolo/comunicato-stampa-del-consiglio-dei-ministri-n-18/9917>.

⁴⁰⁶ Primo sì al Ddl spazza corrotti: la maggioranza tiene, ma la palla ora passa al Senato, La Stampa Politica. 22 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.lastampa.it/2018/11/22/italia/primo-s-al-ddl-spazza-corrotti-la-maggioranza-tiene-ma-la-palla-ora-passa-al-senato-248bOk7OuWh8XV8uB9oP1K/pagina.html>

⁴⁰⁷ Spazzacorrotti: la legge anticorruzione (3/2019) in Gazzeta, Giurdanella.it, 18 January 2019, Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.giurdanella.it/2019/01/18/spazzacorrotti-la-legge-anticorruzione-3-2019-in-gazzeta/>.

⁴⁰⁸ Spazzacorrotti: la legge anticorruzione (3/2019) in Gazzeta, Giurdanella.it, 18 January 2019, Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.giurdanella.it/2019/01/18/spazzacorrotti-la-legge-anticorruzione-3-2019-in-gazzeta/>.

Italy began the legislative process of increasing transparency for the financing of political parties. However, no action has yet been taken to increase transparency of political or election advertising.

Thus, Italy has been awarded a score of 0.

Analyst: Geordie Jeakins

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to ensuring a high level of transparency around sources of funding for political parties and all types of political advertising.

On 26 July 2018, Japan attended the sixth U.S.-Japan Cyber Dialogue to discuss issues related to cybersecurity. Both countries reaffirmed a cooperative relationship to “deter cyber adversaries and malicious cyber activities.”⁴¹⁰ However, it is not specified whether or not this will deal with the issues of foreign cyber interference in elections and the free democratic process in the country.

On 19 October 2018, a Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) led by Mitsuhiro Miyakoshi, State Minister in charge of Okinawa and Northern Territories Affairs, pledged to return political donations received between 2014 and 2016 from a firm involved in bid rigging.⁴¹¹ Although not a breach of Japan’s 2016 Political Funds Control Law, there is a history of politicians returning such funds after the situation comes to light.⁴¹²

On 21 October 2018, an LDP chapter led by Takuya Hirai, Minister of Information Technology, pledged to return political donations received in 2014 from a firm involved in bid rigging.⁴¹³ Although not a breach of Japan’s 2016 Political Funds Control Law, the minister cited “moral reasons” or returning the funds.⁴¹⁴

On 30 November 2018, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communication released their annual report on political funds, covering nearly 3000 political groups.⁴¹⁵ The data revealed that Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s Liberal Democratic Party reported JPY26.86 billion while the main opposition, the Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan, reported JPY1.25 billion.⁴¹⁶ In addition to providing information on sources of funding, the report revealed that 68 percent of the LDP’s revenue came in

⁴⁰⁹ Legge cd. Spazzacorrotti (L. n. 3/2019), Confindustria. March 2019, Access Date: 9 June 2019.

https://www.confindustria.it/wcm/connect/ca0a5344-26a3-441d-b7da-afc58cb2b299/Legge+Spazzacorrotti++osservazioni+di+Confindustria.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CONVERT_TO=url&CACHEID=ROOTWORKSPACE-ca0a5344-26a3-441d-b7da-afc58cb2b299-mC0wu3b.

⁴¹⁰ The Sixth U.S.-Japan Cyber Dialogue, U.S. Department of State (Washington). 26 July 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/07/284573.htm>.

⁴¹¹ LDP Toyama chapter led by minister gets donation from bid-rigging firm, will return funds, The Japan Times (Tokyo). 19 October 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/10/19/national/politics-diplomacy/ldp-toyama-chapter-led-minister-gets-donation-bid-rigging-firm-will-return-funds/>.

⁴¹² LDP Toyama chapter led by minister gets donation from bid-rigging firm, will return funds, The Japan Times (Tokyo). 19 October 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/10/19/national/politics-diplomacy/ldp-toyama-chapter-led-minister-gets-donation-bid-rigging-firm-will-return-funds/>.

⁴¹³ LDP chapter led by IT minister gets donation from bid-rigging firm, Japan Today (Tokyo). 21 October 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://japantoday.com/category/politics/ldp-chapter-led-by-it-minister-gets-donation-from-bid-rigging-firm>.

⁴¹⁴ LDP chapter led by IT minister gets donation from bid-rigging firm, Japan Today (Tokyo). 21 October 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://japantoday.com/category/politics/ldp-chapter-led-by-it-minister-gets-donation-from-bid-rigging-firm>.

⁴¹⁵ EDITORIAL: Transparency sorely lacking in political fund reporting (Tokyo). 7 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <http://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/AJ201812070027.html>.

⁴¹⁶ EDITORIAL: Transparency sorely lacking in political fund reporting (Tokyo). 7 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <http://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/AJ201812070027.html>.

the form of state subsidies funded with taxpayers' money.⁴¹⁷ Given the percentage of subsidies paid by taxpayers, the parties have an obligation to provide detailed information about how the funds have been used yet there has been no commitment to full disclosure of information about expenditures from political funds.⁴¹⁸

On 1 December 2018, three political groups headed by regional revitalization minister Satsuki Katayama corrected entries in the political funding reports released on 30 November 2018 by a total of more than JPY6 million while four LDP branches have also revised their funding reports.⁴¹⁹

On 5 May 2019, Japan's Cybersecurity Department within the Ministry of Defense announced plans to deploy malware against opponents in case Japanese institutions come under cyber-attacks.⁴²⁰ This is an effort on the part of the Japanese government to continue to modernize cyber defense capabilities.⁴²¹ A part of the modernization is increasing the military capability to address "cyber," which was formally declared a battlefield by NATO in 2016.⁴²²

On 31 May 2019, Taro Kono, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, met with Kryaw Tint Swe, Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor of Myanmar.⁴²³ Kono stated that Japan would continue to provide full-fledged support for Myanmar's democratic nation-building, with additional emphasis on respect for universal democratic values such as freedom of the press.⁴²⁴

Japan has taken action in at least 50% of the seven action areas in responding to foreign actors who seek to undermine democratic societies and institutions, electoral processes, sovereignty, and security. While Japan has increased its political transparency since the 2016 Political Funds Control Law to close loopholes around political funding and donations, it has not since continued to advance this process. Given that Japanese ministers continue to be involved in scandals related to political funding, it is clear that financial transparency is limited. It should also be noted that Japan is not currently in an election period, and therefore is devoting little attention towards the equal support and funding of political advertisements. The Ministry of Internal Affairs released their annual report on political funds, yet this was subject to corrections from political groups and skepticism regarding the lack of transparency around taxpayer funds.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Jane Huang

⁴¹⁷ Revenue for Abe's LDP overwhelms other political parties in Japan, The Japan Times (Tokyo). 30 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/11/30/national/politics-diplomacy/revenue-abes-ldp-overwhelms-political-parties-japan>.

⁴¹⁸ EDITORIAL: Transparency sorely lacking in political fund reporting (Tokyo). 7 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <http://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/AJ201812070027.html>.

⁴¹⁹ Minister Katayama hit with more corrections to political funding reports (Tokyo). 1 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20181201/p2a/00m/0na/023000c>.

⁴²⁰ Japanese government to create and maintain defensive malware, ZDNet (San Francisco). 5 May 2019. 6 June 2019. <https://www.zdnet.com/article/japanese-government-to-create-and-maintain-defensive-malware/>

⁴²¹ Japanese government to create and maintain defensive malware, ZDNet (San Francisco). 5 May 2019. 6 June 2019. <https://www.zdnet.com/article/japanese-government-to-create-and-maintain-defensive-malware/>

⁴²² Japanese government to create and maintain defensive malware, ZDNet (San Francisco). 5 May 2019. 6 June 2019. <https://www.zdnet.com/article/japanese-government-to-create-and-maintain-defensive-malware/>

⁴²³ Foreign Minister Kono Meets with the Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor of Myanmar Kyaw Tint Swe, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo). 31 May 2019. Access Date: 6 June 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002462.html.

⁴²⁴ Foreign Minister Kono Meets with the Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor of Myanmar Kyaw Tint Swe, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo). 31 May 2019. Access Date: 6 June 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002462.html.

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to ensuring a high level of transparency around sources of funding for political parties and all types of political advertising.

On 17 July 2018, the United Kingdom Electoral Committee retroactively fined the Vote Leave campaign group GBP 61,000.⁴²⁵ The group, officially campaigning for the UK to leave the European Union during the referendum in 2016, went over its spending budget by GBP 500,000, and co-operated with another campaign group, BeLeave.⁴²⁶ This was done without legal notice, as required by the Electoral Commission under the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act, 2000.⁴²⁷ Thus, it allowed the two campaign groups to collectively spend GBP 675,000 on digital marketing through the digital firm Aggregate IQ, which was illegal under British law.⁴²⁸

On 28 July 2018, the Digital, Culture, Media, and Sport parliamentary committee, headed by Member of Parliament David Collins, released its interim report on its Disinformation and “fake news” Inquiry.⁴²⁹ The report recommended, “a public register for political advertising, requiring all political advertising work to be listed for public display.”⁴³⁰ It also recommended a federal governmental requirement for tech and media outlets to act with greater transparency when publishing political advertising, encouraging the inclusion of advertiser identities along with a governmental investigation into the effective regulation of foreign advertising.⁴³¹

On 28 July 2018, the committee also recommended a legal limit on donations made by individuals throughout the campaign.⁴³² Specifically, the committee addressed Aaron Banks — who donated GBP8.4 billion to the Vote Leave campaign without disclosing all the sources of this sum and

⁴²⁵ Jessica Elgot, “Vote Leave fined and reported to police by Electoral Commission,” *The Guardian*, 17 July 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/jul/17/vote-leave-fined-and-reported-to-police-by-electoral-commission-brexite>.

⁴²⁶ Jessica Elgot, “Vote Leave fined and reported to police by Electoral Commission,” *The Guardian*, 17 July 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/jul/17/vote-leave-fined-and-reported-to-police-by-electoral-commission-brexite>.

⁴²⁷ “Overview of donations to political parties,” The Electoral Commission. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0014/102263/to-donations-rp.pdf.

⁴²⁸ Jessica Elgot, “Vote Leave fined and reported to police by Electoral Commission,” *The Guardian*, 17 July 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/jul/17/vote-leave-fined-and-reported-to-police-by-electoral-commission-brexite>.

⁴²⁹ “Disinformation and ‘fake news’: Interim Report contents,” UK Parliament, published 29 July 2018, https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmcmums/363/36311.htm#_idTextAnchor066, Accessed 18 October 2018

⁴³⁰ “Disinformation and ‘fake news’: Interim Report contents,” UK Parliament, published 29 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmcmums/363/36311.htm#_idTextAnchor066.

⁴³¹ “Disinformation and ‘fake news’: Interim Report contents,” UK Parliament, published 29 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmcmums/363/36311.htm#_idTextAnchor066.

⁴³² “Disinformation and ‘fake news’: Interim Report contents,” UK Parliament, published 29 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmcmums/363/36311.htm#_idTextAnchor066.

possessing known ties to the Russian government.⁴³³ Building on a previous Electoral Commission recommendation, it urged “the Government to take this proposal on board.”⁴³⁴

Finally, on 16 October 2018, following pressure from the UK government, Facebook announced a change in its policies surrounding political advertising in the country.⁴³⁵ Specifically, per the Digital, Culture, Media and Sports committee’s recommendation, it will now require UK identification from advertisers on Facebook and Instagram, as well as a mandatory “paid for” statement at the end of each ad.⁴³⁶

The UK government has actively moved to examine and regulate both sources of political advertising as well as sources of political funding while acting retroactively on breaches of existing laws and statutes as per the Electoral Commission.

Thus, the United Kingdom has received a +1.

Analyst: Arik Portnov

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to, in accordance with applicable laws, ensure a high a high level of transparency around sources of funding for political parties and all types of political advertising, especially during election campaigns.

On 21 September 2018, President Donald Trump signed the Energy and Water, Legislative Branch, and Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2019 into law.⁴³⁷ Section 103 of the Act requires that senatorial election candidates file their financial statements and reports with the Federal Election Commission, instead of the Secretary of the Senate as previously required.⁴³⁸ This change will allow senatorial election candidates to file their financial statements and reports electronically, a change that is expected to improve transparency by expediting the process whereby financial statements and reports become public, and significantly reducing reporting errors.⁴³⁹

On 3 January 2019, Representative John Sarbanes introduced H.R.1 — the For the People Act of 2019 — in the United States House of Representatives. This bill is aimed at extending rules on political advertising to internet advertisements, and strengthen the requirement that political advertisements clearly state the name of the person who paid for the advertisement. Furthermore, it

⁴³³ “Disinformation and ‘fake news’: Interim Report contents,” UK Parliament, published 29 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018.

https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmcmds/363/36311.htm#_idTextAnchor066.

⁴³⁴ “Disinformation and ‘fake news’: Interim Report contents,” UK Parliament, published 29 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018.

https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmcmds/363/36311.htm#_idTextAnchor066.

⁴³⁵ Emma Woollacott, “Facebook Tightens Rules on Political Advertising in the UK,” *Forbes*, 16 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/emmawoollacott/2018/10/16/facebook-tightens-rules-on-political-advertising-in-the-uk/#532ebbef42e5>.

⁴³⁶ Emma Woollacott, “Facebook Tightens Rules on Political Advertising in the UK,” *Forbes* (New York), 16 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/emmawoollacott/2018/10/16/facebook-tightens-rules-on-political-advertising-in-the-uk/#532ebbef42e5>.

⁴³⁷ H.R.5895 — Energy and Water, Legislative Branch, and Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2019, CONGRESS.GOV (Washington, D.C.) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 29 September 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/5895/all-actions?overview=closed#tabs>.

⁴³⁸ H.R.5895 — Energy and Water, Legislative Branch, and Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2019, CONGRESS.GOV (Washington, D.C.) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 29 September 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/5895>.

⁴³⁹ A better way to see who’s buying your senator, Salon (San Francisco) 25 September 2018. Access Date: 29 September 2018. https://www.salon.com/2018/09/25/a-better-way-to-see-who-is-buying-your-senator_partner/.

would permit the Internal Revenue Service to investigate political activity by non-profit organizations, and strengthen the ability of the Federal Election Commission to investigate illegal coordination between Political Action Committees.⁴⁴⁰

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to increase transparency around sources of funding for election campaigns, as well as taken effort to increase transparency for political advertising, especially during election cycles.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sterling Mancuso

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to—in accordance with applicable laws—ensure a high level of transparency around sources of funding for political parties and all types of political advertising, especially during election campaigns.

On 9 October 2018, members of the European Parliament (MEPs) passed a resolution for a full audit on Facebook to be conducted by EU bodies such as the EU Agency for Network and Information Security and the European Data Protection board in order for concerns regarding Facebook data protection to be assessed.⁴⁴¹ This resolution aims to prevent foreign powers from politically influencing EU citizens via social media.⁴⁴²

On 10 October 2018, the European Parliament held a conference on “the future of international election observation” wherein political figures including former heads of state, parliamentarians, election observers, donors, and MEPs gathered in order to discuss the challenges and future of election observation.⁴⁴³ Topics covered in the conference included tackling disinformation on social media, security, and peaceful transitions.⁴⁴⁴

On 25 October 2018, a resolution was adopted to call upon Facebook to allow EU bodies to audit the website’s data protection quality and security, in light of recent events of election meddling in multiple states.⁴⁴⁵ The goal of this initiative is to protect Facebook users from receiving manipulative and false political information on the social media website.⁴⁴⁶

⁴⁴⁰ H.R.1 – For the People Act of 2019, US Congress 3 January 2019. Access Date: 25 July 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1>

⁴⁴¹ Facebook: MEPs demand a full audit by EU bodies to assess data protection. 9 October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20181008IPR15260/facebook-meps-demand-a-full-audit-by-eu-bodies-to-assess-data-protection>.

⁴⁴² Facebook: MEPs demand a full audit by EU bodies to assess data protection. 9 October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20181008IPR15260/facebook-meps-demand-a-full-audit-by-eu-bodies-to-assess-data-protection>.

⁴⁴³ The future of international election observation missions. 10 October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20181010IPR15602/the-future-of-international-election-observation-missions>.

⁴⁴⁴ The future of international election observation missions. 10 October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20181010IPR15602/the-future-of-international-election-observation-missions>.

⁴⁴⁵ Facebook-Cambridge Analytica: MEPs demand action to protect citizen’ privacy. 25 October 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018, <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20181018IPR16525/facebook-cambridge-analytica-meps-demand-action-to-protect-citizens-privacy>.

⁴⁴⁶ Facebook-Cambridge Analytica: MEPs demand action to protect citizen’ privacy. 25 October 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018, <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20181018IPR16525/facebook-cambridge-analytica-meps-demand-action-to-protect-citizens-privacy>.

On 25 November 2018, the EU Parliament adopted a resolution calling on Facebook to allow EU bodies access to Facebook's data in order to assess its data protection systems.⁴⁴⁷ This resolution aims to protect the data of Facebook users from breaches of privacy and electoral manipulation.⁴⁴⁸

On 5 April 2019, crisis plans were tested in preparation for potential cybersecurity breaches ahead of the EU elections in May 2019.⁴⁴⁹ These tests were conducted by EU Member States, Parliament, the Commission, and the EU Cybersecurity Agency.⁴⁵⁰

The EU has taken efforts to ensure a high level of transparency around sources of funding for political parties and all types of political advertising, especially during election campaigns seen through the MEPs resolution.

Thus, the EU receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Joel McLeod

⁴⁴⁷ Facebook-Cambridge Analytica: MEPs demand action to protect citizens' privacy (unknown). 25 November 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20181018IPR16525/facebook-cambridge-analytica-meps-demand-action-to-protect-citizens-privacy>

⁴⁴⁸ Facebook-Cambridge Analytica: MEPs demand action to protect citizens' privacy (unknown). 25 November 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20181018IPR16525/facebook-cambridge-analytica-meps-demand-action-to-protect-citizens-privacy>

⁴⁴⁹ EU Member States test their cybersecurity preparedness for free and fair EU elections (unknown). 5 April 2018. Access Date: 29 May 2019. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20190404IPR35103/eu-member-states-test-cybersecurity-preparedness-for-free-and-fair-eu-elections>

⁴⁵⁰ EU Member States test their cybersecurity preparedness for free and fair EU elections (unknown). 5 April 2018. Access Date: 29 May 2019. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20190404IPR35103/eu-member-states-test-cybersecurity-preparedness-for-free-and-fair-eu-elections>

3. Trade: International Rules and Intellectual Property Rights

“We will work together to enforce existing international rules and develop new rules where needed to foster a truly level playing field, addressing in particular non-market oriented policies and practices, and inadequate protection of intellectual property rights, such as forced technology transfer or cyber-enabled theft.”

G7 Charlevoix Summit Communiqué

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom		0	
United States	-1		
European Union			+1
Average		+0.50	

Background

In October 1947, the first international trade regulation agreement was signed, known as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).⁴⁵¹ The agreement went into effect in January 1948, and regulated international trade until January 1995, when it was replaced by an institution with wider breadth — the World Trade Organization (WTO).⁴⁵² While GATT aimed to increase cooperation in international trade by reducing tariffs and trade barriers, WTO also included functions to regulate trade beyond trade barriers, such as the protection of intellectual property.⁴⁵³ The WTO framework also introduced the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) in January 1995.⁴⁵⁴ TRIPS functions to protect the intellectual property of WTO members, setting global copyright standards, which WTO members must align national copyright laws with.⁴⁵⁵

In addition to WTO and TRIPS, the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works and the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property also exist as international frameworks for intellectual property and copyright protection.^{456,457} These two conventions predate both WTO and GATT, with the Berne Convention being signed in September 1886, and the Paris

⁴⁵¹ The GATT years: from Havana to Marrakesh, World Trade Organization (Geneva) Access Date: 7 September 2018. https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/fact4_e.htm

⁴⁵² The GATT years: from Havana to Marrakesh, World Trade Organization (Geneva) Access Date: 7 September 2018. https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/fact4_e.htm

⁴⁵³ The Uruguay Round, World Trade Organization (Geneva) Access Date: 7 September 2018. https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/fact5_e.htm

⁴⁵⁴ Intellectual property: protection and enforcement, World Trade Organization (Geneva) Access Date: 7 September 2018. https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/agrm7_e.htm

⁴⁵⁵ Intellectual property: protection and enforcement, World Trade Organization (Geneva) Access Date: 7 September 2018. https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/agrm7_e.htm

⁴⁵⁶ Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works, WIPO (Geneva) Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/ip/berne/>

⁴⁵⁷ Summary of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property (1883), WIPO (Geneva) Access Date: 7 September 2018. http://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/ip/paris/summary_paris.html

Convention being signed in March 1883.^{458,459} Certain TRIPS regulations draw directly from the two aforementioned conventions, both of which are still in effect as of 2018.

In 1893, the United International Bureaux for the Protection of Intellectual Property (BIRPI) was established as an international regulatory body to oversee the implementation of the Berne and Paris Intellectual Property Rights conventions.⁴⁶⁰ In 1970, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) replaced BIRPI, “in order to encourage creative activity, [and] to promote the protection of intellectual property throughout the world.”⁴⁶¹ In 1974, WIPO joined the UN as a specialized agency overseeing intellectual property rights (IPR).⁴⁶²

Intellectual property rights have been discussed by both the G7 and G20 during their respective annual summits. The 2015 G20 Summit in Antalya, Turkey, was the first G20 Summit in which IPR were mentioned in the leaders’ communique, affirming “that no country should conduct or support ICT-enabled theft of intellectual property.”⁴⁶³ At the 2016 G20 Summit in Hangzhou, China, the leaders’ communique “emphasize[d] the importance of open trade and investment regimes to facilitate innovation through IPR protection,” and reaffirmed support for the WTO and TRIPS.⁴⁶⁴ At the 2017 G20 Summit in Hamburg, Germany, the leaders’ communique affirmed: “support [for] the free flow of information while respecting applicable legal frameworks for privacy, data protection, and IPR.”⁴⁶⁵

In the G7, IPR first appeared as a topic of discussion in the 1986 G7 Summit in Tokyo, Japan.⁴⁶⁶ Since then, IPR has appeared in 20 out of the 31 G7 leaders’ communiqués.⁴⁶⁷ Particular attention was paid to IPR at the 2001 G8 Summit in Genoa, the 2009 G8 Summit in L’Aquila, and the 2011 G8 Summit in Deauville. Leaders at the Genoa Summit “call[ed] on the WTO and the World Intellectual Property Rights Organisation, in collaboration with the World Bank, to help the poorest countries comply with international rules on IPR” and “reaffirm[ed] [their] commitment to strong and effective IPR protection as a necessary incentive for research and development of life-saving drugs.”⁴⁶⁸ At the L’Aquila Summit, G7 leaders agreed that “an enabling policy and business environment where IPR are respected is necessary to promote innovation, knowledge, entrepreneurship, and creativity,” and that “innovation can be promoted via an effective IPR system,”

⁴⁵⁸ Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works, WIPO (Geneva) Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/ip/berne/>

⁴⁵⁹ Summary of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property (1883), WIPO (Geneva) Access Date: 7 September 2018. http://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/ip/paris/summary_paris.html

⁴⁶⁰ WIPO — A Brief History, WIPO (Geneva) Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.wipo.int/about-wipo/en/history.html>

⁴⁶¹ WIPO — A Brief History, WIPO (Geneva) Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.wipo.int/about-wipo/en/history.html>

⁴⁶² WIPO — A Brief History, WIPO (Geneva) Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.wipo.int/about-wipo/en/history.html>

⁴⁶³ G20 Leaders' Communiqué, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/151116-communiqué.html>

⁴⁶⁴ G20 Leaders' Communiqué, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-G20-leaders-declaration.html>

⁴⁶⁵ G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 November 2015. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communiqué.html>

⁴⁶⁶ Tokyo Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 May 1986. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1986tokyo/communiqué.html>

⁴⁶⁷ G7/8 Summits, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/index.htm>

⁴⁶⁸ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2001. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommuniqué.html>

referencing the role of WIPO.⁴⁶⁹ At the Deauville Summit, leaders “renew[ed] [their] commitment to ensuring effective action against violations of intellectual property rights in the digital arena” and “encourag[ed] continued innovation in legal online trade in goods and content, that are respectful of intellectual property rights.” The Deauville Summit marked a shift in the G7’s focus on IPR, notably its recognition of newly emerging threats to IPR, such as cyber-enabled theft.⁴⁷⁰

Commitment Features

The commitment specifies that existing international trade rules must be enforced collaboratively by G7 members and that new rules must be developed in cases where current rules do not adequately provide a level playing field for international trade. Enforcement of international trade rules includes actions taken to align national laws with the current international frameworks regarding trade and intellectual property rights. This is the first part of the commitment, which requires the G7 member to demonstrate that it will work to enforce existing international rules.

The development of new rules refers to actions taken in cooperation with other G7 members or international IPR and trade organizations to modify the current international IPR and trade framework, in order to foster a fairer international trade system. The aforementioned development refer to two areas: 1) addressing “non-market oriented policies and practices” and 2) addressing “inadequate protection of intellectual property rights.” The former refers to market interventions or distortions such as trade barriers and protectionist policies. Actions to address this issue include increasing international trade cooperation and refraining from intentionally placing trade partners at a disadvantage for the sake of trade balance or domestic industry protection. The latter, inadequate protection of intellectual property rights, refer to examples such as forced technology transfer or cyber-enabled theft, as listed in the commitment. These two examples should be given priority consideration when scoring for compliance.

The text of the commitment indicates that the G7 member must demonstrate attempts to engage in both the enforcement of existing rules and the development of new rules to fully comply with the commitment. The first part of the commitment species that the G7 must demonstrate collaborative and engagement with its G7 counterparts in its efforts to enforce existing international rules. This means that the G7 member must demonstrate explicit action with regards to current international rules surrounding trade, notably trade laws facilitated by the World Trade Organization.

In the latter part of the commitment, the G7 member must make progress in developing new rules where previous legal regimes are inadequate, with a specific focus on non-market-oriented policies and practices and inadequate protection of intellectual property rights. Full compliance should be reflected by multiple, in-depth engagements, while “some progress” is defined as minimal or less than strong action in this regard. The G7 member must demonstrate substantive participation in the development of new international rules, through examples such as but not limited to proposing new technical regulations, changes to existing legal regimes, establishing monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and more.⁴⁷¹ Compliance in this part of the commitment will depend on the extent of the G7 member’s progress and contributions.

⁴⁶⁹ Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.html>

⁴⁷⁰ G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html>

⁴⁷¹ Chapter 12. International trade, standards and regulations, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (Geneva) Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trade/wp6/AreasOfWork/EducationOnStandardization/Module_12_International_trade_Eng_01.pdf

In order for the G7 member to achieve full compliance score, it must address both aforementioned areas of the commitment. To earn a score of partial compliance, the G7 member must address the former part of the commitment and/or make some progress in the latter part of the commitment. Non-compliance, or a score of -1, refers to G7 members who have acted on neither part of this commitment.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has NOT worked together to enforce existing international rules NOR developed new rules where needed to foster a truly level playing field, addressing in particular non-market oriented policies and practices, and inadequate protection of intellectual property rights, such as forced technology transfer or cyber-enabled theft.
0	The G7 member has worked together to enforce existing international rules AND/OR made SOME progress in developing new rules where needed to foster a truly level playing field, addressing in particular non-market oriented policies and practices, and inadequate protection of intellectual property rights, such as forced technology transfer or cyber-enabled theft.
+1	The G7 member has worked together to enforce existing international rules AND develop new rules where needed to foster a truly level playing field, addressing in particular non-market oriented policies and practices, and inadequate protection of intellectual property rights, such as forced technology transfer or cyber-enabled theft.

*Compliance Director: Ian Stansbury
Lead Analyst: Bianca Meta*

Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to enforce existing international rules and develop new rules where needed to foster a truly level playing field, addressing in particular non-market oriented policies and practices, and inadequate protection of intellectual property rights, such as forced technology transfer or cyber-enabled theft.

On 30 September 2018, Canada, the United States, and Mexico signed the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA), ending a year of negotiations and replacing the North-American Free Trade Agreement.⁴⁷² According to intellectual property experts, the CUSMA “lengthens the protection on copyright, undermines the ability of governments to enact data localization policies and extends patent protections on drugs in a way that will increase costs for the Canadian health care system.”⁴⁷³ Furthermore, experts say intellectual property laws will protect incumbent players and stifle new innovators in the future, which puts Canada at a disadvantage.⁴⁷⁴

On 1 December 2018, along with other G20 members, Canada participated in the release of a joint declaration from the Buenos Aires G20 Summit, which took place in Argentina from 30 November 2018 to 1 December 2018. The declaration includes a provision that supports the protection of intellectual property rights.⁴⁷⁵

⁴⁷² NAFTA deal reached: Canada, U.S., Mexico reach trade agreement under new name, Global News (Ottawa) 30 September 2018. Access Date: 1 October 2018. <https://globalnews.ca/news/4500068/nafta-2018-agreement-finalized/>

⁴⁷³ Canada 'caved' on intellectual property provisions in USMCA trade deal, experts say, Financial Post (Toronto) 1 October 2018. Access Date: 8 October 2018. <https://business.financialpost.com/technology/canada-caved-on-intellectual-property-provisions-in-usmca-trade-deal-experts-say>

⁴⁷⁴ Canada 'caved' on intellectual property provisions in USMCA trade deal, experts say, Financial Post (Toronto) 1 October 2018. Access Date: 8 October 2018. <https://business.financialpost.com/technology/canada-caved-on-intellectual-property-provisions-in-usmca-trade-deal-experts-say>

⁴⁷⁵ G20 Leaders' declaration: Building consensus for fair and sustainable development, G20 (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. https://g20.org/sites/default/files/buenos_aires_leaders_declaration.pdf

On 12 December 2018, International Trade Diversification Minister Jim Carr stated that Canada's trade relationship with China would carry on despite the arrest of a top Huawei Technologies Inc. executive in Vancouver.⁴⁷⁶

On 4 April 2019, Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland cautioned against the idea of reopening a new continental trade pact with the United States and Mexico, stating that it could be a "Pandora's box."⁴⁷⁷ Minister Freeland also issued a warning that Canada would only move forward on ratifying the USCMA when other countries do, and this decision may change tariffs imposed the United States.⁴⁷⁸

On 11 April 2019, on the sidelines of the annual spring meetings of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, Finance Minister Bill Morneau stated that Canada "continue[s] to advocate for the complete removal of the tariffs," with the US, and Canada would not accept the replacement of tariffs with quotas, rather preferring a complete removal of trade barriers.⁴⁷⁹

On 17 May 2019, the U.S. reached a deal with Canada to lift tariffs on steel and aluminum imports. In a joint statement, both countries announced that a 25 per cent tariff on steel imports, and of 10 per cent on aluminum, would end within 48 hours.⁴⁸⁰

On 8 June 2019, Finance Minister Jim Carr and Turkish Finance Minister Ruhsar Pekcan signed the Joint Economic and Trade Commission's (JETCO) memorandum of understanding at the G20 Ministerial Meeting on Trade and Digital Economy held in Tsukuba, Japan. This memorandum was signed with the aim of strengthening bilateral relations between Turkey and Canada in the areas of trade, industry, services and investment.⁴⁸¹

On 9 June 2019, on the sidelines of the G20 Ministerial Meeting in Fukuoka, Japan, Finance Minister Bill Morneau stated that U.S. President Donald Trump's decision not to place tariffs on Mexico over issues of migration clears the path for the U.S.-Mexico-Canada trade agreement to move forward. Minister Morneau further stated that the American decision to cancel steel and aluminum tariffs on Canada has pushed the deal toward ratification.⁴⁸²

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to enforce existing international rules and develop new rules where needed to foster a truly level playing field. Actions were taken to continue to engage in free trade with other nations, despite rising diplomatic tensions with the United States, but issues on developing new rules regarding intellectual property remain.

⁴⁷⁶ Huawei arrest leaves Canada caught between two elephants, Financial Post (Toronto) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. <https://business.financialpost.com/news/economy/huawei-arrest-leaves-canada-caught-between-two-elephants>

⁴⁷⁷ Canada: Reopening USMCA trade pact could be 'Pandora's box', Automotive News (Detroit) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2019. <https://www.autonews.com/manufacturing/canada-reopening-usmca-trade-pact-could-be-pandoras-box>.

⁴⁷⁸ Canada Won't Ratify New NAFTA Deal If Metals Tariffs Remain in Place, Bloomberg News (New York) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-04-05/canada-won-t-ratify-usmca-trade-deal-if-metals-tariffs-in-place>.

⁴⁷⁹ U.S. Metal Tariffs Could Jeopardize Trade Deal, Canadian Official Warns, The New York Times (New York) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/12/us/politics/us-canada-metal-tariffs.html>.

⁴⁸⁰ US lifts steel and aluminium tariffs on Canada, BBC (London) 17 May 2019. Access Date: 20 May 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-48309703>.

⁴⁸¹ Turkey, Canada sign MoU on economic, trade cooperation, Daily News (Istanbul) 8 June 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkey-canada-sign-mou-on-economic-trade-cooperation-144026>.

⁴⁸² Clear Path Ahead for U.S.-Mexico-Canada Trade Deal, Morneau Says, Bloomberg News (New York) 9 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-06-09/clear-path-ahead-for-u-s-mexico-canada-trade-deal-morneau-says>.

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Faaris Hussain

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to enforce existing international rules and develop new rules where needed to foster a truly level playing field, addressing in particular non-market oriented policies and practices, and inadequate protection of intellectual property rights, such as forced technology transfer or cyber-enabled theft.

On 25 June 2018, Prime Minister Edouard Philippe met with Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and various industry leaders from manufacturing, energy and finance sectors in Beijing.⁴⁸³ Premier Li credits development in both nations to France and China's cooperative relationship.⁴⁸⁴ He stated that their cooperative success has encouraged China to "open its door to the outside world" and promote free trade with the rest of the world. After the meeting, both heads of states pushed for further bilateral cooperation and singled out intellectual property rights (IPR) and technology transfer issues as key concerns that they plan to address.⁴⁸⁵

On 27 June 2018, Ambassador to Myanmar Oliver Richard made a statement committing France's continued support to Myanmar through a EUR2 million grant.⁴⁸⁶ Officials from the Ministry of Education met with Members of Parliament from Myanmar to discuss trademarks and intellectual property rights for geographical indicators. The meeting agenda intended to review the IPR legislation Myanmar passed in February concerning legal protection for farmers and handicraft producers.⁴⁸⁷

On 30 July 2018, France amended its commercial code on the protection of trade secrets through Law No. 2018-670.⁴⁸⁸ Based on existing IPR measures, this new legislation protects individuals and businesses from the unlawful acquisition of trade secrets and the resulting legal abuse of such acquisitions.⁴⁸⁹ This change follows several other recently enforced laws that address data protection and anti-bribery.⁴⁹⁰

On 4 September 2018, France adopted new legislation No. 2018-771 on the protection of intellectual property rights.⁴⁹¹ This new regulation supports workers' training rights, such as the freedom of

⁴⁸³ Chinese premier, French PM attend entrepreneur's symposium, Xinhua (Beijing) 26 June 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-06/26/c_137282398.htm

⁴⁸⁴ Chinese premier, French PM attend entrepreneur's symposium, Xinhua (Beijing) 26 June 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-06/26/c_137282398.htm

⁴⁸⁵ Chinese premier, French PM attend entrepreneur's symposium, Xinhua (Beijing) 26 June 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-06/26/c_137282398.htm

⁴⁸⁶ MPs bone up on intellectual property right, Myanmar Times (Yangon) 21 October 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://www.mmtimes.com/news/mps-bone-intellectual-property-rights.html>

⁴⁸⁷ MPs bone up on intellectual property right, Myanmar Times (Yangon) 21 October 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://www.mmtimes.com/news/mps-bone-intellectual-property-rights.html>

⁴⁸⁸ Laws Act No. 2018-670 of July 30 2018 relating to the protection of trade secrets, World Intellectual Property Organization (Paris) 30 July 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://wipolex.wipo.int/en/text/484212>

⁴⁸⁹ Laws Act No. 2018-670 of July 30 2018 relating to the protection of trade secrets, World Intellectual Property Organization (Paris) 30 July 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://wipolex.wipo.int/en/text/484212>

⁴⁹⁰ Laws Act No. 2018-670 of July 30 2018 relating to the protection of trade secrets, World Intellectual Property Organization (Paris) 30 July 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://wipolex.wipo.int/en/text/484212>

⁴⁹¹ Laws Act No. 2018-771 of September 5 2018 for the freedom to choose their professional future, World Intellectual Property Organization (Paris) 5 September 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018.

<https://wipolex.wipo.int/en/text/484330>

individual choice in professional training, approval of vocational training organizations, and validation of skills belonging to self-employed individuals.⁴⁹²

On 24 October 2018, the Ministry of Economy and Finance released a document advising French companies, domestic and abroad, to prepare for the economic and legal implications of a no-deal Brexit.⁴⁹³ The document provides information regarding a smooth transition for French companies who operate in the United Kingdom or with British partners.⁴⁹⁴ The document also outlines how “decree powers will be aimed at priority sectors where the impact of a no-deal Brexit could prove most damaging and will ensure that France-based subsidiaries of UK companies have the legal right to operate.”⁴⁹⁵

On 1 November 2018, Ambassador to China Jean-Maurice Ripert and the German Ambassador to China published a joint article in Chinese business magazine Caixin, in which they urged China to provide a level playing field for European businesses in China.⁴⁹⁶ In the article, the ambassadors emphasized that “French and German companies are looking forward to China demonstrating that it will not waver and will deepen its opening-up and reform policy in order to create a level playing field for foreign businesses in China.”⁴⁹⁷

On 26 November 2018, the European Union Energy Commissioner and Iranian nuclear energy chief held a joint press conference regarding the EU-Iran trade deal.⁴⁹⁸ After the conference, France and Germany assumed a leadership role in the trade negotiations. A Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) legal deal was jeopardized due to potential U.S. sanctions.⁴⁹⁹ However, France and Germany are prepared to host the SPV together and deter U.S. retaliation. The SPV will only be used initially for smaller-scale trade of agricultural and humanitarian products.⁵⁰⁰

On 1 December 2018, along with other G20 members, France participated in the release of a joint declaration from the Buenos Aires G20 Summit, which took place in Argentina from 30 November

⁴⁹² Laws Act No. 2018-771 of September 5 2018 for the freedom to choose their professional future, World Intellectual Property Organization (Paris) 5 September 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018.

<https://wipolex.wipo.int/en/text/484330>

⁴⁹³ France asks businesses to prepare for ‘no-deal Brexit’, Financial Times (Paris) 24 October 2018. Access Date: 2 November 2018. <https://www.ft.com/content/5532d5a4-d6d8-11e8-a854-33d6f82e62f8>

⁴⁹⁴ France asks businesses to prepare for ‘no-deal Brexit’, Financial Times (Paris) 24 October 2018. Access Date: 2 November 2018. <https://www.ft.com/content/5532d5a4-d6d8-11e8-a854-33d6f82e62f8>

⁴⁹⁵ France asks businesses to prepare for ‘no-deal Brexit’, Financial Times (Paris) 24 October 2018. Access Date: 2 November 2018. <https://www.ft.com/content/5532d5a4-d6d8-11e8-a854-33d6f82e62f8>

⁴⁹⁶ Germany, France urge China to level business playing field, Reuters (Shanghai) 1 November 2018. Access Date: 2 November 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-trade-europe/germany-france-urge-china-to-level-business-playing-field-idUSKCN1N63VP>

⁴⁹⁷ Germany, France urge China to level business playing field, Reuters (Shanghai) 1 November 2018. Access Date: 2 November 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-trade-europe/germany-france-urge-china-to-level-business-playing-field-idUSKCN1N63VP>

⁴⁹⁸ France, Germany taking charge of EU-Iran trade move but oil sales in doubt, Reuters (London) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-nuclear-eu/france-germany-taking-charge-of-eu-iran-trade-move-but-oil-sales-in-doubt-idUSKCN1NX2C1>

⁴⁹⁹ France, Germany taking charge of EU-Iran trade move but oil sales in doubt, Reuters (London) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-nuclear-eu/france-germany-taking-charge-of-eu-iran-trade-move-but-oil-sales-in-doubt-idUSKCN1NX2C1>

⁵⁰⁰ France, Germany taking charge of EU-Iran trade move but oil sales in doubt, Reuters (London) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-nuclear-eu/france-germany-taking-charge-of-eu-iran-trade-move-but-oil-sales-in-doubt-idUSKCN1NX2C1>

2018 to 1 December 2018. The declaration includes a provision that supports the protection of intellectual property rights.⁵⁰¹

On 17 December 2018, France pledged EUR4.5 million in technical assistance and training programmes for developing and least developed countries.⁵⁰² The funds will be spread over a period of three years from 2018 to 2020, divided between five World Trade Organization programmes.⁵⁰³ The Chairs Programme, which promotes knowledge and understanding of multilateral trade systems through research institutes in developing countries, will receive EUR50,000 annually.⁵⁰⁴ The Doha Development Agenda Global Trust Fund, aimed at training officials to better implement WTO agreements, will receive EUR400,000 annually.⁵⁰⁵ The Standards and Trade Development Facility, which helps developing nations implement animal and food safety standards, will benefit from EUR150,000 each year.⁵⁰⁶ An EUR800,000 contribution will be directed towards the internship programme sponsored by France and Ireland.⁵⁰⁷ Furthermore, the Trade Facilitation Agreement Facility, which seeks the full implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement by all WTO members, will receive an annual contribution of EUR100,000.⁵⁰⁸

On 13 February 2019, France met with EU representatives to discuss copyright regulations.⁵⁰⁹ The agreement reached between France and the EU increases the possibility of using copyrighted content for education, research and the preservation of heritage.⁵¹⁰ The agreement also allows for cross-border online access to copyrighted content.⁵¹¹ The main directives are to strengthen the security of copyright holders, and improve transparency and control over protected content.⁵¹² Small online

⁵⁰¹ G20 Leaders' declaration: Building consensus for fair and sustainable development, G20 (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. https://g20.org/sites/default/files/buenos_aires_leaders_declaration.pdf

⁵⁰² France pledges EUR4.5 million to strengthen trade skill set of developing countries, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 18 February 2019. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres18_e/pr830_e.htm.

⁵⁰³ France pledges EUR4.5 million to strengthen trade skill set of developing countries, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 18 February 2019. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres18_e/pr830_e.htm.

⁵⁰⁴ France pledges EUR4.5 million to strengthen trade skill set of developing countries, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 18 February 2019. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres18_e/pr830_e.htm.

⁵⁰⁵ France pledges EUR4.5 million to strengthen trade skill set of developing countries, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 18 February 2019. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres18_e/pr830_e.htm.

⁵⁰⁶ France pledges EUR4.5 million to strengthen trade skill set of developing countries, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 18 February 2019. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres18_e/pr830_e.htm.

⁵⁰⁷ France pledges EUR4.5 million to strengthen trade skill set of developing countries, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 18 February 2019. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres18_e/pr830_e.htm.

⁵⁰⁸ France pledges EUR4.5 million to strengthen trade skill set of developing countries, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 18 February 2019. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres18_e/pr830_e.htm.

⁵⁰⁹ France: Agreement On New EU Copyright Rules, Mondaq (London) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <http://www.mondaq.com/france/x/783584/Copyright/Agreement+On+New+EU+Copyright+Rules>.

⁵¹⁰ France: Agreement On New EU Copyright Rules, Mondaq (London) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <http://www.mondaq.com/france/x/783584/Copyright/Agreement+On+New+EU+Copyright+Rules>.

⁵¹¹ France: Agreement On New EU Copyright Rules, Mondaq (London) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <http://www.mondaq.com/france/x/783584/Copyright/Agreement+On+New+EU+Copyright+Rules>.

⁵¹² France: Agreement On New EU Copyright Rules, Mondaq (London) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <http://www.mondaq.com/france/x/783584/Copyright/Agreement+On+New+EU+Copyright+Rules>.

businesses that offer Intellectual Property Rights services will benefit from clearer and lightened laws under new regulations.⁵¹³

On 18 February 2019, French and German officials met to finalize a joint arms export agreement.⁵¹⁴ The agreement will allow for cooperation for freer trade in areas of defense.⁵¹⁵ Germany's strict control over arms exports to third world countries was a shared concern between French and German officials, and Germany is expected to reduce these restrictions after discussions.⁵¹⁶ The agreement supports both members' vision for a joint export policy, and follows previously announced joint military projects.⁵¹⁷ On 23 February 2019, French Economic Minister Bruno Le Maire publicly called on Germany to ease its arms export rules.⁵¹⁸

On 21 February 2019, France delayed trade talks with the United States regarding US tariffs on European cars.⁵¹⁹ While other EU member nations reaffirmed shared concerns regarding potential US trade restrictions on EU auto imports, France expressed reservations.⁵²⁰ The main policies discussed during the meeting between EU members were opening agricultural market access to US producers and preventing car export tariffs. France cited the lack of public popularity as a reason for its reservations.⁵²¹

On 23 March 2019, France adopted a new law (No. 2019-222) reforming and strengthening the organization of its judicial system.⁵²² The new mandate will impact social litigation, and brings major implications for Intellectual Property Rights disputes.⁵²³ From January 2020, the Courts of First Instance and the Civil Courts will be united under a common name — Judicial Courts. Judicial Courts will be responsible for adjudicating several civil and commercial matters.⁵²⁴ This new

⁵¹³ France: Agreement On New EU Copyright Rules, Mondaq (London) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <http://www.mondaq.com/france/x/783584/Copyright/Agreement+On+New+EU+Copyright+Rules>.

⁵¹⁴ Germany in talks for joint arms exports agreement with France, Reuters (Berlin) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-germany-france-defence/germany-in-talks-for-joint-arms-exports-agreement-with-france-idUSKCN1Q713A>.

⁵¹⁵ Germany's Angela Merkel makes arms export pact with France, DW (Bonn) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.dw.com/en/germanys-angela-merkel-makes-arms-export-pact-with-france/a-47568557>.

⁵¹⁶ Germany's Angela Merkel makes arms export pact with France, DW (Bonn) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.dw.com/en/germanys-angela-merkel-makes-arms-export-pact-with-france/a-47568557>.

⁵¹⁷ Germany's Angela Merkel makes arms export pact with France, DW (Bonn) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.dw.com/en/germanys-angela-merkel-makes-arms-export-pact-with-france/a-47568557>.

⁵¹⁸ France calls on Germany to ease arms export rules, Reuters (Berlin) 23 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-germany-defence/france-calls-on-germany-to-ease-arms-export-rules-idUSKCN1QC0X7>.

⁵¹⁹ France holds out over start of EU trade talks with Trump, Reuters (Bucharest) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trade-eu/eu-debates-how-and-when-to-start-trade-talks-with-trump-idUSKCN1QB0B7>.

⁵²⁰ France holds out over start of EU trade talks with Trump, Reuters (Bucharest) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trade-eu/eu-debates-how-and-when-to-start-trade-talks-with-trump-idUSKCN1QB0B7>.

⁵²¹ France holds out over start of EU trade talks with Trump, Reuters (Bucharest) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trade-eu/eu-debates-how-and-when-to-start-trade-talks-with-trump-idUSKCN1QB0B7>.

⁵²² Law No. the 2019-222 of March 23, 2019, on the 2018-2022 Programming and Reform for Justice, World Intellectual Property Organization (Geneva) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://wipo.int/en/legislation/details/18789>.

⁵²³ Law No. the 2019-222 of March 23, 2019, on the 2018-2022 Programming and Reform for Justice, World Intellectual Property Organization (Geneva) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://wipo.int/en/legislation/details/18789>.

⁵²⁴ French Legal and Regulatory Update - March 2019, Hogan Lovells (London) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=c1206253-abbc-4453-a2db-afad51b65d52>.

regulation aims to promote alternative dispute resolution mechanisms of mediation and conciliation, while complying with ethical requirements of transparency and confidentiality.⁵²⁵

On 15 April 2019, France voted in favor of implementing a new EU Copyright Directive.⁵²⁶ The new directive amends the legal framework on copyright to suit today's digital environment, specifically by ensuring adequate protection for authors and artists while furthering possibilities for sharing copyright-protected content.⁵²⁷ The directive lays out clear rules regarding the exploitation of out-of-commerce work, rights clearance by video-on-demand platforms and issuing of collective licenses.⁵²⁸ In addition, the directive also introduces exceptions to copyright for the purposes of text and data mining, educational learning and the dissemination of cultural heritage.⁵²⁹ It is expected that the directive will help establish an accessible marketplace for copyrighted content. Following the publication of the directive, France will have two years to transpose the new regulation.⁵³⁰

France has fully complied with its commitment to enforce existing international rules and develop new rules which help to foster a level playing field by addressing non-market oriented practices and has taken actions to address inadequate protection of intellectual property rights.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Srijan Sahu

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to enforce existing international rules and develop new rules where needed to foster a truly level playing field, addressing in particular non-market oriented policies and practices, and inadequate protection of intellectual property rights, such as forced technology transfer or cyber-enabled theft.

On 1 November 2018, Ambassador to China Michael Clauss and the French Ambassador to China published a joint article in Chinese business magazine Caixin, in which they urged China to provide a level playing field for European businesses in China.⁵³¹ In the article, the ambassadors emphasized that "French and German companies are looking forward to China demonstrating that it will not

⁵²⁵ Law No. the 2019-222 of March 23, 2019, on the 2018-2022 Programming and Reform for Justice, World Intellectual Property Organization (Geneva) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://wipolex.wipo.int/en/legislation/details/18789>.

⁵²⁶ Council of the EU Formally Adopts EU Copyright Directive, Mayer Brown (Chicago) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://www.allaboutipblog.com/2019/04/council-of-the-eu-formally-adopts-eu-copyright-directive/>.

⁵²⁷ Council of the EU Formally Adopts EU Copyright Directive, Mayer Brown (Chicago) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://www.allaboutipblog.com/2019/04/council-of-the-eu-formally-adopts-eu-copyright-directive/>.

⁵²⁸ EU adjusts copyright rules to the digital age, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/04/15/eu-adjusts-copyright-rules-to-the-digital-age/>.

⁵²⁹ EU adjusts copyright rules to the digital age, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/04/15/eu-adjusts-copyright-rules-to-the-digital-age/>.

⁵³⁰ EU adjusts copyright rules to the digital age, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/04/15/eu-adjusts-copyright-rules-to-the-digital-age/>.

⁵³¹ Germany, France urge China to level business playing field, Reuters (Shanghai) 1 November 2018. Access Date: 2 November 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-trade-europe/germany-france-urge-china-to-level-business-playing-field-idUSKCN1N63VP>

waver and will deepen its opening-up and reform policy in order to create a level playing field for foreign businesses in China.”⁵³²

On 26 November 2018, the European Union Energy Commissioner and Iranian nuclear energy chief held a joint press conference regarding the EU-Iran trade deal.⁵³³ After the conference, Germany and France assumed a leadership role in the trade negotiations. A Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) legal deal was jeopardized due to potential U.S. sanctions.⁵³⁴ However, Germany and France are prepared to host the SPV together and deter U.S. retaliation. The SPV will only be used initially for smaller-scale trade of agricultural and humanitarian products.⁵³⁵

On 22 November 2018, Germany contributed EUR1.6 million to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.⁵³⁶ The funds will run from November 2018 to December 2020, dedicated to helping African countries increase their knowledge of trade and better address intellectual property rights.⁵³⁷ German Ambassador Hans-Peter Jugel stated, “This is a big step forward in the economic development of Africa.”⁵³⁸

On 1 December 2018, along with other G20 members, Germany participated in the release of a joint declaration from the Buenos Aires G20 Summit, which took place in Argentina from 30 November 2018 to 1 December 2018. The declaration includes a provision that supports the protection of intellectual property rights.⁵³⁹

On 5 December 2018, Germany agreed to a EUR1 million grant to the Doha Development Agenda Global Trust Fund.⁵⁴⁰ World Trade Organization (WTO) Deputy Director-General Yonov Frederick Agah met with Germany’s WTO Ambassador Walter Werner to confirm the contribution.⁵⁴¹ The financial assistance is designed to help developing nations adhere to WTO agreements and enhance

⁵³² Germany, France urge China to level business playing field, Reuters (Shanghai) 1 November 2018. Access Date: 2 November 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-trade-europe/germany-france-urge-china-to-level-business-playing-field-idUSKCN1N63VP>

⁵³³ France, Germany taking charge of EU-Iran trade move but oil sales in doubt, Reuters (London) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-nuclear-eu/france-germany-taking-charge-of-eu-iran-trade-move-but-oil-sales-in-doubt-idUSKCN1NX2C1>

⁵³⁴ France, Germany taking charge of EU-Iran trade move but oil sales in doubt, Reuters (London) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-nuclear-eu/france-germany-taking-charge-of-eu-iran-trade-move-but-oil-sales-in-doubt-idUSKCN1NX2C1>

⁵³⁵ France, Germany taking charge of EU-Iran trade move but oil sales in doubt, Reuters (London) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-nuclear-eu/france-germany-taking-charge-of-eu-iran-trade-move-but-oil-sales-in-doubt-idUSKCN1NX2C1>

⁵³⁶ Germany backs UNCTAD work to deliver goals of Africa trade deal, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Geneva) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=1930>

⁵³⁷ Germany backs UNCTAD work to deliver goals of Africa trade deal, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Geneva) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=1930>

⁵³⁸ Germany backs UNCTAD work to deliver goals of Africa trade deal, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Geneva) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=1930>

⁵³⁹ G20 Leaders’ declaration: Building consensus for fair and sustainable development, G20 (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. https://g20.org/sites/default/files/buenos_aires_leaders_declaration.pdf

⁵⁴⁰ Germany gives EUR1 million to enhance developing countries’ participation in world trade, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres18_e/pr827_e.htm

⁵⁴¹ Germany gives EUR1 million to enhance developing countries’ participation in world trade, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres18_e/pr827_e.htm

their participation in global trade.⁵⁴² This recent grant will finance training workshops for officials in developing countries and least-developed countries.⁵⁴³

On 4 February 2019, during a joint news conference with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, German Chancellor Angela Merkel urged Britain to avoid a no-deal Brexit and pledged to maintain free trade commitments.⁵⁴⁴ Officials from the two countries also discussed rising protectionism, bilateral security and the exchange of classified information. Merkel pledged to work together with Japan and use free trade to curb the influence of impending Brexit.⁵⁴⁵

On 21 March 2019, Germany adopted a new law on the protection of business secrets, in line with EU Directive (2016/943).⁵⁴⁶ The new law is named GeschGehG, and it will come into force from 26 April 2019, making Germany one of the last EU Member States to implement this EU mandate.⁵⁴⁷ The new law offers a legal definition of what constitutes a trade secret, defined as information that is not easily accessible or generally known, information that has economic value, information for which security provisions are made and information that has legitimate incentives for the owner to protect.⁵⁴⁸ In addition, the law details a catalog of prohibition and authorization facts, allows for reverse engineering and regulates whistleblowing.⁵⁴⁹ While Germany's GeschGehG act differs from the EU Directive in certain aspects, it establishes homogenous protection for trade secrets.⁵⁵⁰ It is expected that businesses will face more difficulties in protecting trade secrets due to stringent requirements for protection measures.⁵⁵¹

⁵⁴² Germany gives EUR1 million to enhance developing countries' participation in world trade, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018.

https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres18_e/pr827_e.htm

⁵⁴³ Germany gives EUR1 million to enhance developing countries' participation in world trade, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018.

https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres18_e/pr827_e.htm

⁵⁴⁴ Japan, Germany to use free trade to curb Brexit impact, The Associated-570 News Press (Tokyo) 4 February 2019.

Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.570news.com/2019/02/04/japan-germany-to-use-free-trade-to-curb-brexit-impact/>.

⁵⁴⁵ Japan, Germany to use free trade to curb Brexit impact, The Associated-570 News Press (Tokyo) 4 February 2019.

Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.570news.com/2019/02/04/japan-germany-to-use-free-trade-to-curb-brexit-impact/>.

⁵⁴⁶ Germany Introduces New Trade Secrets Act Which Imposes Extensive Preventive Measures on Companies, Mayer Brown (Chicago) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. https://www.allaboutipblog.com/2019/04/germany-introduces-new-trade-secrets-act-which-imposes-extensive-preventive-measures-on-companies/?utm_source=Mondaq&utm_medium=syndication&utm_campaign=View-Original.

⁵⁴⁷ The new law for the protection of business secrets has come into force, Hogan Lovells (London) 2 May 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <http://hoganlovells-blog.de/2019/05/02/das-neue-gesetz-zum-schutz-von-geschaeftsgeheimnissen-ist-in-kraft-getreten/>.

⁵⁴⁸ Germany Introduces New Trade Secrets Act Which Imposes Extensive Preventive Measures on Companies, Mayer Brown (Chicago) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. https://www.allaboutipblog.com/2019/04/germany-introduces-new-trade-secrets-act-which-imposes-extensive-preventive-measures-on-companies/?utm_source=Mondaq&utm_medium=syndication&utm_campaign=View-Original.

⁵⁴⁹ The new law for the protection of business secrets has come into force, Hogan Lovells (London) 2 May 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <http://hoganlovells-blog.de/2019/05/02/das-neue-gesetz-zum-schutz-von-geschaeftsgeheimnissen-ist-in-kraft-getreten/>.

⁵⁵⁰ Germany Introduces New Trade Secrets Act Which Imposes Extensive Preventive Measures on Companies, Mayer Brown (Berlin) Access Date: 2 June 2019. https://www.allaboutipblog.com/2019/04/germany-introduces-new-trade-secrets-act-which-imposes-extensive-preventive-measures-on-companies/?utm_source=Mondaq&utm_medium=syndication&utm_campaign=View-Original.

⁵⁵¹ The new law for the protection of business secrets has come into force, Hogan Lovells (Chicago) 2 May 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <http://hoganlovells-blog.de/2019/05/02/das-neue-gesetz-zum-schutz-von-geschaeftsgeheimnissen-ist-in-kraft-getreten/>.

On 5 May 2019, Economic Minister Peter Altmaier declared Germany's commitment to cooperating with Japan and promoting free trade and reform of the WTO.⁵⁵² In an interview leading up to a G20 ministerial meeting, Altmaier stressed Japan's importance as a trading partner and emphasized Germany's intention to lower trade tariffs and strengthen the WTO.⁵⁵³ Altmaier added that the recent economic partnership agreement between the two members signals a clear intention to fight protectionism.⁵⁵⁴

On 15 April 2019, Germany voted in favor of implementing a new EU Copyright Directive.⁵⁵⁵ The new directive amends the legal framework on copyright to suit today's digital environment, specifically by ensuring adequate protection for authors and artists while furthering possibilities for sharing copyright-protected content.⁵⁵⁶ The directive lays out clear rules regarding the exploitation of out-of-commerce work, rights clearance by video-on-demand platforms and issuing of collective licenses.⁵⁵⁷ In addition, the directive also introduces exceptions to copyright for the purposes of text and data mining, educational learning and the dissemination of cultural heritage.⁵⁵⁸ It is expected that the directive will help establish an accessible marketplace for copyrighted content. Following the publication of the directive, Germany will have two years to transpose the new regulation.⁵⁵⁹

Germany has supported efforts to enforce existing international rules and develop new rules which help to foster a level playing field by addressing non-market oriented practices and has taken actions to address inadequate protection of intellectual property rights.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Srijan Sabu

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to enforce existing international rules and develop new rules where needed to foster a truly level playing field, addressing in particular non-market oriented policies and practices, and inadequate protection of intellectual property rights, such as forced technology transfer or cyber-enabled theft.

⁵⁵² Germany expresses readiness to work with Japan on free trade and WTO reform, The Japan Times (Berlin) 5 May 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/05/05/business/economy-business/germany-expresses-readiness-work-japan-free-trade-wto-reform/#.XPVXQohKjIU>.

⁵⁵³ Germany expresses readiness to work with Japan on free trade and WTO reform, The Japan Times (Berlin) 5 May 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/05/05/business/economy-business/germany-expresses-readiness-work-japan-free-trade-wto-reform/#.XPVXQohKjIU>.

⁵⁵⁴ Germany expresses readiness to work with Japan on free trade and WTO reform, The Japan Times (Berlin) 5 May 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/05/05/business/economy-business/germany-expresses-readiness-work-japan-free-trade-wto-reform/#.XPVXQohKjIU>.

⁵⁵⁵ Council of the EU Formally Adopts EU Copyright Directive, Mayer Brown (Chicago) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://www.allaboutipblog.com/2019/04/council-of-the-eu-formally-adopts-eu-copyright-directive/>.

⁵⁵⁶ Council of the EU Formally Adopts EU Copyright Directive, Mayer Brown (Chicago) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://www.allaboutipblog.com/2019/04/council-of-the-eu-formally-adopts-eu-copyright-directive/>.

⁵⁵⁷ EU adjusts copyright rules to the digital age, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/04/15/eu-adjusts-copyright-rules-to-the-digital-age/>.

⁵⁵⁸ EU adjusts copyright rules to the digital age, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/04/15/eu-adjusts-copyright-rules-to-the-digital-age/>.

⁵⁵⁹ EU adjusts copyright rules to the digital age, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/04/15/eu-adjusts-copyright-rules-to-the-digital-age/>.

On 20 June 2018, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) issued a press release stating that Italy will be working with the OECD to reduce losses to gross domestic product and infringements of intellectual property rights caused by the trade of counterfeit Italian goods.⁵⁶⁰ According to the OECD, losses are estimated to reach EUR32 billion as a result of infringed Italian trademarks trade, which will be coupled with losses of 2.3% of the total number of employees in the manufacturing sector and losses in public revenue.⁵⁶¹

On 13 July 2018, Deputy Prime Minister Luigi Di Maio announced that Italy will not be ratifying the Canada–European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement.⁵⁶² This agreement includes provisions to improve intellectual property rights in the European Union and Canada.⁵⁶³

On 22 November 2018, Foreign Minister Moavero Milanesi met with Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif in Rome to discuss European measures such as the “Special Purpose Vehicle” to protect trade between Iran and the EU in the event of U.S. sanctions following the American withdrawal from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.⁵⁶⁴ These talks promised continued and improved economic cooperation between Italy and Iran.⁵⁶⁵

On 1 December 2018, along with other G20 members, Italy participated in the release of a joint declaration from the Buenos Aires G20 Summit, which took place in Argentina from 30 November 2018 to 1 December 2018. The declaration includes a provision that supports the protection of intellectual property rights.⁵⁶⁶

On 4 December 2018, Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs Manlio di Stefano announced in an interview that Italy has created a task force to increase trade between Italy and Asia, focusing on China and Japan.⁵⁶⁷ This endeavour encompasses economic agreements and seeks to foster new solid political ties.⁵⁶⁸

On 26 February 2019, Deputy Minister of Economic Development Michele Geraci and Indian Commerce and Industry Minister Suresh Prabhu co-chaired the 20th India-Italy Joint Commission

⁵⁶⁰ Trade in fake Italian goods costs economy billions of Euros, OECD (Paris) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://www.oecd.org/governance/trade-in-fake-italian-goods-costs-economy-billions-of-euros.htm>

⁵⁶¹ Trade in Counterfeit Goods and the Italian Economy, OECD iLibrary (Paris) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 21 August 2019. https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/governance/trade-in-counterfeit-goods-and-the-italian-economy_9789264302426-en.

⁵⁶² Italy says it won't ratify EU-Canada Trade Deal; Canada plays down threat, Reuters (London) 13 July 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-italy-canada-trade/italy-says-it-wont-ratify-eu-canada-trade-deal-canada-plays-down-threat-idUSKBN1K318Q>

⁵⁶³ Text of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement — Chapter 20 Intellectual Property, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 3 October 2017. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <http://www.international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/ceta-aecg/text-texte/20.aspx?lang=eng>

⁵⁶⁴ Iranian, Italian diplomats discuss European payment mechanism in Rome, PressTV (Tehran) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.presstv.com/Detail/2018/11/22/580798/Iran-Italy-Europe-payment-mechanism-rome-SPV>

⁵⁶⁵ Iranian, Italian diplomats discuss European payment mechanism in Rome, PressTV (Tehran) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.presstv.com/Detail/2018/11/22/580798/Iran-Italy-Europe-payment-mechanism-rome-SPV>

⁵⁶⁶ G20 Leaders' declaration: Building consensus for fair and sustainable development, G20 (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. https://g20.org/sites/default/files/buenos_aires_leaders_declaration.pdf

⁵⁶⁷ Italy to revamp its trade relations with Asia, New Europe (Brussels) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.neweurope.eu/article/italy-to-revamp-its-trade-relations-with-asia/>

⁵⁶⁸ Italy to revamp its trade relations with Asia, New Europe (Brussels) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.neweurope.eu/article/italy-to-revamp-its-trade-relations-with-asia/>

for Economic Cooperation meeting held in New Delhi.⁵⁶⁹ The purpose of the meeting was to facilitate dialogue and enhance cooperation between the two countries on economic issues.⁵⁷⁰

On 21 March 2019, a memorandum of intent was signed between Deputy Prime Minister Luigi Di Maio and Chinese President Xi Jinping during President Xi's visit to Rome.⁵⁷¹ This deal formalizes Italy's role as a member of the Economic Silk Road and The Initiative for a Maritime Silk Road for the 21st Century.⁵⁷²

Italy has supported efforts to enforce existing international rules and develop new rules which help to foster a level playing field by addressing the inadequate protection of intellectual property rights. Italy has also taken actions to address non-market oriented policies and practices.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Stacy Chen

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to enforce existing international rules and develop new rules where needed to foster a truly level playing field, addressing in particular non-market oriented policies and practices, and inadequate protection of intellectual property rights, such as forced technology transfer or cyber-enabled theft.

On 25 October 2018, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe met with Chinese leaders in Beijing for talks aimed at improving bilateral relations.⁵⁷³ At the talks, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang announced that China and Japan will “forge ahead opening-up, make market regulation fairer, strictly protect intellectual property rights and create a market-oriented, law-based and international business environment.”⁵⁷⁴

On 30 October 2018, Minister of Economy, Trade, and Industry Hiroshige Seko held a meeting with German Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy Peter Altmaier, where they signed the Japan-Germany Joint Declaration of Intent on economic policy and economic cooperation. This agreement covers cooperation in additional fields such as trade policies, space exploration, start-ups, and energy.⁵⁷⁵

On 1 December 2018, along with other G20 members, Japan participated in the release of a joint declaration from the Buenos Aires G20 Summit, which took place in Argentina from 30 November

⁵⁶⁹ India, Italy discuss ways to promote trade, investments (New Delhi) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.devdiscourse.com/article/business/396405-india-italy-discuss-ways-to-promote-trade-investments>.

⁵⁷⁰ India, Italy discuss ways to promote trade, investments (New Delhi) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.devdiscourse.com/article/business/396405-india-italy-discuss-ways-to-promote-trade-investments>.

⁵⁷¹ Italy joins China's New Silk Road project (Rome) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 15 May 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-47679760>.

⁵⁷² Italy joins China's New Silk Road project (Rome) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 15 May 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-47679760>.

⁵⁷³ Chinese premier calls for efforts to advance ties with Japan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 27 October 2018. https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1607795.shtml

⁵⁷⁴ Chinese premier calls for efforts to advance ties with Japan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 26 October 2018, Access Date: 27 October 2018. https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1607795.shtml

⁵⁷⁵ Minister Seko Signs Japan-Germany Joint Declaration of Intent on Economic Policy and Cooperation, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 30 October 2018, Access Date: 8 December 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1030_006.html

2018 to 1 December 2018. The declaration includes a provision that supports the protection of intellectual property rights.⁵⁷⁶

On 3 December 2018, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry issued a press statement announcing that on 6 December 2018, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Kazuyuki Yamazaki, Chinese Vice Minister of Commerce Wang Shouwen, and Korean Deputy Minister for Trade Negotiations of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy Yoo Myung Hee will meet in Beijing, China to attend the 14th round of negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement between Japan, China, and Korea.⁵⁷⁷

On 7 January 2019, the International Organization for Standardization approved the establishment of a committee for the development of international standards for the sharing economy, in response to a proposal raised by Japan.⁵⁷⁸ Led by Japan, the committee's aim is to issue new international standards.⁵⁷⁹

On 25 January 2019, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Hiroshige Seko attended and co-chaired an Informal Meeting of Ministers on the World Trade Organization E-commerce Initiative.⁵⁸⁰ Following the meeting, 76 WTO members, including Japan, issued a joint statement confirming their intention to commence WTO negotiations on “trade-related aspects of electronic commerce.”⁵⁸¹

On 1 February 2019, the EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement came into force, opening the biggest free-trade zone in the world.⁵⁸² The deal will remove roughly EUR1 billion in tariffs.⁵⁸³

On 19 February 2019, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry announced that the Japan Patent Office and the Intellectual Property of Viet Nam will “double the number of patent applications that Vietnam will accept via the Patent Prosecution Highway Program between Japan and Vietnam.”⁵⁸⁴

⁵⁷⁶ G20 Leaders' declaration: Building consensus for fair and sustainable development, G20 (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. https://g20.org/sites/default/files/buenos_aires_leaders_declaration.pdf

⁵⁷⁷ The 14th Round of Negotiations on a Free Trade Agreement among Japan, China and the ROK to be Held, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo), 3 December 2018, Access Date: 8 December 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1203_001.html.

⁵⁷⁸ ISO Approved the Establishment of a Technical Committee for International Standardization for the Sharing Economy in Response to Japan's Proposal (Tokyo), 7 January 2019, Access Date: 27 February 2019. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0107_002.html.

⁵⁷⁹ ISO Approved the Establishment of a Technical Committee for International Standardization for the Sharing Economy in Response to Japan's Proposal (Tokyo), 7 January 2019, Access Date: 27 February 2019. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0107_002.html.

⁵⁸⁰ Minister Seko Hosts Informal Meeting of Ministers on WTO E-commerce Initiative (Tokyo) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0125_004.html.

⁵⁸¹ Minister Seko Hosts Informal Meeting of Ministers on WTO E-commerce Initiative (Tokyo) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0125_004.html.

⁵⁸² “The EU thinks it's very important” – EU-Japan trade deal comes into force (Lyon) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.euronews.com/2019/02/01/the-eu-thinks-it-s-very-important-eu-japan-trade-deal-comes-into-force>.

⁵⁸³ “The EU thinks it's very important” – EU-Japan trade deal comes into force (Lyon) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.euronews.com/2019/02/01/the-eu-thinks-it-s-very-important-eu-japan-trade-deal-comes-into-force>.

⁵⁸⁴ Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Program with Viet Nam to be Expanded (Tokyo) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0219_001.html.

On 9 April 2019, the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry decided to extend its ban on all trade with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.⁵⁸⁵ This ban will be in effect from 14 April 2019 to 13 April 2021.⁵⁸⁶

On 10 May 2019, Japan appealed to the WTO for consultations with the government of India. Japan raised the issue of India's imposition of excessive tariff increases on information and communications technology since 2014.⁵⁸⁷

Japan has supported efforts to enforce existing international rules and develop new rules which help to foster a level playing field by addressing the inadequate protection of intellectual property rights. Japan has also taken actions to address non-market-oriented policies and practices.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Stacy Chen

United Kingdom: 0

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to enforce existing international rules and develop new rules where needed to foster a truly level playing field, addressing in particular non-market oriented policies and practices, and inadequate protection of intellectual property rights, such as forced technology transfer or cyber-enabled theft.

On 12 October 2018, the Department for Exiting the European Union admitted in a report that "existing agreements that deliver 12 percent of the UK's total trade will be lost if there is a no-deal Brexit." This is because "trade agreements enjoyed with scores of other countries, through EU membership, will 'cease to apply'" once the UK leaves the EU.⁵⁸⁸

On 16 October 2018, the government published guidelines for its approach to a "no deal" Brexit scenario with regards to UK intellectual property rights, covering "four key areas: trademarks and designs, patents, copyright and exhaustion of IP rights."⁵⁸⁹

On 18 October 2018, Secretary of State for International Trade Liam Fox pulled out of a business conference in Saudi Arabia "amid concern over the disappearance of the journalist Jamal Khashoggi." Government officials stated that he "had decided it was not 'the right time' and urged Saudi leaders to conduct a 'credible' investigation into Mr. Khashoggi's apparent death."⁵⁹⁰

On 1 December 2018, along with other G20 members, the UK participated in the release of a joint declaration from the Buenos Aires G20 Summit, which took place in Argentina from 30 November

⁵⁸⁵ Extension of Ban on Imports from and Exports to North Korea, Pursuant to the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act (Tokyo) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 15 May 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0409_004.html.

⁵⁸⁶ Extension of Ban on Imports from and Exports to North Korea, Pursuant to the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act (Tokyo) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 15 May 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0409_004.html.

⁵⁸⁷ Japan Requests Consultation with the Government of India under the WTO Agreement Regarding India's Measures Concerning Tariff Increase on ICT Products (Tokyo) 10 May 2019. Access Date: 21 May 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0510_001.html.

⁵⁸⁸ No-deal Brexit would wipe out deals that deliver 12% of the UK's total trade, government admits, The Independent (London) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 13 October 2018. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/brexit-latest-no-deal-trade-lost-12-per-cent-government-gdp-eu-a8580926.html>

⁵⁸⁹ Brexit: The UK Government Issues Guidelines on the Future of Intellectual Property Laws in the Event of a 'No Deal' Brexit, JDSUPRA (Sausalito) 16 October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/brexit-the-uk-government-issues-15191/>

⁵⁹⁰ Jamal Khashoggi: UK pulls out of Saudi Arabia trade conference over missing journalist, The Independent (London) 18 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/jamal-khashoggi-latest-saudi-arabia-trade-uk-conference-liam-fox-missing-journalist-a8590146.html>

2018 to 1 December 2018. The declaration includes a provision that supports the protection of intellectual property rights.⁵⁹¹

On 11 February 2019, the Department of International Trade signed a trade continuity agreement with Switzerland, which would guarantee post-Brexit continuity of various trade benefits currently offered through EU trade deals.⁵⁹² The department is also working to secure continuity agreements with various other countries whose mutual trade benefits would be lost post-Brexit.⁵⁹³

On 8 June 2019, International Trade Secretary Liam Fox stated that “the UK is one of the strongest defenders of the international rules-based system and we will continue to champion a strong, forward-looking approach to reform the World Trade Organization.”⁵⁹⁴ He added that it is one of the UK’s priorities to address “global trade tensions, seeking a resolution to issues around the WTO Appellate Body, and making real progress on digital trade rules that are fit for the 21st century.”⁵⁹⁵

On 10 June 2019, the UK and Korea signed a trade continuity agreement that seeks to maintain existing trade arrangements after Brexit.⁵⁹⁶ The agreement is roughly in line with the terms of the existing Korea-EU Free-Trade Agreement.⁵⁹⁷

The UK has taken actions to address non-market issues, aiming to foster a level international playing field. However, no quantifiable actions have been taken to address issues of intellectual property rights.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Faaris Hussain

United States: -1

The United States has failed to comply with its commitment to enforce existing international rules and develop new rules where needed to foster a truly level playing field, addressing in particular non-market oriented policies and practices, and inadequate protection of intellectual property rights, such as forced technology transfer or cyber-enabled theft.

On 17 September 2018, President Donald Trump announced that the U.S. will impose tariffs on 10 percent of Chinese goods, amounting to approximately USD200 billion, in response to China’s unfair practices and policies pertaining to technology transfer, intellectual property, cybersecurity, and

⁵⁹¹ G20 Leaders’ declaration: Building consensus for fair and sustainable development, G20 (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. https://g20.org/sites/default/files/buenos_aires_leaders_declaration.pdf

⁵⁹² UK Signs Brexit Trade Continuity Deal with Switzerland, The Guardian (London) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 27 June 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/feb/11/uk-signs-brexit-trade-continuity-deal-with-switzerland>.

⁵⁹³ UK Signs Brexit Trade Continuity Deal with Switzerland, The Guardian (London) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 27 June 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/feb/11/uk-signs-brexit-trade-continuity-deal-with-switzerland>.

⁵⁹⁴ UK calls for progress in reforming global trade rules at G20, GOV.UK (London) 8 June 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-calls-for-progress-in-reforming-global-trade-rules-at-g20>

⁵⁹⁵ UK calls for progress in reforming global trade rules at G20, GOV.UK (London) 8 June 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-calls-for-progress-in-reforming-global-trade-rules-at-g20>

⁵⁹⁶ UK signs post-Brexit free-trade deal with South Korea, BBC (London) 10 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-48577667>

⁵⁹⁷ UK signs post-Brexit free-trade deal with South Korea, BBC (London) 10 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-48577667>

innovation.⁵⁹⁸ President Trump stated that if China does not adopt fairer policies, the U.S. will impose further tariffs on up to 25 percent of Chinese goods by 1 January 2019.⁵⁹⁹

On 30 September 2018, the U.S. signed a trilateral trade agreement with Mexico and Canada titled the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA). CUSMA seeks to replace the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) by providing mutually beneficial terms of trade, expanding regional trade and production, growing small and medium-sized enterprises, and strengthening the overall economic relationship between the signatory countries.⁶⁰⁰ Also included in the agreement are provisions pertaining to the modernization of intellectual property rights between the signatories.⁶⁰¹ The agreement expands the terms of copyrights from the 50-year length initially enforced through NAFTA to 70 years after the life of the author.⁶⁰² Additionally, the CUSMA extends the protection of pharmaceutical drugs from generic competition for up to five years.⁶⁰³ The CUSMA also contains a clause that requires Canada to notify the signatories of any trade negotiations if it pursues further trade relations with non-market economies. In the event that a signatory country enters into a free trade agreement with a non-market economy, other CUSMA signatories may terminate the trilateral agreement with six-month prior notice, and replace the CUSMA with a bilateral agreement between the remaining two signatories.⁶⁰⁴

On 5 November 2018, the U.S. reinstated sanctions on Iran that were previously removed per the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), also known as the Iran Nuclear Deal.⁶⁰⁵ The nuclear deal was initially agreed upon by the United States, United Kingdom, France, Russia, China, Germany and the European Union in 2015.⁶⁰⁶ JCPOA intended to impose restrictions on Iran's nuclear program, and accordingly relax certain sanctions imposed upon the Iranian economy.⁶⁰⁷ The

⁵⁹⁸ Leonard, Jenny and Andrew Mayeda, Trump Tariffs to hit US200B of China Goods on Sept. 24, BNN Bloomberg (Toronto) 17 September 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/trump-tariffs-to-hit-200-billion-of-china-goods-on-sept-24-1.1138945>

⁵⁹⁹ Leonard, Jenny and Andrew Mayeda, Trump Tariffs to hit US200B of China Goods on Sept. 24, BNN Bloomberg (Toronto) 17 September 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/trump-tariffs-to-hit-200-billion-of-china-goods-on-sept-24-1.1138945>

⁶⁰⁰ Article 20.H.7: Terms of Protection for Copyright and Related Rights, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington) 1 October 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2017. <https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/files/agreements/FTA/USMCA/20%20Intellectual%20Property.pdf>.

⁶⁰¹ Article 20.H.7: Terms of Protection for Copyright and Related Rights, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington) 1 October 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2017. <https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/files/agreements/FTA/USMCA/20%20Intellectual%20Property.pdf>.

⁶⁰² Article 20.H.7: Terms of Protection for Copyright and Related Rights, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington) 1 October 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2017. <https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/files/agreements/FTA/USMCA/20%20Intellectual%20Property.pdf>.

⁶⁰³ Article 20.F.13: Protection of Undisclosed Test or Other Data, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington) 1 October 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2017. <https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/files/agreements/FTA/USMCA/20%20Intellectual%20Property.pdf>.

⁶⁰⁴ Article 32.10: Non-Market Country FTA, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington) 1 October 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2017. <https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/files/agreements/FTA/USMCA/32%20Exceptions%20and%20General%20Provisions.pdf>.

⁶⁰⁵ US unleashes sanctions on Iran, hitting oil, banking and shipping, BBC (London) 5 November 2018. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-46092435>.

⁶⁰⁶ US unleashes sanctions on Iran, hitting oil, banking and shipping, BBC (London) 5 November 2018. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-46092435>.

⁶⁰⁷ US unleashes sanctions on Iran, hitting oil, banking and shipping, BBC (London) 5 November 2018. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-46092435>.

reinstatement of sanctions comes several months following the withdrawal of the United States from the JCPOA and its targeting of Iran's oil exports, shipping, and banking sector.⁶⁰⁸

On 9 November 2018, U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Chinese Vice Premier Liu He discussed the potential of further bilateral negotiations regarding China's policies and practices of technology transfer, intellectual property, cybersecurity, and innovation. This meeting preceded the scheduled meeting between President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping during the G20 Summit in Buenos Aires in late November.⁶⁰⁹

On 20 November 2018, the Office of the US Trade Representative released an updated report on Section 301 of the 1974 Trade Act with respect to China's policies and practices towards technology transfer, intellectual property, cybersecurity, and innovation. In the report, the Office of the Trade Representative states that China violates Section 301 of U.S. intellectual property rights, insofar as it systematically invests in and acquires American property, companies and assets through Chinese companies. This obtained technology and intellectual property are then transferred to other Chinese companies. Moreover, the report states that China engages in unauthorized intrusions into the networks of U.S. companies to obtain classified commercial and trading knowledge.⁶¹⁰ The report also refers to the White House National Cyber Strategy from September 2001, which claims that "China engaged in cyber-enabled economic espionage and trillions of dollars of intellectual property theft."⁶¹¹ The report claims that despite repeated attempts by the U.S. to engage China with regards to its trade practices, China denies these claims and continues with its current policies.

On 30 November 2018, President Trump, along with Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto, formally signed the CUSMA at the G20 Summit in Buenos Aires.⁶¹²

On 1 December 2018, along with the other G20 members, the US participated in the release of a joint declaration from the Buenos Aires G20 Summit, which took place in Argentina from 30 November 2018 to 1 December 2018. The declaration includes a provision that supports the protection of intellectual property rights.⁶¹³

On 1 December 2018, President Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping held a private meeting at the G20 Summit in Buenos Aires, during which they agreed that the U.S. will not raise tariffs on Chinese goods from 10 percent to 25 percent on 1 January 2019. Instead, the U.S. will maintain its current tariffs for a period of 90 days. During the 90-day period, the U.S. and China will engage in negotiations pertaining to China's technology transfer, intellectual property protection, cybersecurity,

⁶⁰⁸ US unleashes sanctions on Iran, hitting oil, banking and shipping, BBC (London) 5 November 2018. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-46092435>.

⁶⁰⁹ Borak, Donna, U.S. and China Reportedly Resume Trade Talks Ahead of Trump-Xi Meeting, CNN (Atlanta) 11 November 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://www-m.cnn.com/2018/11/12/politics/us-china-trade-war-talks/index.html>

⁶¹⁰ Update Concerning China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington) 20 November 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/enforcement/301Investigations/301%20Report%20Update.pdf>

⁶¹¹ Update Concerning China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington) 20 November 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/enforcement/301Investigations/301%20Report%20Update.pdf>

⁶¹² Dangerfield, Katie, USMCA deal signed by Trudeau, Trump and Peña Nieto — finalizing months of negotiations, Global News (Toronto) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018.

<https://globalnews.ca/news/4714437/usmca-trade-deal-signed-canada-u-s-mexico/>

⁶¹³ G20 Leaders' declaration: Building consensus for fair and sustainable development, G20 (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. https://g20.org/sites/default/files/buenos_aires_leaders_declaration.pdf

and agriculture. If the two countries are unable to reach an agreement by the end of the 90-day period, the U.S. will then raise tariffs on Chinese goods from 10 percent to 25 percent.⁶¹⁴

On 24 December 2018, President Trump announced that the U.S. will delay a scheduled increase of tariffs on USD200 billion of Chinese exports.⁶¹⁵ The delay was enacted on the good faith of the American president that China and the U.S. will be able to achieve a comprehensive and bilateral trade deal. President Trump stated that he may conduct final-stage negotiations with President Xi in the future.⁶¹⁶

On 31 January 2019, President Trump engaged in trade discussions with U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Chinese Vice Premier Liu He in Washington DC. President Trump stated that the talks went well, but a final conclusion would not be reached until President Trump and President Xi meet once more.⁶¹⁷

On 14 February 2019, ministerial-level talks resumed between the U.S. and China over a period of two days. No conclusions were reached from the meetings.⁶¹⁸

On 1 March 2019, President Trump requested that China immediately remove all existing tariffs on U.S. agricultural exports. The request was made following progress during the previous round of talks between President Trump and President Xi.⁶¹⁹

On 1 March 2019, the Trade Representative of the U.S. at the WTO released a report declaring that the U.S. would continue to oppose practices enforced by the WTO that are deemed unfair. In particular, the report states that the trade policy of the U.S. will not be further influenced by the WTO. The US will further disallow the WTO Appellate Body to allegedly “force” the U.S. to engage in a “straitjacket of obligations.”⁶²⁰ The report also defended the US’ steel and aluminum tariffs on the basis of national security.⁶²¹

⁶¹⁴ Statement from the Press Secretary Regarding the President's Working Dinner with China (Washington) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/statement-press-secretary-regarding-presidents-working-dinner-china/>

⁶¹⁵ Lynch, David J., Trump Delays Increase in Tariffs on China, Citing Progress in Trade Talks, Washington Post (Washington DC) 24 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/trump-delays-increase-in-tariffs-on-china-citing-progress-in-trade-talks/2019/02/24/273198aa-388c-11e9-a2cd-307b06d0257b_story.html

⁶¹⁶ Lynch, David J., Trump Delays Increase in Tariffs on China, Citing Progress in Trade Talks, Washington Post (Washington DC) 24 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/trump-delays-increase-in-tariffs-on-china-citing-progress-in-trade-talks/2019/02/24/273198aa-388c-11e9-a2cd-307b06d0257b_story.html.

⁶¹⁷ Leonard, Jenny, Trump to Meet China Trade Negotiator in Final Day of Talks, Bloomberg (New York) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-01-30/u-s-china-hold-first-day-of-trade-talks-amid-wide-differences>.

⁶¹⁸ Fairclough, Owen, Timeline: US-China Hold High-level Trade Talks as Deadline Looms, CGTN America (New York) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://america.cgtn.com/2019/02/13/timeline-us-china-hold-high-level-trade-talks-as-deadline-looms>.

⁶¹⁹ Behsudi, Adam, Trumps Demands Removal of China’s Agricultural Tariffs, Politico (Washington) 1 March 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2018. <https://www.politico.com/story/2019/03/01/trump-china-agriculture-tariffs-2794652>.

⁶²⁰ Alper, Alexandra and David Lawder, U.S. says rejects WTO's 'straitjacket' of trade obligations, Reuters (Toronto) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trade-china/u-s-says-rejects-wtos-straitjacket-of-trade-obligations-idUSKCN1QJ01R>.

⁶²¹ Alper, Alexandra and David Lawder, U.S. Says Rejects WTO's 'straitjacket' of Trade Obligations, Reuters (Toronto) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trade-china/u-s-says-rejects-wtos-straitjacket-of-trade-obligations-idUSKCN1QJ01R>.

On 9 May 2019, the U.S. held trade discussions with China in Washington DC. Ultimately, the two countries failed to reach a definitive agreement during this round of negotiations.⁶²²

On 10 May 2019, the U.S. raised tariffs from 10 per cent to 25 per cent on USD200 billion worth of Chinese imports.⁶²³ This increase of tariffs comes in response to failed trade talks held between China and the U.S. in Washington DC on 9 May 2019.⁶²⁴

On 17 May 2019, the U.S. announced that it had reached separate agreements with Canada and Mexico to suspend the tariffs imposed by the American government on steel and aluminum imports.⁶²⁵ The suspension of tariffs would come into effect on 19 May 2019.⁶²⁶

On 30 May 2019, President Trump announced that the U.S. would impose a 5 per cent tariff on all Mexican imports as of 10 June 2019.⁶²⁷ The President stated that tariffs were imposed in response to Central and South American migrants travelling through Mexico into the U.S. and the subsequent inaction of the Mexican government in addressing the issue.⁶²⁸ The tariffs will increase by 5 per cent every following month until October 2019, when the rate will freeze at 25 per cent.⁶²⁹

On 4 June 2019, President Trump stated that in future trade talks with the UK, the National Health Service (NHS) should be a part of the negotiations in a post-Brexit deal.⁶³⁰ Trump soon rescinded his comments, claiming that he did not see the NHS as a part of any future trade discussions with the UK.⁶³¹

On 7 June 2019, President Trump announced that the U.S. and Mexico reached a deal regarding immigration and security; all tariffs henceforth would be suspended.⁶³²

⁶²² Tariffs loom as US-China talks begin, CNN (New York) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019.

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/05/09/politics/china-trade-donald-trump-talks/index.html>

⁶²³ The US just raised tariffs on Chinese goods. China says it will hit back, CNN (New York) 10 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://edition.cnn.com/2019/05/10/business/china-us-tariffs-trade/index.html>.

⁶²⁴ The US just raised tariffs on Chinese goods. China says it will hit back, CNN (New York) 10 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://edition.cnn.com/2019/05/10/business/china-us-tariffs-trade/index.html>.

⁶²⁵ U.S. agrees to lift steel and aluminum tariffs from Canada, Mexico, Financial Post (Toronto) 17 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://business.financialpost.com/news/economy/update-1-u-s-nears-removal-of-tariffs-on-canada-mexico-metals-media>.

⁶²⁶ U.S. agrees to lift steel and aluminum tariffs from Canada, Mexico, Financial Post (Toronto) 17 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://business.financialpost.com/news/economy/update-1-u-s-nears-removal-of-tariffs-on-canada-mexico-metals-media>.

⁶²⁷ Trump's surprise tariff threat to Mexico threatens new NAFTA deal, Financial Post (Toronto) 31 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://business.financialpost.com/news/economy/trumps-tariff-threat-to-mexico-may-upend-trade-deal-undermine-the-economy>.

⁶²⁸ Trump's surprise tariff threat to Mexico threatens new NAFTA deal, Financial Post (Toronto) 31 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://business.financialpost.com/news/economy/trumps-tariff-threat-to-mexico-may-upend-trade-deal-undermine-the-economy>.

⁶²⁹ Trump's surprise tariff threat to Mexico threatens new NAFTA deal, Financial Post (Toronto) 31 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://business.financialpost.com/news/economy/trumps-tariff-threat-to-mexico-may-upend-trade-deal-undermine-the-economy>.

⁶³⁰ Trump: Britain's NHS should be 'on the table' in trade deal talks, Al Jazeera (Doha) 4 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/06/trump-britain-nhs-table-trade-deal-talks-190604131718068.html>.

⁶³¹ After backlash, Trump u-turns on UK health service in trade talks, Al Jazeera (Doha) 4 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/06/backlash-trump-turns-uk-health-service-trade-talks-190604221257710.html>.

⁶³² Trump claims undisclosed component to US-Mexico migrant deal, Mexico contradicts him, ABC News (New York) 10 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/trump-claims-undisclosed-component-us-mexico-migrant-deal/story?id=63603874>.

On 7 June 2019, the U.S. announced a new round of sanctions against Iran's petrochemical industry. The tariffs were imposed in response to Iran's continued support of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC).⁶³³

On 10 June 2019, President Trump announced that the U.S. and Mexico reached an undisclosed agreement under the CUSMA, specifically pertaining to immigration and security. President Trump stated that said agreement is awaiting ratification by the Mexican government. He further asserted that if the undisclosed agreement failed to be ratified, the U.S. would reinstate the tariffs it previously sought to impose by 10 June.⁶³⁴

On 10 June 2019, President Trump stated that the U.S. would impose further tariffs on Chinese imports if the two countries failed to reach a new trade agreement during the G20 summit in Osaka later in June.⁶³⁵ President Trump stated that he expects to hold talks with President Xi during the summit meeting, although China neither confirmed nor denied the possibility of a meeting between the two leaders.⁶³⁶

The United States has failed to comply with its commitment to support efforts to develop new rules, which help to foster a level playing field by addressing the inadequate protection of intellectual property rights. While the signing of the CUSMA agreement notably includes the modernisation of the protection of intellectual property rights, bilateral talks with China have resulted in protectionist measures that this commitment was designed to address.

Thus, the United States receives a score of -1.

Analyst: Alyssa Atef

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to enforce existing international rules and develop new rules where needed to foster a truly level playing field, addressing in particular non-market oriented policies and practices, and inadequate protection of intellectual property rights, such as forced technology transfer or cyber-enabled theft.

On 19 October 2018, the European Commission implemented the EU-Vietnam trade and investment agreement.⁶³⁷ This joint agreement seeks to strengthen the economic relationship between the EU and Vietnam by expanding trade and investment between the parties, reducing trade barriers and improving transparency in international trade.⁶³⁸ The agreement includes measures such as but not limited to: the opportunity for EU companies to place bids for public contracts with

⁶³³ Treasury Sanctions Iran's Largest Petrochemical Holding Group and Vast Network of Subsidiaries and Sales Agents, Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 7 June 2019. Access Date: 27 June 2019.

<https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm703>.

⁶³⁴ Trump claims undisclosed component to US-Mexico migrant deal, Mexico contradicts him, ABC News (New York) 10 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/trump-claims-undisclosed-component-us-mexico-migrant-deal/story?id=63603874>.

⁶³⁵ Trump to hit China with new tariffs if no deal at G20, Al Jazeera (Doha) 10 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.aljazeera.com/ajimpact/trump-hit-china-tariffs-deal-g20-190610182422313.html>.

⁶³⁶ Trump to hit China with new tariffs if no deal at G20, Al Jazeera (Doha) 10 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.aljazeera.com/ajimpact/trump-hit-china-tariffs-deal-g20-190610182422313.html>.

⁶³⁷ EU and Vietnam sign an agreement for better enforcement of forest law, governance, and trade, European Council (Brussels) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2018/10/19/eu-and-vietnam-sign-an-agreement-for-better-enforcement-of-forest-law-governance-and-trade/>.

⁶³⁸ Preamble to the EU-Vietnam trade and investment agreements, European Commission (Brussels) 24 September 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2018/september/tradoc_157337.pdf.

Vietnamese procurement markets, the removal of over 99 percent of all tariffs, the implementation of international environmental agreements and other sustainable development agreements, and the opening of the Vietnamese market for EU companies.⁶³⁹ Moreover, the pact includes provisions regarding intellectual property rights, which seeks to protect and enforce intellectual property rights in a way that promotes technological innovation and the dissemination of technological information.⁶⁴⁰ The agreement's provisions pertaining to intellectual property rights provide extended protection and strong enforcement measures, such as the comprehensive protection of EU-produced goods and technology from illegal duplication in Vietnam.⁶⁴¹

On 25 November 2018, leaders of the EU and United Kingdom approved an agreement that will continue the protection of EU trademarks, community designs, and plant varieties in the UK, following the exit of the UK from the EU. Under the agreement, trademark renewal dates, design rights for goods and services in the UK, and filing dates of trademarks will be maintained as per the regulations established by the EU. The UK will also honour the protection of unregistered community designs for three years following its exit from the EU. Finally, the UK will apply EU law to pending applications for supplementary protection certificates that pertain to the patent rights of pharmaceutical products and agrochemicals.⁶⁴²

On 1 December 2018, along with the other G20 members, the EU participated in the release of a joint declaration from the Buenos Aires G20 Summit, which took place in Argentina from 30 November 2018 to 1 December 2018. The declaration includes a provision that supports the protection of intellectual property rights.⁶⁴³

On 10 December 2018, the EU's Special Committee on Agriculture confirmed that an agreement was reached on 27 November 2018 between the Austrian Presidency of the Council and the European Parliamentary representatives. The agreement pertains to regulation of the labelling of spirit drinks and their protection through geographical indications (GIs). Notably, the agreement contains a provision that ensures the enhanced protection of GIs by allowing for seven additional years of protection in comparison to the equivalent World Trade Organization (WTO) agreement on intellectual property rights. The agreement thus aligns the spirit drink sector with the provisions outlined in the Lisbon Treaty and Common Market Organisation regulation.⁶⁴⁴

On 13 December 2018, the European Parliament approved the EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement, creating the world's largest free trade area. This agreement will eliminate over 97 per cent of export duties currently in place once it comes into effect in 2019.⁶⁴⁵ The EPA contains several key provisions, including the removal of Japanese duties on certain types of cheeses and wines imported

⁶³⁹ EU-Vietnam Trade Agreement, European Commission Press Release Database (Brussels) 17 October 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-18-6128_en.htm.

⁶⁴⁰ Chapter 12: Intellectual Property, EU-Vietnam Trade Agreement, European Commission (Brussels) 24 September 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2018/september/tradoc_157370.pdf.

⁶⁴¹ EU-Vietnam Trade Agreement, European Commission Press Release Database (Brussels) 17 October 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-18-6128_en.htm.

⁶⁴² Nayak, Malathi. EU Trademarks, Other IP Rights to Apply in UK Under Brexit Deal, Bloomberg Law (London) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://news.bloomberglaw.com/ip-law/eu-trademarks-other-ip-rights-to-apply-in-uk-under-brexit-deal>

⁶⁴³ G20 Leaders' declaration: Building consensus for fair and sustainable development, G20 (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. https://g20.org/sites/default/files/buenos_aires_leaders_declaration.pdf

⁶⁴⁴ Spirit Drinks: Agreement on Revamped Measures, European Council (Brussels) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2018/12/10/spirit-drinks-agreement-on-revamped-measures/>.

⁶⁴⁵ UK welcomes approval of new trade agreement with Japan, UK Government (London) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-welcomes-approval-of-new-trade-agreement-with-japan>.

from Europe and the expansion of beef exports from the EU into Japan. This agreement also allows EU companies to access procurement markets of 54 large Japanese cities. In particular, it will protect the names of products sold from their region of origin through the implementation of GIs.⁶⁴⁶

On 20 December 2018, the EU revised its initial case to the WTO in opposition of China's forced technology transfers.⁶⁴⁷ The revisions challenge Chinese laws that regulate the approval of investments made in the sectors of biotechnology and electric fields, as well as the approval of joint ventures across sectors.⁶⁴⁸ The EU alleges that such regulations restrict the economic and contractual freedom of investments and technology transfers operating in China.⁶⁴⁹

On 1 February 2019, the Economic Partnership Agreement between Japan and the EU came into effect, eliminating roughly EUR1 billion in tariffs.⁶⁵⁰

On 11 February 2019, the EU initiated a procedure to temporarily halt Cambodia's access to EU markets, initially implemented through the Everything But Arms (EBA) Act. Per the act, developing countries are granted the ability to pay few or no duties on exports to the EU in an effort to help developing countries grow economically. The agreement, however, stipulates that in the event of "serious and systemic violation of principles" by the developing country, the EU may suspend its trade preferences. Thus, the EU initiated a mechanism to suspend trade preferences for Cambodia given its stance that Cambodia has committed human rights violations over the past eighteen months. In doing so, the EU intends to bring Cambodia more closely aligned with its core United Nations and International Labor Organization obligations.⁶⁵¹

On 13 February 2019, the European Parliament ratified trade and investment agreements and the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the EU and Singapore.⁶⁵² Most notably, the trade agreement includes the following provisions: the elimination of customs duties, the removal of technical and non-tariff barriers to trade, improved customs cooperation, protection of intellectual property, expanded services and further economic opportunities for consumers and EU and Singapore businesses, and dedication to sustainable development.⁶⁵³

On 22 February 2019, a mission of the European Commission and the European External Action Service (EEAS) evaluated the status of human rights and labour conditions in Myanmar under the

⁶⁴⁶ EU-Japan Trade Agreement Enters into Force, European Commission Press Release Database (Brussels) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-785_en.htm.

⁶⁴⁷ EU Steps up WTO Action Against China's Forced Technology Transfers, European Commission Press Release Database (Brussels) 20 December 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6882_en.htm.

⁶⁴⁸ EU Steps up WTO Action Against China's Forced Technology Transfers, European Commission Press Release Database (Brussels) 20 December 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6882_en.htm.

⁶⁴⁹ EU Steps up WTO Action Against China's Forced Technology Transfers, European Commission Press Release Database (Brussels) 20 December 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6882_en.htm.

⁶⁵⁰ EU-Japan Trade Agreement Enters into Force, European Commission Press Release Database (Brussels) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-785_en.htm.

⁶⁵¹ Cambodia: EU Launches Procedure to Temporarily Suspend Trade Preferences, European Commission Press Release Database (Brussels) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-882_en.htm.

⁶⁵² Agreement with Singapore Set to Give a Boost to EU-Asia Trade, European Commission Press Release Database (Brussels), 13 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-906_en.htm.

⁶⁵³ Key Elements of the EU-Singapore Trade and Investment Agreements, European Commission Press Release Database (Strasbourg) 18 April 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-18-3327_en.htm.

mandate of the EBA Act.⁶⁵⁴ Following recent developments in Myanmar, the EU mission visited the country to determine the status of internally displaced persons and refugees, access to humanitarian aid, discrimination and hate speech, labour rights, media freedom, cooperation with the UN, and criminal law procedures.⁶⁵⁵ The mission to the EU and EEAS engaged in discussions with the government of Myanmar, Minister of International Cooperation, Minister of Information, Chief Minister and State Government in Rakhine, and Speaker of the Rakhine State Assembly.⁶⁵⁶ Additionally, the mission conducted visits to a Rohingya camp and met with Rakhine and Hindu communities in Myanmar. The mission also met with the Myanmar Press Council, activists, trade unions, and business organizations in Myanmar.⁶⁵⁷ Finally, the mission held talks with UN representatives including the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, UN Development Programme and the ILO. The European Commission and EEAS will thus evaluate findings to determine Myanmar's eligibility for continued trade preferences.⁶⁵⁸

On 28 March 2019, the EU welcomed a decision made by the WTO in support of the EU's stance that the U.S. must comply with WTO measures with regards to Boeing.⁶⁵⁹ According to the EU, the U.S. has illegally funded Boeing for a long period of time by providing them with a large number of grants.⁶⁶⁰ This allowed for Boeing to produce air crafts at a much cheaper price, to the detriment of Airbus market opportunities. The EU strongly condemned this practice and issued a ruling against the U.S. in 2012.⁶⁶¹

On 15 April 2019, the European Commission announced that the EU would engage in trade talks with the U.S. regarding conformity assessments and the removal of tariffs on industrial goods.⁶⁶² The talks are scheduled to take place between U.S. President Donald Trump and the President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker in July 2019.⁶⁶³

⁶⁵⁴ EU Monitoring Evaluates Progress on Human Rights and Labour Rights in Myanmar, European Commission Press Release Database (Brussels) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1331_en.htm.

⁶⁵⁵ EU Monitoring Evaluates Progress on Human Rights and Labour Rights in Myanmar, European Commission Press Release Database (Brussels) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1331_en.htm.

⁶⁵⁶ EU Monitoring Evaluates Progress on Human Rights and Labour Rights in Myanmar, European Commission Press Release Database (Brussels) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1331_en.htm.

⁶⁵⁷ EU Monitoring Evaluates Progress on Human Rights and Labour Rights in Myanmar, European Commission Press Release Database (Brussels) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1331_en.htm.

⁶⁵⁸ EU Monitoring Evaluates Progress on Human Rights and Labour Rights in Myanmar, European Commission Press Release Database (Brussels) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1331_en.htm.

⁶⁵⁹ EU scores final victory in the WTO Boeing dispute, European Commission Press Release Database (Brussels) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1892_en.htm.

⁶⁶⁰ EU scores final victory in the WTO Boeing dispute, European Commission Press Release Database (Brussels) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1892_en.htm.

⁶⁶¹ EU scores final victory in the WTO Boeing dispute, European Commission Press Release Database (Brussels) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1892_en.htm.

⁶⁶² EU-U.S. Trade: Commission welcomes Council's green light to start negotiations with the United States, European Commission Press Release Database (Brussels), 15 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2148_en.htm.

⁶⁶³ EU-U.S. Trade: Commission welcomes Council's green light to start negotiations with the United States, European Commission Press Release Database (Brussels), 15 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2148_en.htm.

The EU has supported efforts to enforce existing international rules and develop new rules which help to foster a level playing field by addressing the inadequate protection of intellectual property rights. It has also addressed non-market policies and practices.

Thus, the EU receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alyssa Atef

4. Macroeconomic Policy: Growth that Works for Everyone

“We will continue monitoring market developments and using all policy tools to support strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth that generates widespread prosperity.”

G7 Charlevoix Leaders Communiqué

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+1	

Background

Echoing the Canadian G7 presidency’s summit priority of inclusive growth, the 2018 Charlevoix summit communiqué states: “global economic outlook continues to improve, but too few citizens have benefitted from that economic growth.”⁶⁶⁴ The 2018 Charlevoix Summit acknowledges the sole use of traditional indicators of economic growth, such as gross domestic product, are insufficient to measure economic well-being and prosperity.⁶⁶⁵ The communiqué endorses the Charlevoix Commitment on Equality and Economic Growth to “eradicate poverty, advance gender equality, foster income equality, ensure better access to financial resources, and decent work and quality of life for all.”⁶⁶⁶ In an effort to improve living standards and facilitate inclusive growth for all sectors of the population, the G7 members commit to monitoring market developments and using all policy tools — fiscal, monetary and structural reforms — to generate widespread prosperity.⁶⁶⁷

Over the past decade, economic growth has been one of the foremost concerns of the G7. The approaches to achieving economic growth have relied on the utilization of different policy tools — monetary, fiscal and structural — with varying degrees of emphasis from one summit to another. At the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit, G7 members committed to using fiscal policy and structural reforms to “foster growth by promoting education and innovation” and “increasing productivity by further implementing structural reforms.”⁶⁶⁸ At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 members affirmed the collective intention to use all policy tools at their disposal to “strengthen global demand and address supply constraints, while continuing our efforts to put debt on a sustainable path.”⁶⁶⁹ At the

⁶⁶⁴ G7 Charlevoix Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

⁶⁶⁵ G7 Charlevoix Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

⁶⁶⁶ G7 Charlevoix Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

⁶⁶⁷ G7 Charlevoix Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

⁶⁶⁸ G7 Schloss Elmau Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

⁶⁶⁹ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

2017 Taormina Summit, a key economic commitment affirmed by G7 members was to “use all policy tools — monetary, fiscal, and structural — individually and collectively to achieve strong, sustainable, balance and inclusive growth.”⁶⁷⁰

Commitment Features

Part One: Monitoring Market Developments

The first part of this commitment, to “continue monitoring market developments,” refers to the self-accountability of G7 members in supervising their domestic market developments.⁶⁷¹ This commitment does not necessitate the surveillance or collection of data, but G7 members can substantiate their pledge to “monitor” such developments through actions including but not limited to providing a report, following-up on promises, and employing other self-accountability mechanisms.⁶⁷² Such monitoring can be applied to examples such as the labor or financial markets.

A. Labour Market Development

With regards to the labour market, examples of compliance with monitoring market developments include collaboration with the private sector to ensure that education and workforce development keep pace with technological changes and meet the changing needs of the labour market, or adapting social protection systems to support those in non-standard forms of work.⁶⁷³

The G7 communique also emphasizes gender equality in ensuring that the labor market is developing towards inclusiveness.⁶⁷⁴ Examples of compliance to the gender dimension of this commitment would include but is not limited to: increased efforts to reduce the gender pay gap, encouraging female leadership in corporations, ensuring inclusive hiring processes and allocating resources towards programming and benefits for maternity and parental leave.⁶⁷⁵

The G7 member also committed to inclusive marketed developments by ensuring equal access to opportunity for all citizens “as reflected by the incomes and opportunities for education within families across generations.”⁶⁷⁶ Examples of measures to address this issue include programs and policies that support individuals from families that historically have not been able to attend post-secondary school due to socio-economic or historical circumstances.⁶⁷⁷ Other examples include measures to make education accessible to age groups that are not conventionally included.⁶⁷⁸

⁶⁷⁰ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

⁶⁷¹ Compliance Coding Guide for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2 May 2016. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/index.html>

⁶⁷² Compliance Coding Guide for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2 May 2016. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/index.html>

⁶⁷³ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

⁶⁷⁴ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

⁶⁷⁵ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

⁶⁷⁶ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

⁶⁷⁷ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

⁶⁷⁸ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

B. Financial Market Development

Examples of inclusive financial market development may include private-public partnerships to foster inclusivity in business ecosystems, or regulations and market policies to ensure that competition is viewed as a source of long-term growth.⁶⁷⁹ Other forms of inclusive financial market development may include the digitalization of the economy, such as regulations of cryptocurrency, or acts to close digital loopholes for tax evasion through the use of non-traditional forms of currency.⁶⁸⁰

To achieve compliance in the first section of this commitment, the G7 member must demonstrate that it has continuously monitored market developments such as the aforementioned examples.

Part Two: Using Policy Tools

The second part of this commitment is concerned with the implementation of policy reforms to ensure that market developments are “strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive.”⁶⁸¹ “All policy tools” is interpreted as fiscal policy, monetary policy, and structural reforms — the three pillars of macroeconomic policy tools.

To define the respective macroeconomic policy tools: monetary policy is the macroeconomic policy laid down by the central bank. It involves the management of the money supply and interest rate and is the demand side economic policy used by the government of a country to achieve macroeconomic objectives like inflation, consumption, growth, and liquidity. Fiscal policy is the means by which a government adjusts its spending levels and tax rates to monitor and influence a nation’s economy. It is the sister strategy to monetary policy through which a central bank influences a nation’s money supply. Structural reform refers to a set of economic policies often introduced as a condition for gaining a loan from the International Monetary Fund. Structural adjustment policies usually involve a combination of free-market policies such as privatization, fiscal austerity, free trade, and deregulation.⁶⁸²

Examples of each policy tool are listed below.

A. Fiscal Policy: investing in infrastructure that stimulates job creation, accessible education, programming for digital literacy, foundational and social skills.

B. Monetary Policy: reaffirming exchange rate commitments made in Bari during the G7 finance ministers and central banks governor meet during Italy’s G7 Presidency in 2017. This exchange rate commitment strives to reduce global imbalances in a way that supports global growth and refrain from targeted exchange rates or currency devaluation for competitive purposes.

C. Structural Reforms: creating an inclusive and fair tax system that supports continuous tax capacity-building to advance sustainable development.⁶⁸³ This addresses issues of tax evasion, corruption, money laundering, and terrorist financing. Such actions also incorporate elements of fair tax regulation by creating a job market whereby individuals cannot escape paying taxes, particularly for

⁶⁷⁹ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

⁶⁸⁰ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

⁶⁸¹ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

⁶⁸² 2016 G20 Hangzhou Summit Final Compliance Report, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 6 July 2017. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/compliance/2016hangzhou-final/2016-g20-final-compliance.pdf>

⁶⁸³ G7 Finance Ministers and Central Banks Governors Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Bari) 13 May 2017. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/finance/170513-communique.html>

individuals employed in non-standard forms of work (ex. Informal employment of payment by cash).⁶⁸⁴

To achieve full compliance, the G7 member must both monitor market developments and leverage all three types of policy tools (fiscal, monetary, and structural reforms, as defined above) to support strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth. Partial compliance will be scored if the G7 member only complied with the former or latter half of this commitment. This means that the G7 member takes actions toward implementing some or all three policy tools, or continues to monitor market developments. Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be assigned if the G7 member fails to monitor market developments, and did not use any of the three policy tools to support inclusive growth.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member did NOT continue to monitor market developments AND has made NO progress towards using all three policy tools to support strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth.
0	The G7 member continued to monitor market developments OR made SOME progress towards using all three policy tools to support strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth.
+1	The G7 member continued to monitor market developments AND used all three policy tools to support strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth.

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Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to continue monitoring market developments and using all policy tools to support strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth that generates widespread prosperity.

On 13 June 2018, the Bank of Canada announced its partnership with the Creative Destruction Lab. This partnership aims to gain a better understanding of the latest cutting-edge technologies such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, crypto-asset technologies, and quantum computing.⁶⁸⁵

On 21 June 2018, the Department of Finance Canada welcomed the Royal Assent of the Budget Implementation Act, 2018, No. 1.⁶⁸⁶ It introduced the Canada Workers Benefit, which “will allow low-income workers to take home more money while they work.”⁶⁸⁷ Further, it strengthened the Canada Child Benefit by pegging the benefits that families receive for raising their children with inflation.

⁶⁸⁴ G7 Finance Ministers and Central Banks Governors Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Bari) 13 May 2017. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/finance/170513-communiqué.html>

⁶⁸⁵ Bank of Canada Partners with Creative Destruction Lab to Deepen Knowledge of New Technologies, Bank of Canada (Ottawa) 13 June 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.bankofcanada.ca/2018/06/bank-canada-partners-with-creative-destruction-lab/>

⁶⁸⁶ Government’s Plan to Strengthen and Grow the Middle Class Receives Royal Assent, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n18/18-051-eng.asp>

⁶⁸⁷ Government’s Plan to Strengthen and Grow the Middle Class Receives Royal Assent, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n18/18-051-eng.as>

On 21 June 2018, the Government of Canada introduced legislation known as the Multilateral Instrument in Parliament to fight “tax avoidance strategies that lead to base erosion and profit shifting.”⁶⁸⁸

On 16 July 2018, the Government of Canada introduced a programme titled “Future Skills.”⁶⁸⁹ This programme intends to “help Canadians prepare for, get and keep jobs as innovation and technology continue to place new demands on workers’ skills and training.”⁶⁹⁰ Automation, robotics and artificial intelligence are a few examples of the programming being introduced.⁶⁹¹

On 9 August 2018, the Department of Finance Canada announced that the Canadian Government is working with private credit card unions such as Visa and MasterCard to lower interchange fees for Canada’s small and medium-sized businesses.⁶⁹²

On 13 September 2018, the Government of Canada announced a further reduction in the Employment Insurance premium rate for Canadian workers.⁶⁹³ The program was designed to help Canadians in times of need and to make “maternity and parental benefits more flexible and inclusive.”⁶⁹⁴

On 30 September 2018, the United States, Canada, and Mexico reached an agreement on a new trilateral trade agreement known as the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA).⁶⁹⁵ The agreement will commit the parties to refrain from competitive currency devaluations. It will also introduce mechanisms to review currency policy, once it enters into force.⁶⁹⁶ Furthermore, the agreement includes provisions to enforce anti-corruption laws and enhance government transparency.⁶⁹⁷

⁶⁸⁸ Parliament Supports Next Step in Fight Against Aggressive International Tax Avoidance, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n18/18-052-eng.asp>

⁶⁸⁹ Future Skills, Employment and Social Development Canada (Ottawa) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/future-skills.html>

⁶⁹⁰ Future Skills, Employment and Social Development Canada (Ottawa) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/future-skills.html>

⁶⁹¹ Future Skills, Employment and Social Development Canada (Ottawa) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/future-skills.html>

⁶⁹² New Agreements to Deliver Lower Credit Card Costs for Small and Medium-Sized Businesses, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 9 August 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n18/18-069-eng.asp>

⁶⁹³ Statement on the Employment Insurance Premium Rate Change for 2019 by the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, Department of Finance Canada (Gatineau) 13 September 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n18/18-078-eng.asp>

⁶⁹⁴ Statement on the Employment Insurance Premium Rate Change for 2019 by the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, Department of Finance Canada (Gatineau) 13 September 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n18/18-078-eng.asp>

⁶⁹⁵ Joint Statement from United States Representative Robert Lighthizer and Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 30 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/09/joint-statement-from-united-states-trade-representative-robert-lighthizer-and-canadian-foreign-affairs-minister-chrystia-freeland.html>

⁶⁹⁶ Joint Statement by the Secretary of the Treasury and Finance Minister of Mexico, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 17 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm527>

⁶⁹⁷ United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement Text, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 1 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://ustr.gov/trade-agreements/free-trade-agreements/united-states-mexico-canada-agreement/united-states-mexico>

On 10 October 2018, the Bank of Canada launched the Partnerships in Innovation and Technology program. This program works with the private sector to “fast-track innovation in its economic analysis and research, as well as in its day-to-day operations.”⁶⁹⁸

On 19 October 2018, the Government of Canada announced the launch of the Women Entrepreneurship Fund to advance gender equality and help women-owned and women-led businesses in Canada.⁶⁹⁹

On 19 October 2018, the Government of Canada announced an investment commitment of up to CAD49.9 million to protect Canadian steelworkers in Ontario and Quebec.⁷⁰⁰ This investment aims to support the steel producers’ capabilities to enhance their productivity and sustain their competitiveness.

On 25 October 2018, Finance Minister Bill Morneau tabled a Notice of Ways and Means Motion in Parliament.⁷⁰¹ This motion is intended to provide “more help to Canadians most in need, including low-income workers, families, and children.”⁷⁰²

On 26 October 2018, the Government of Canada announced an investment of CAD5.3 million for John J. Sark Memorial School, a school located in an indigenous community on Prince Edward Island.⁷⁰³ This investment will bring upgrades to school facilities and provide “spaces for Mi’kmaq language and culture education.”⁷⁰⁴

On 29 October 2018, the Government of Canada introduced the Pay Equity Act.⁷⁰⁵ The legislation will ensure that women working in federally regulated workplaces will be fairly compensated for work

⁶⁹⁸ Bank of Canada Launches New Programs to Foster Collaboration with Innovators, Bank of Canada (Ottawa) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.bankofcanada.ca/2018/10/bank-canada-launches-new-program-foster-collaboration-with-innovators/>

⁶⁹⁹ Minister Ng Announces Funding for Women’s Entrepreneurship, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Delta) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2018/10/minister-ng-announces-funding-for-womens-entrepreneurship.html>

⁷⁰⁰ Government Announces Support for 6,400 Canadian Steel Workers in Ontario and Quebec, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Hamilton) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2018/10/government-announces-support-for-6400-canadian-steel-workers-in-ontario-and-quebec.html>

⁷⁰¹ Minister Morneau Takes Next Steps to Support Equality and Growth for A Strong Middle Class, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 25 October 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n18/18-099-eng.asp>

⁷⁰² Minister Morneau Takes Next Steps to Support Equality and Growth for A Strong Middle Class, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 25 October 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n18/18-099-eng.asp>

⁷⁰³ Lennox Island and Government of Canada Announces Expansion and Upgrades to John J. Sark Memorial School, Indigenous Services Canada (Lennox Island) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2018/10/lennox-island-and-government-of-canada-announce-expansion-and-upgrades-to-john-j-sark-memorial-school.html>

⁷⁰⁴ Lennox Island and Government of Canada Announces Expansion and Upgrades to John J. Sark Memorial School, Indigenous Services Canada (Lennox Island) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2018/10/lennox-island-and-government-of-canada-announce-expansion-and-upgrades-to-john-j-sark-memorial-school.html>

⁷⁰⁵ Government of Canada introduces historic proactive pay equity legislation, Employment and Social Development Canada (Ottawa) 29 October 2018. Access Date: 17 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/10/government-of-canada-introduces-historic-proactive-pay-equity-legislation.html>

of equal value.⁷⁰⁶ A Pay Equity Commissioner will be appointed to educate employers and employees about their rights under the new law, and enforce the new regulations of the Pay Equity Act.⁷⁰⁷

On 14 November 2018, the Bank of Canada launched the Financial System Hub to promote “timely analysis and research on financial stability issues.”⁷⁰⁸ The Financial System Hub will aid in digitalizing the economy and promoting “a stable and efficient financial system.”⁷⁰⁹

On 21 November 2018, the Department of Finance announced its plan to foster economic growth in its 2018 Fall Economic State: Investing in Middle Class Jobs.⁷¹⁰ This plan includes measures to modernize federal regulations in order to sustain competitiveness, create a Social Finance Fund, and advance gender-based pay equity.⁷¹¹

On 11 December 2018, the Government of Canada launched the Apprenticeship Incentive Grant for Women.⁷¹² By providing grants of up to CAD6,000 per year, this initiative is intended to incentivize the participation of women in Red Seal trades, where they are currently under-represented.⁷¹³

On 13 December 2018, the Department of Finance Canada welcomed the Royal Assent of Budget Implementation Act, 2018, No. 2.⁷¹⁴ This plan includes the new Employment Insurance Parental Sharing Benefit, which will “encourage the broader participation of women in the workforce.”⁷¹⁵ It also aims to build a strong middle class and “make it easier for businesses to compete and Canadians to succeed.”⁷¹⁶

⁷⁰⁶ Government of Canada introduces historic proactive pay equity legislation, Employment and Social Development Canada (Ottawa) 29 October 2018. Access Date: 17 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/10/government-of-canada-introduces-historic-proactive-pay-equity-legislation.html>

⁷⁰⁷ Government of Canada introduces historic proactive pay equity legislation, Employment and Social Development Canada (Ottawa) 29 October 2018. Access Date: 17 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/10/government-of-canada-introduces-historic-proactive-pay-equity-legislation.html>

⁷⁰⁸ Bank of Canada Launches Digital Hub for Promoting a Stable and Efficient Financial System, Bank of Canada (Ottawa) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 17 December 2018. <https://www.bankofcanada.ca/2018/11/bank-canada-launches-digital-hub/>

⁷⁰⁹ Bank of Canada Launches Digital Hub for Promoting a Stable and Efficient Financial System, Bank of Canada (Ottawa) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 17 December 2018. <https://www.bankofcanada.ca/2018/11/bank-canada-launches-digital-hub/>

⁷¹⁰ 2018 Fall Economic Statement: Investing in Middle Class Jobs, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 21 November 2018. Access Date: 17 December 2018. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n18/18-107-eng.asp>

⁷¹¹ 2018 Fall Economic Statement: Investing in Middle Class Jobs, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 21 November 2018. Access Date: 17 December 2018. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n18/18-107-eng.asp>

⁷¹² Government of Canada launches new Apprenticeship Incentive Grant for Women to help them get certified in Red Seal Trades, Employment and Social Development Canada (Gatineau) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 17 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/12/government-of-canada-launches-new-apprenticeship-incentive-grant-for-women-to-help-them-get-certified-in-red-seal-trades--apply-today.html>

⁷¹³ Government of Canada launches new Apprenticeship Incentive Grant for Women to help them get certified in Red Seal Trades, Employment and Social Development Canada (Gatineau) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 17 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/12/government-of-canada-launches-new-apprenticeship-incentive-grant-for-women-to-help-them-get-certified-in-red-seal-trades--apply-today.html>

⁷¹⁴ Government’s Plan to Invest in the Middle Class Receives Royal Assent, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 17 December 2018. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n18/18-121-eng.asp>

⁷¹⁵ Government’s Plan to Invest in the Middle Class Receives Royal Assent, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 17 December 2018. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n18/18-121-eng.asp>

⁷¹⁶ Government’s Plan to Invest in the Middle Class Receives Royal Assent, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 17 December 2018. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n18/18-121-eng.asp>

On 18 December 2018, the Government of Canada announced the allocation of additional funding of up to CAD5 million to service providers across Canada over the next three years, in order to promote employment opportunities for newcomer women.⁷¹⁷

On 18 December 2018, Canada's Minister of Natural Resources announced the allocation of more than CAD1.6 billion for workers and their families in Canada's oil and gas sectors.⁷¹⁸ This action will foster the competitiveness of Canada's energy sector while providing employment programming to aid in training and skills development for workers to meet the changing needs of the labour market.⁷¹⁹

On 11 January 2019, the government of Canada announced the Digital Literacy Exchange program with an investment amounting to CAD750,000.⁷²⁰ This program will provide assistance to workers in need, especially newcomers to Canada, people with disabilities, and people from minority backgrounds. The program aims to support the development of up-to-date skills, ensuring that "no one is left behind as the world transitions to a digital economy."⁷²¹

On 23 January 2019, the Prime Minister announced special funding for Dene High School in La Loche, a remote indigenous community in Saskatchewan.⁷²² The funding will serve to support various services and programs for students, including cultural and language-based programs and mental health services, in an effort to provide quality education in an indigenous community.⁷²³

On 25 January 2019, the government of Canada announced an investment of CAD40 million in Nokia Canada.⁷²⁴ The investment will go towards the procurement and development of 5G

⁷¹⁷ Supporting Visible Minority Newcomer Women in St. John's, Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (St. John's) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 17 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/news/2018/12/supporting-visible-minority-newcomer-women-in-st-johns.html>

⁷¹⁸ Government of Canada Announces Support for Workers in Canada's Oil and Gas Sector, Natural Resources Canada (Edmonton) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 17 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/12/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-workers-in-canadas-oil-and-gas-sector.html>

⁷¹⁹ Government of Canada Announces Support for Workers in Canada's Oil and Gas Sector, Natural Resources Canada (Edmonton) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 17 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/12/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-workers-in-canadas-oil-and-gas-sector.html>

⁷²⁰ Government of Canada Investing in Teaching Digital Skills to Canadians Who Need Them Most, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Mississauga) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-investing-in-teaching-digital-skills-to-canadians-who-need-them-most.html>

⁷²¹ Government of Canada Investing in Teaching Digital Skills to Canadians Who Need Them Most, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Mississauga) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-investing-in-teaching-digital-skills-to-canadians-who-need-them-most.html>

⁷²² Prime Minister Announces Funding for La Loche High School, Office of the Prime Minister (La Loche) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/releases>

⁷²³ Prime Minister Announces Funding for La Loche High School, Office of the Prime Minister (La Loche) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/releases>

⁷²⁴ Government of Canada invests in research and development for technologies behind 5G networks, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Kanata) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 13 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-invests-in-research-and-development-for-technologies-behind-5g-networks.html>

infrastructure across Canada, and curate 5G technology to meet the needs of consumers and businesses alike.⁷²⁵

On 14 February 2019, the government of Canada announced the establishment of the Future Skills Centre and Future Skills Council.⁷²⁶ These institutions will help Canadian workers develop skills that meet the future challenges of the labour market by funding various research and development projects across Canada.⁷²⁷

On 19 March 2019, Canada's Finance Minister Bill Morneau introduced Budget 2019 – Investing in the Middle Class.⁷²⁸ Budget 2019 will introduce measures to make post-secondary education more accessible, strengthen tax compliance by enhancing existing government financial entities, create an annual CAD250 non-taxable credit for training programs, and increase investment in infrastructure via bilateral partnerships with the provinces and territories.⁷²⁹

On 3 April 2019, the Department of Finance amended the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation Act in an effort to build a more sound and resilient financial system.⁷³⁰ The amendments included improvements to the coverage of mortgage tax accounts and the removal of travellers' cheques.⁷³¹

On 15 April 2019, Canada's Minister of Small Business and Export Promotion announced up to CAD2,500,000 in funding through the Women Entrepreneurship Strategy Ecosystem Fund for an organization promoting women entrepreneurship.⁷³² This investment will promote women's economic empowerment and increase female participation in the workforce.⁷³³

On 18 April 2019, the government of Canada announced CAD41 million in federal funding for several Waterloo-based firms developing advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence and quantum computing.⁷³⁴ These investments will create new skilled jobs, encourage inclusive growth

⁷²⁵ Government of Canada invests in research and development for technologies behind 5G networks, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Kanata) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 13 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-invests-in-research-and-development-for-technologies-behind-5g-networks.html>

⁷²⁶ Government of Canada Takes Action to Ensure Canadian Workers are Prepared for the Jobs of Tomorrow, Department of Finance Canada (Toronto) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 2 March 2019. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n19/19-014-eng.asp>

⁷²⁷ Government of Canada Takes Action to Ensure Canadian Workers are Prepared for the Jobs of Tomorrow, Department of Finance Canada (Toronto) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 2 March 2019. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n19/19-014-eng.asp>

⁷²⁸ Budget 2019: Investing in the Middle Class to Grow Canada's Economy, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n19/19-022-eng.asp>

⁷²⁹ Budget 2019: Investing in the Middle Class to Grow Canada's Economy, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n19/19-022-eng.asp>

⁷³⁰ Government of Canada Promotes a Well-Functioning Financial System, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n19/19-038-eng.asp>

⁷³¹ Government of Canada Promotes a Well-Functioning Financial System, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n19/19-038-eng.asp>

⁷³² Minister Ng Announces Investment in Women Entrepreneurs, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Toronto) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/04/minister-ng-announces-investment-in-women-entrepreneurs.html>

⁷³³ Minister Ng Announces Investment in Women Entrepreneurs, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Toronto) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/04/minister-ng-announces-investment-in-women-entrepreneurs.html>

⁷³⁴ Government of Canada Partners with Digital Industries to Invest in Ground-Breaking Technology and Businesses, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Waterloo) 18 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-partners-with-digital-industries-to-invest-in-ground-breaking-technology-and-businesses.html>

through innovation, and continue to facilitate the economic growth of technology-based businesses in the Waterloo region.⁷³⁵

On 26 April 2019, the government of Canada announced final actions to protect Canadian steel workers whose jobs had been threatened by U.S. tariffs and other unfair trade practices.⁷³⁶ These measures included conducting comprehensive reviews of dumping cases and ensuring government support for domestic steel and aluminum industries in response to evolving market and social needs.⁷³⁷

On 24 May 2019, the federal government announced that it will invest approximately CAD2.2 million in seven development projects based in Yukon.⁷³⁸ This federal investment will further innovation and provide support for local entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized enterprises based in the region.⁷³⁹

Canada has demonstrated efforts to comply with its commitment to monitoring market developments by introducing pro-competition regulation and advancing inclusive skill-based training programs. Furthermore, Canada has effectively utilized all three policy tools to stimulate job creation and prevent tax base erosion.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Zemin Liu

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to continue monitoring market developments and using all policy tools to support strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth that generates widespread prosperity.

On 19 June 2018, at the ministerial meeting held in Schloss Meseberg outside Berlin, the German and French governments issued the “Meseberg Declaration.”⁷⁴⁰ Most notably, this declaration lays out joint proposals for advancing corporate tax harmonization within the European Union.⁷⁴¹ These

⁷³⁵ Government of Canada Partners with Digital Industries to Invest in Ground-Breaking Technology and Businesses, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Waterloo) 18 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-partners-with-digital-industries-to-invest-in-ground-breaking-technology-and-businesses.html>

⁷³⁶ Final Safeguards to be Imposed to Protect Canadian Steel Workers, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 26 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n19/19-046-eng.asp>

⁷³⁷ Final Safeguards to be Imposed to Protect Canadian Steel Workers, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 26 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n19/19-046-eng.asp>

⁷³⁸ Government of Canada investment boosts innovation and SMEs in Yukon, Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (Whitehorse) 24 May 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/northern-economic-development/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-investment-boosts-innovation-and-smes-in-yukon.html>

⁷³⁹ Government of Canada investment boosts innovation and SMEs in Yukon, Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (Whitehorse) 24 May 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/northern-economic-development/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-investment-boosts-innovation-and-smes-in-yukon.html>

⁷⁴⁰ Meeting of German and French government ministers in Meseberg, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018.

<https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Topics/Europe/Articles/2018-06-20-Meseberg.html>

⁷⁴¹ Meeting of German and French government ministers in Meseberg, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018.

<https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Topics/Europe/Articles/2018-06-20-Meseberg.html>

proposals were then presented by France and Germany to European Union agencies, including the Eurogroup and the Economic and Financial Affairs Council.⁷⁴²

On 1 August 2018, the French Parliament voted on the law “From the Freedom to choose One’s Professional Future.”⁷⁴³ The law will come into force on 5 September 2018, and it requires companies to be transparent about gender wage pay gaps and implement equal pay between genders. The law introduces financial consequences for companies that fail to meet these obligations. Companies must comply with these regulations by 1 January 2019.⁷⁴⁴

On 1 August 2018, Minister for the Economy and Finance Bruno LeMaire met with the Italian Minister of Economy and Finance, Giovanni Tria, to discuss economic and financial growth in France and Italy.⁷⁴⁵ Tria and LeMaire reiterated their commitment towards the “adoption of the European Commission’s proposal for a digital service by the end of 2018,” in order to promote greater efficiency in the collection of taxes.⁷⁴⁶ This meeting demonstrates France’s continued commitment to the digitalization of its economy and closing digital loopholes for tax evasion.

On 13 September 2018, President Emmanuel Macron unveiled plans for labour market reforms to combat poverty in France.⁷⁴⁷ This plan includes expanding childcare to enable parents and caregivers to join the labour force.⁷⁴⁸

On 18 September 2018, Minister for the Economy and Finance Bruno LeMaire introduced an action plan to ease regulations on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).⁷⁴⁹ This bill proposes various

⁷⁴² Meeting of German and French government ministers in Meseberg, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018.

<https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Topics/Europe/Articles/2018-06-20-Meseberg.html>

⁷⁴³ Adoption de la loi pour la Liberté de choisir son avenir professionnel, Ministère du Travail (Paris) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/adoption-de-la-loi-pour-la-liberte-de-choisir-son-avenir-professionnel>

⁷⁴⁴ Adoption de la loi pour la Liberté de choisir son avenir professionnel, Ministère du Travail (Paris) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/adoption-de-la-loi-pour-la-liberte-de-choisir-son-avenir-professionnel>

⁷⁴⁵ Press Release Number 120 of 08/01/2018, Ministero dell’ Economia e delle Finanze (Rome) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. http://www.mef.gov.it/en/ufficio-stampa/comunicati/2018/comunicato_0120.html

⁷⁴⁶ Press Release Number 120 of 08/01/2018, Ministero dell’ Economia e delle Finanze (Rome) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. http://www.mef.gov.it/en/ufficio-stampa/comunicati/2018/comunicato_0120.htm

⁷⁴⁷ Transcription de la présentation par la Président de la République de la stratégie nationale de prévention de lutte contre la pauvreté, Présidence de la République (Paris) 13 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <http://www.elysee.fr/declarations/article/transcription-de-la-presenteation-par-le-president-de-la-republique-de-la-strategie-nationale-de-prevention-de-lutte-contre-la-pauvrete/>

⁷⁴⁸ Transcription de la présentation par la Président de la République de la stratégie nationale de prévention de lutte contre la pauvreté, Présidence de la République (Paris) 13 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <http://www.elysee.fr/declarations/article/transcription-de-la-presenteation-par-le-president-de-la-republique-de-la-strategie-nationale-de-prevention-de-lutte-contre-la-pauvrete/>

⁷⁴⁹ Le Plan d’Action pour la Croissance et la Transformation des Entreprises en 10 mesures, Ministère de l’Economie et des Finances (Paris) 18 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018.

https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=B028C47F-6014-4B6F-A693-3F6AAA5B8436&filename=bro-18-24-pacte-web.pdf

structural reforms. It will reduce taxes on SMEs, ease their ability to secure financing, and aid smaller companies in setting up online platforms to export their goods and services.⁷⁵⁰

On 24 September 2018, the 2019 Finance Bill was presented to the Council of Ministers.⁷⁵¹ A central aim of the bill was to tackle France's high unemployment rate by implementing fiscal policy and structural reforms.⁷⁵² The government committed to investing EUR2.5 billion in skills development and the reduction of unemployment.⁷⁵³ The government also committed EUR8 billion to aid job-training programs for disadvantaged youth, in response to rising poverty.⁷⁵⁴ Furthermore, the Finance Bill aims to make French companies more attractive and stimulate competition with various structural reforms.⁷⁵⁵ The Finance Bill includes cuts in corporate taxes and simplification of the tax system.⁷⁵⁶

On 15 October 2018, the government of France launched the France Num initiative.⁷⁵⁷ The objective of the France Num initiative is to promote the digitalization of SMEs. The state will provide tools, funding, and resources to assist them with digitalization.⁷⁵⁸

On 22 November 2018, Prime Minister Edouard Philippe unveiled a new support system to serve French territories with strong industrial bases.⁷⁵⁹ The government will allocate approximately EUR1.36 billion in 124 industrial territories and provide administrative, technical and human resources.⁷⁶⁰ The multi-faceted program is intended to stimulate job creation in local industries and attract investments in the sponsored territories.

On 17 December 2018, the French government announced its intention to tax Google, Apple, Facebook, and Amazon, among several other large technology companies, effective 1 January 2019.⁷⁶¹ The taxation of large technology businesses is intended to ensure that they cannot use

⁷⁵⁰ Le Plan d'Action pour la Croissance et la Transformation des Entreprises en 10 mesures, Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances (Paris) 18 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018.

https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=B028C47F-6014-4B6F-A693-3F6AAA5B8436&filename=bro-18-24-pacte-web.pdf

⁷⁵¹ Budget 2019: soutenir le travail, investor pour l'avenir, Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances (Paris) 24 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/projet-loi-finances-2019>

⁷⁵² Budget 2019: soutenir le travail, investor pour l'avenir, Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances (Paris) 24 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/projet-loi-finances-2019>

⁷⁵³ The 2019 Finance Bill, Government of France (Paris) 1 October 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/the-2019-finance-bill>

⁷⁵⁴ Budget 2019: soutenir le travail, investor pour l'avenir, Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances (Paris) 24 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/projet-loi-finances-2019>

⁷⁵⁵ Budget 2019: soutenir le travail, investor pour l'avenir, Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances (Paris) 24 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/projet-loi-finances-2019>

⁷⁵⁶ Budget 2019: soutenir le travail, investor pour l'avenir, Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances (Paris) 24 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/projet-loi-finances-2019>

⁷⁵⁷ Lancement de France Num: un outil au service de la transformation numérique des entreprises, Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances (Paris) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018.

<https://www.economie.gouv.fr/lancement-france-num-outil-au-service-transformation-numerique-des-entreprises>

⁷⁵⁸ Lancement de France Num: un outil au service de la transformation numérique des entreprises, Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances (Paris) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018.

<https://www.economie.gouv.fr/lancement-france-num-outil-au-service-transformation-numerique-des-entreprises>

⁷⁵⁹ Accélérer le développement des territoires industriels, Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances (Paris) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/conseil-national-industrie-2018>

⁷⁶⁰ Accélérer le développement des territoires industriels, Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances (Paris) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/conseil-national-industrie-2018>

⁷⁶¹ Google, Apple, Facebook, Amazon, and other digital giants will be taxed as from 2019, French Government (Paris) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/google-apple-facebook-amazon-and-other-digital-giants-will-be-taxed-as-from-2019>

loopholes such as European tax havens to escape being fairly taxed. Minister of Economy and Finance Bruno Le Maire estimates that the tax will generate approximately EUR500 million in tax revenue.⁷⁶²

On 28 December 2018, the French Finance Act for 2019 was enacted.⁷⁶³ The act introduces several new anti-abuse rules intended to disqualify financial arrangements that are not genuine in nature or primarily used to obtain tax benefits contrary to the law.⁷⁶⁴

On 14 February 2019, in conjunction with the Ministry of Transport, the Ministry of Economy and Finance announced that it will be conducting a study on the competitiveness of the French supply chain.⁷⁶⁵ The proposed study will identify the strengths and weaknesses in France's logistics chain to ensure that it remains competitive for the various sectors of the French economy.⁷⁶⁶

On 8 April 2019, the National Assembly voted to introduce a new tax on large technology companies.⁷⁶⁷ The purpose of the proposed tax is to maintain a balanced and efficient tax system that enables the national government to continue investing in critical social services.⁷⁶⁸

On 11 April 2019, the Plan d'Action pour la Croissance et la Transformation des Entreprises (PACTE – Action Plan for Business Growth and Transformation) became law as its final text was adopted.⁷⁶⁹ The new law seeks to facilitate the growth of businesses in France by providing additional resources to SMEs, specifically by creating various investment channels and links between public research and the private sector.⁷⁷⁰

On 18 June 2019, Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire and central bank governor François Villeroy de Galhau announced that they will be forming a G7 task force to investigate Facebook's newly

⁷⁶² Google, Apple, Facebook, Amazon, and other digital giants will be taxed as from 2019, French Government (Paris) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/google-apple-facebook-amazon-and-other-digital-giants-will-be-taxed-as-from-2019>

⁷⁶³ Le Conseil Constitutionnel Confirme La Conformite Des Principales Dispositions Du Projet De Loi De Finances Pour 2019, Ministère de l'Économie et des Finances (Paris) 28 December 2018. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/presse>

⁷⁶⁴ Le Conseil Constitutionnel Confirme La Conformite Des Principales Dispositions Du Projet De Loi De Finances Pour 2019, Ministère de l'Économie et des Finances (Paris) 28 December 2018. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/presse>

⁷⁶⁵ Lancement d'une mission sur la compétitive de la chaîne logistique en France, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/lancement-dune-mission-sur-competitivite-chaîne-logistique-en-france>

⁷⁶⁶ Lancement d'une mission sur la compétitive de la chaîne logistique en France, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/lancement-dune-mission-sur-competitivite-chaîne-logistique-en-france>

⁷⁶⁷ GAFA tax: A major step towards a fairer and more efficient tax system, French Government (Paris) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/gafa-tax-a-major-step-towards-a-fairer-and-more-efficient-tax-system>

⁷⁶⁸ GAFA tax: A major step towards a fairer and more efficient tax system, French Government (Paris) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/gafa-tax-a-major-step-towards-a-fairer-and-more-efficient-tax-system>

⁷⁶⁹ PACTE, the Action Plan for Business Growth and Transformation, French Government (Paris) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/pacte-the-action-plan-for-business-growth-and-transformation>

⁷⁷⁰ PACTE, the Action Plan for Business Growth and Transformation, French Government (Paris) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/pacte-the-action-plan-for-business-growth-and-transformation>

launched crypto-currency, “Libra.”⁷⁷¹ The working group will research a regulatory framework to ensure that the cryptocurrency is not utilized for illicit activities.⁷⁷²

France has demonstrated efforts towards monitoring developments in the labour and financial markets and implementing all policy tools to promote and sustain economic growth.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Matthew Kronberg and Sana Shaban

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to continue monitoring market developments and using all policy tools to support strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth that generates widespread prosperity.

On 19 June 2018, at the ministerial meeting held in Schloss Meseberg outside Berlin, the German and French governments issued the “Meseberg Declaration.”⁷⁷³ Most notably, this declaration lays out joint proposals for advancing corporate tax harmonization within the European Union.⁷⁷⁴ These proposals were then presented by France and Germany to EU agencies, including the Eurogroup and the Economic and Financial Affairs Council.⁷⁷⁵

On 6 July 2018, Germany’s Federal Cabinet adopted the government draft of the 2019 federal budget and the financial plan to 2022.⁷⁷⁶ A total of EUR151.6 billion in investment spending is planned for the four years between 2019 to 2022, and a special focus will be placed on digitalization of the economy and education.⁷⁷⁷ Within the total spending, a special digital infrastructure fund of EUR2.4 billion will be allocated to support the expanding and upgrading of the broadband network and the implementation of the “digital compact for schools.”⁷⁷⁸ In addition, a total of EUR5.5 billion is

⁷⁷¹ Facebook’s Libra Currency Draws Instant Response From Regulators, Financial Times (Paris/London) 18 June 2019. Access Date: 23 June 2019. <https://www.ft.com/content/5535fb3a-91ea-11e9-b7ea-60e35ef678d2>

⁷⁷² Facebook’s Libra Currency Draws Instant Response From Regulators, Financial Times (Paris/London) 18 June 2019. Access Date: 23 June 2019. <https://www.ft.com/content/5535fb3a-91ea-11e9-b7ea-60e35ef678d2>

⁷⁷³ Meeting of German and French government ministers in Meseberg, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Topics/Europe/Articles/2018-06-20-Meseberg.html>

⁷⁷⁴ Meeting of German and French government ministers in Meseberg, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Topics/Europe/Articles/2018-06-20-Meseberg.html>

⁷⁷⁵ Meeting of German and French government ministers in Meseberg, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Topics/Europe/Articles/2018-06-20-Meseberg.html>

⁷⁷⁶ Draft 2019 budget and financial plan to 2022: forward-looking, fair and responsible, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 6 July 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/2018-07-27-2019-budget.html>

⁷⁷⁷ Draft 2019 budget and financial plan to 2022: forward-looking, fair and responsible, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 6 July 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/2018-07-27-2019-budget.html>

⁷⁷⁸ Draft 2019 budget and financial plan to 2022: forward-looking, fair and responsible, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 6 July 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/2018-07-27-2019-budget.html>

planned to be spent on improving childcare facilities.⁷⁷⁹ The Federal government is also planning to provide roughly EUR1 billion in funding for training, job placement and labour market integration measures targeting the long-term unemployed population.⁷⁸⁰

On 18 July 2018, the federal government adopted the “Key Points for a Federal Strategy on Artificial Intelligence,” which set out the government’s goals and fields of action for its artificial intelligence (AI) strategies.⁷⁸¹ The fields of action include: “funding for research into and development of AI, the transfer of research findings into commercial use, the fostering of new AI-based business models and products, and policy measures to ensure that the changes on the labour and training market are shaped in a socially acceptable manner.”⁷⁸² The Federal government is planning to run a nation-wide consultation process to finalize the AI Strategy, which will be presented at the 2018 Digital Summit in Nuremberg in December.⁷⁸³

On 18 July 2018, the Federal Cabinet decided to set up the “Equal Living Standards” (Gleichwertige Lebensverhältnisse) Commission, which comprises of Federal Ministers (such as Federal Minister for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth), provincial government officials, and local associations. The mandate of this commission is to provide concrete strategies and proposals on how to ensure equal living standards across Germany. It particularly focuses on issues relating to infrastructure construction, social service provision, and labor participation.⁷⁸⁴

On 10 August 2018, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy released a statement to announce that “inter-company vocational training centers can receive higher grants for digital equipment,” and the Ministry will fund “up to 90% of [companies] investment ... [in] ... further and advanced training [of workers].”⁷⁸⁵ This initiative is designed to improve the quality of vocational training for employees in small and medium-sized enterprises.⁷⁸⁶

On 22 August 2018, the Federal Cabinet announced its appointments to the newly-established advisory body, “the Digital Council.”⁷⁸⁷ This Council mainly comprises of experts in the fields of

⁷⁷⁹ Draft 2019 budget and financial plan to 2022: forward-looking, fair and responsible, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 6 July 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018.

<https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/2018-07-27-2019-budget.html>

⁷⁸⁰ Draft 2019 budget and financial plan to 2022: forward-looking, fair and responsible, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 6 July 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018.

<https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/2018-07-27-2019-budget.html>

⁷⁸¹ Artificial Intelligence, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 18 July 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Artikel/Technology/artificial-intelligence.html>

⁷⁸² Artificial Intelligence, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 18 July 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Artikel/Technology/artificial-intelligence.html>

⁷⁸³ Artificial Intelligence, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 18 July 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Artikel/Technology/artificial-intelligence.html>

⁷⁸⁴ Gemeinsam für gleichwertige Lebensverhältnisse in ganz Deutschland, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 18 July 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018.

<https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/gemeinsam-fuer-gleichwertige-lebensverhaeltnisse-in-ganz-deutschland/127204>

⁷⁸⁵ Higher Grants for Digitalization in Advanced Training Institutions, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 10 August 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018.

<https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20180810-hoehere-zuschuesse-fuer-die-digitalisierung-von-weiterbildungseinrichtungen.html>

⁷⁸⁶ Higher Grants for Digitalization in Advanced Training Institutions, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 10 August 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018.

<https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20180810-hoehere-zuschuesse-fuer-die-digitalisierung-von-weiterbildungseinrichtungen.html>

⁷⁸⁷ Digital Council — experts to drive us forward, The Federal Government (Berlin) 22 August 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/digital-council-experts-to-drive-us-forward-1504862>.

digital technologies, including academics and entrepreneurs. The Council will meet at least twice a year with the Chancellor and other members of the government. It is designed to facilitate public-private consultations about issues of digitalization.⁷⁸⁸

On 29 August 2018, the Federal Cabinet decided to establish a new agency to promote breakthrough innovations.⁷⁸⁹ This agency will allow innovation stakeholders (especially universities, non-university research establishments, and companies) to freely pursue research that has the potential for breakthrough innovations.⁷⁹⁰ It will financially support innovation experts to translate their groundbreaking findings into marketable products. The overall purpose of this agency is to create new products, new business models and new high-quality jobs in Germany.⁷⁹¹

On 5 September 2018, the Data Ethics Commission created by the Federal government began its operations.⁷⁹² This Commission comprises of 16 experts from various fields such as law, computer science, and ethics. Its tasks are to propose “ethical guidelines for making data policy and dealing with algorithms, artificial intelligence, and digital innovation and providing recommendations for action.”⁷⁹³

On 7 November 2018, the Economic Affairs Ministry of the Federal Government hosted the 2018 Mittelstand-Digital Congress to facilitate public-private conversation around artificial intelligence and digitalization of the economy.⁷⁹⁴ The focus of this conversation is on how small and medium-sized enterprises can benefit from artificial intelligence, as well as the potential challenges generated by digitalization.⁷⁹⁵

⁷⁸⁸ Digital Council — experts to drive us forward, The Federal Government (Berlin) 22 August 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/digital-council-experts-to-drive-us-forward-1504862>

⁷⁸⁹ Federal Cabinet decides to set up agency to promote breakthrough innovations, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 29 August 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20180829-gm-pm-bundeskabinett-beschliesst-agentur-zur-foerderung-von-sprunginnovationen.html>

⁷⁹⁰ Federal Cabinet decides to set up agency to promote breakthrough innovations, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 29 August 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20180829-gm-pm-bundeskabinett-beschliesst-agentur-zur-foerderung-von-sprunginnovationen.html>

⁷⁹¹ Federal Cabinet decides to set up agency to promote breakthrough innovations, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 29 August 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20180829-gm-pm-bundeskabinett-beschliesst-agentur-zur-foerderung-von-sprunginnovationen.html>

⁷⁹² Data Ethics Commission goes to work, Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community (Berlin) 5 September 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/EN/2018/data-ethics-commission.html>

⁷⁹³ Data Ethics Commission goes to work, Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community (Berlin) 5 September 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/EN/2018/data-ethics-commission.html>

⁷⁹⁴ Minister Altmaier: “AI is becoming a reality — also in the German Mittelstand,” Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 7 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20181107-altmaier-ai-is-becoming-a-reality-also-in-the-german-mittelstand.html>

⁷⁹⁵ Minister Altmaier: “AI is becoming a reality — also in the German Mittelstand,” Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 7 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20181107-altmaier-ai-is-becoming-a-reality-also-in-the-german-mittelstand.html>

On 26 September 2018, the “Equal Living Standards” Commission (Gleichwertige Lebensverhältnisse) began its operations.⁷⁹⁶ As Federal Minister of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth Franziska Giffey emphasizes, this Commission will be tasked with providing strategies to ensure universal access to social welfare programs across the entire country, especially access to education and job training.⁷⁹⁷

On 13 November 2018, the Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women, and Youth, in partnership with the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community, kicked off the second round of funding for the “Encouraging Youth in the Neighborhood” program.⁷⁹⁸ EUR97 million will be provided by the European Social Fund for Germany, and EUR4 million will be provided by the Federal Government.⁷⁹⁹ This funding will last for three and a half years, and it is meant to provide assistance to socially disadvantaged young people in their transition from school to work through measures such as vocational training.⁸⁰⁰

On 16 November 2018, the Federal Cabinet adopted the Federal Government’s Artificial Intelligence Strategy.⁸⁰¹ This strategy focuses on achieving the following objectives, including “accelerating the transfer of research findings to businesses, promoting the availability of skilled workers and experts, shaping the structural change in enterprises and on the labor market, adjusting the regulatory framework ... deepening European and international cooperation on AI issues and fostering the societal dialogue on the opportunities and the impact of artificial intelligence.”⁸⁰² The German Government is planning to allocate approximately EUR3 billion between 2018 to 2025 in order to implement the Strategy.⁸⁰³

⁷⁹⁶ Auftaktsitzung der Kommission „Gleichwertige Lebensverhältnisse,” Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/auftaktsitzung-der-kommission--gleichwertige-lebensverhaeltnisse-/128540>

⁷⁹⁷ Auftaktsitzung der Kommission „Gleichwertige Lebensverhältnisse,” Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/auftaktsitzung-der-kommission--gleichwertige-lebensverhaeltnisse-/128540>

⁷⁹⁸ Hilfen für junge Menschen beim Einstieg in das Arbeitsleben, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/hilfen-fuer-junge-menschen-beim-einstieg-in-das-arbeitsleben/130718>

⁷⁹⁹ Hilfen für junge Menschen beim Einstieg in das Arbeitsleben, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/hilfen-fuer-junge-menschen-beim-einstieg-in-das-arbeitsleben/130718>

⁸⁰⁰ Hilfen für junge Menschen beim Einstieg in das Arbeitsleben, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/hilfen-fuer-junge-menschen-beim-einstieg-in-das-arbeitsleben/130718>

⁸⁰¹ Federal Government adopts Artificial Intelligence Strategy, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20181116-federal-government-adopts-artificial-intelligence-strategy.html>

⁸⁰² Federal Government adopts Artificial Intelligence Strategy, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20181116-federal-government-adopts-artificial-intelligence-strategy.html>

⁸⁰³ AI — a brand for Germany, The Federal Government (Berlin) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/ai-a-brand-for-germany-1551432>

On 23 November 2018, the German Bundestag passed the 2019 budget plan, which was already adopted by the Federal Cabinet.⁸⁰⁴ Under this plan, a significant amount of funds will be used on “improv[ing] schools and childcare ... train[ing] the long-term unemployed ... developing digital infrastructure ... [and] on promoting research and on digital education for the people.”⁸⁰⁵

On 9 January 2019, the federal government passed the draft of the Strong Families Law.⁸⁰⁶ This law will support families with lower incomes, provide better opportunities for children to participate in education, redesign child’s allowance and supplement, and improve benefits for education and participation for children.⁸⁰⁷ According to the new law, by July 2019, the child supplement will increase to EUR185 per child per month and also be made available for single parents.⁸⁰⁸ Moreover, the benefits for education, such as school starter packages, will increase from EUR100 to EUR150 per year.⁸⁰⁹

On 20 February 2019, the federal Cabinet passed a bill to reduce illegal employment, combat social security fraud, and strengthen existing labour laws.⁸¹⁰ By reducing illegal employment, undeclared work and non-traditional forms of employment that do not feed into the tax system, the federal government will address tax base erosion by ensuring that individuals cannot escape paying taxes.⁸¹¹

On 20 March 2019, the federal Cabinet adopted the draft federal budget for 2020 and the 2020 – 2023 financial plan.⁸¹² The Cabinet adopted record investments, extensive tax cuts, and comprehensive steps towards social cohesion to ensure that “economic success reaches everyone in

⁸⁰⁴ Security for the generations to come, The Federal Government (Berlin) 23 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/security-for-the-generations-to-come-1554564>

⁸⁰⁵ Security for the generations to come, The Federal Government (Berlin) 23 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/security-for-the-generations-to-come-1554564>

⁸⁰⁶ Mehr Unterstützung für Familien mit kleinen Einkommen - Für starke Familien und gegen Kinderarmut, The Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/mehr-unterstuetzung-fuer-familien-mit-kleinen-einkommen--fuer-starke-familien-und-gegen-kinderarmut/132244>

⁸⁰⁷ Mehr Unterstützung für Familien mit kleinen Einkommen - Für starke Familien und gegen Kinderarmut, The Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/mehr-unterstuetzung-fuer-familien-mit-kleinen-einkommen--fuer-starke-familien-und-gegen-kinderarmut/132244>

⁸⁰⁸ Mehr Unterstützung für Familien mit kleinen Einkommen - Für starke Familien und gegen Kinderarmut, The Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/mehr-unterstuetzung-fuer-familien-mit-kleinen-einkommen--fuer-starke-familien-und-gegen-kinderarmut/132244>

⁸⁰⁹ Mehr Unterstützung für Familien mit kleinen Einkommen - Für starke Familien und gegen Kinderarmut, The Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/mehr-unterstuetzung-fuer-familien-mit-kleinen-einkommen--fuer-starke-familien-und-gegen-kinderarmut/132244>

⁸¹⁰ Neues Gesetz für mehr Ordnung Fairness auf dem Arbeitsmarkt, Bundesministerium de Finanzen (Berlin) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 13 March 2019. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Standardartikel/Themen/Zoll/2019-02-20-FKS.html>

⁸¹¹ Neues Gesetz für mehr Ordnung Fairness auf dem Arbeitsmarkt, Bundesministerium de Finanzen (Berlin) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 13 March 2019. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Standardartikel/Themen/Zoll/2019-02-20-FKS.html>

⁸¹² 2020 Federal Budget and Financial Plan 2020-2023: For cooperation and innovation, The Federal Government (Berlin) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/for-cooperation-and-innovation-1592412>

the country.”⁸¹³ Special attention will be given to digitalization, as over EUR5.5 billion will be used to develop the digital infrastructure of schools nationwide, “of which EUR5 billion will be provided by the Federal Government.”⁸¹⁴

On 20 March 2019, the Bundestag approved Strong Families Act.⁸¹⁵ This law will introduce improvements to the education and participation package, which aims to provide fair education and training opportunities to children regardless of their financial situation. Under the new law, funding for purchasing school materials will rise from EUR100 to EUR150 per student per school year, and families will no longer be required to “pay part of the cost of school meals and school transport.”⁸¹⁶

On 15 May 2019, the Cabinet approved an amendment to the Vocational Training Act, in order to attract more participants to dual vocational education and training.⁸¹⁷ Under this amendment, the federal government will offer minimum remuneration for trainees. The Cabinet states that: “initially, the minimum remuneration in the first year of training is to be 515 euros a month. In 2021, this will rise to 550 euros, in 2022 to 585 euros and in 2023 to 620 euros.”⁸¹⁸ Furthermore, this amendment will extend access to part-time vocational training to a larger population, including “migrants, refugees, people with learning difficulties and people with disabilities.”⁸¹⁹

On 23 May 2019, the federal government announced that it will invest EUR500 million in the implementation of its national Artificial Intelligence Strategy.⁸²⁰ The investment will focus on different aspects of AI promotion, including “research, transfer...public dialogue, impact assessment, skills and data availability.”⁸²¹ Around EUR230 million in funding will be invested in measures that “transfer AI expertise into practice,” and roughly EUR55 million in funding will support government

⁸¹³ Kabinett setzt Prioritäten für sozialen Zusammenhalt und ein modernes Land, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019.

<https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Pressemitteilungen/Finanzpolitik/2019/03/2019-03-20-pm-eckwertebeschluss.html>

⁸¹⁴ Kabinett setzt Prioritäten für sozialen Zusammenhalt und ein modernes Land, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019.

<https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Pressemitteilungen/Finanzpolitik/2019/03/2019-03-20-pm-eckwertebeschluss.html>

⁸¹⁵ Strong Families Act : More support for low-income families, The Federal Government (Berlin) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/chancellor/more-support-for-low-income-families-1593086>

⁸¹⁶ Strong Families Act : More support for low-income families, The Federal Government (Berlin) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/chancellor/more-support-for-low-income-families-1593086>

⁸¹⁷ Vocational Training Act: Further strengthening dual vocational education, The Federal Government (Berlin) 15 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/further-strengthening-dual-vocational-education-1611962>

⁸¹⁸ Vocational Training Act: Further strengthening dual vocational education, The Federal Government (Berlin) 15 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/further-strengthening-dual-vocational-education-1611962>

⁸¹⁹ Vocational Training Act: Further strengthening dual vocational education, The Federal Government (Berlin) 15 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/further-strengthening-dual-vocational-education-1611962>

⁸²⁰ Federal Government gives €500 million boost to funding for artificial intelligence, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 23 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190523-federal-government-gives-500-million-boost-to-funding-for-artificial-intelligence.html>

⁸²¹ Federal Government gives €500 million boost to funding for artificial intelligence, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 23 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190523-federal-government-gives-500-million-boost-to-funding-for-artificial-intelligence.html>

involvement in “public dialogue and participation, [AI] impact assessment...regulatory framework [establishment], and the promotion of [digital literacy] vocational training.”⁸²²

Germany has made significant progress in monitoring market developments and supporting strong, inclusive and sustainable economic growth. In addition, it has also promoted digitalization of the economy, particularly through the adoption of new AI strategies, and setting up new agencies for facilitating innovation and increasing government investment in digital infrastructure(s). Finally, it has made tangible efforts to utilize all policy tools to achieve sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Yu Wen

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to continue monitoring market developments and using all policy tools to support strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth that generates widespread prosperity.

On 1 August 2018, the Italian Minister of Economy and Finance Giovanni Tria met with Bruno LeMaire, the French Minister for the Economy and Finance, to discuss economic and financial growth in France and Italy.⁸²³ Tria and LeMaire reiterated their commitment towards the “adoption of the European Commission’s proposal for a digital service by the end of 2018,” in order to promote greater efficiency in the collection of taxes.⁸²⁴

On 8 August 2018, the Presidency of the Council of Ministers implemented EU Directive 2016/1164 to combat tax avoidance.⁸²⁵ The adoption of this legislation will align Italy’s policies with European Union policies, thus more effectively discouraging tax avoidance within its own market. The Council also approved legislation regulating market abuse, which intends to discourage insider trading, market manipulation and illicit communication of insider information.⁸²⁶ This legislation better conforms with the EU’s existing legal framework and regulates the trade of financial instruments on multilateral trading facilities and organized trading systems, commodity markets and emissions markets.⁸²⁷

On 15 August 2018, Minister of Economy and Finance Giovanni Tria made a statement in response to the tragic bridge collapse in Genoa.⁸²⁸ Tria stressed the importance of increasing public investment in public infrastructure and promoting intergovernmental cooperation.⁸²⁹ Tria’s statement affirms

⁸²² Federal Government gives €500 million boost to funding for artificial intelligence, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 23 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019.

<https://www.bmw.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190523-federal-government-gives-500-million-boost-to-funding-for-artificial-intelligence.html>

⁸²³ Press Release Number 120 of 08/01/2018, Ministero dell’ Economia e delle Finanze (Rome) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. http://www.mef.gov.it/en/ufficio-stampa/comunicati/2018/comunicato_0120.html

⁸²⁴ Press Release Number 120 of 08/01/2018, Ministero dell’ Economia e delle Finanze (Rome) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. http://www.mef.gov.it/en/ufficio-stampa/comunicati/2018/comunicato_0120.htm

⁸²⁵ Press Release of the Council of Ministers n.14, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 8 August 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <http://www.governo.it/articolo/comunicato-stampa-del-consiglio-dei-ministri-n-14/9813>

⁸²⁶ Press Release of the Council of Ministers n.14, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 8 August 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <http://www.governo.it/articolo/comunicato-stampa-del-consiglio-dei-ministri-n-14/9813>

⁸²⁷ Press Release of the Council of Ministers n.14, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 8 August 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <http://www.governo.it/articolo/comunicato-stampa-del-consiglio-dei-ministri-n-14/9813>

⁸²⁸ Dichiarazione del Ministro Tria sulla Tragedia di Genova, Ministero dell’ Economia e delle Finanze (Rome) 15 August 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. http://www.mef.gov.it/ufficio-stampa/comunicati/2018/comunicato_0130.html

⁸²⁹ Dichiarazione del Ministro Tria sulla Tragedia di Genova, Ministero dell’ Economia e delle Finanze (Rome) 15 August 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. http://www.mef.gov.it/ufficio-stampa/comunicati/2018/comunicato_0130.html

Italy's continued commitment to utilizing fiscal policy to promote investment in high-quality infrastructure.

On 3 September 2018, the European Investment Fund and Cassa Depositi e Prestiti launched a guarantee program under the Cultural and Creative Sectors Guarantee Facility. The program amounts to EUR300 million in loans available to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) operating in the creative and cultural sectors.⁸³⁰

On 27 September 2018, the government proposed its 2018 Budget Plan. It proposes the allocation of EUR15 billion over the next three years to invest in infrastructure, artificial intelligence, energy efficiency, and new technologies.⁸³¹ The European Commission has requested that the government present a revised budgetary draft plan, on the grounds that its previous draft was non-compliant with the fiscal recommendations of the Council of the European Union.⁸³² The budgetary draft plan proposed additional funding for technical and professional institutions, in order to increase training for professionals in industries for which there is high demand. In addition, the plan proposes the reduction of costs for start-ups and innovative SMEs.⁸³³

On 4 October 2018, Minister of Infrastructures and Transports Danilo Toninelli and President of the National Anti-Corruption Authority Raffaele Cantone signed a framework to enhance transparency between the two bodies.⁸³⁴ The framework is intended to reinforce transparency in public administrative practices, implementation of government contracts and lobbying by private entities.⁸³⁵ The framework highlights Italy's commitment to implementing structural reforms in order to combat corruption in public administration.

On 15 October 2018, the Council of Ministers approved legislation to provide additional funding to start-ups researching blockchain technology with a venture capital fund provided by Cassa Depositi e Prestiti.⁸³⁶ Furthermore, the legislation will reduce the cost of start-ups and SMEs.⁸³⁷ This legislation promotes Italy's commitment to building an inclusive financial market.

⁸³⁰ EUR300 million for Italian SMEs in creative and cultural sectors, European Commission (Rome) 3 September 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/eur-300-million-italian-smes-creative-and-cultural-sectors-2018-sep-03_en

⁸³¹ Press release of the council of ministers, n.23, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <http://www.governo.it/articolo/comunicato-stampa-del-consiglio-dei-ministri-n-23/10148>

⁸³² Commission Work Programme for 2019 and draft budgetary plan of Italy, European Commission (Strasbourg) 23 October 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/commission-work-programme-2019-and-draft-budgetary-plan-italy-2018-oct-23_en

⁸³³ Press Release of the Council of Ministers n.23, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <http://www.governo.it/articolo/comunicato-stampa-del-consiglio-dei-ministri-n-23/10148>

⁸³⁴ Firmato accordo quadro MIT-ANAC: sinergia per legalità e trasparenza, Ministero delle Infrastrutture e dei Trasporti (Rome) 4 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <http://www.mit.gov.it/comunicazione/news/anac-accordo-quadro/firmato-accordo-quadro-mit-anac-sinergia-per-legalita-e>

⁸³⁵ Firmato accordo quadro MIT-ANAC: sinergia per legalità e trasparenza, Ministero delle Infrastrutture e dei Trasporti (Rome) 4 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <http://www.mit.gov.it/comunicazione/news/anac-accordo-quadro/firmato-accordo-quadro-mit-anac-sinergia-per-legalita-e>

⁸³⁶ Press Release of the Council of Ministers n.23, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <http://www.governo.it/articolo/comunicato-stampa-del-consiglio-dei-ministri-n-23/10148>

⁸³⁷ Press Release of the Council of Ministers n.23, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <http://www.governo.it/articolo/comunicato-stampa-del-consiglio-dei-ministri-n-23/10148>

On 19 October 2018, the European Investment Fund (EIF) and Cassa di Risparmio di Bolzano–Südtiroler Sparkasse (CRB) announced an agreement with the objective of providing loans “on favourable terms to innovative SMEs and small mid-caps.”⁸³⁸ The EIF and CRB agreed on a EUR60 million portfolio that will support innovative businesses in Italy.⁸³⁹

On 27 November 2018, the Council of Ministers implemented European Union Council Directive 2016/1164 concerning anti-tax avoidance.⁸⁴⁰ The new legislation amends existing tax legislation to prevent and counter profit-shifting and tax base erosion by multinational corporations.⁸⁴¹

On 18 December 2018, the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies published a report entitled “Il Mercato Del Lavoro,” or “the labour market”. This report focuses on implementing a common informational and statistical system to provide harmonized data regarding Italy’s labour market.⁸⁴²

On 25 February 2019, the Ministry of Economy and Finance announced a bilateral agreement with the region of Friuli-Venezia Giulia.⁸⁴³ The government will allocate EUR400 million to public works between 2019-2025 and provide an additional EUR80 million for healthcare investments.⁸⁴⁴

On 4 March 2019, Luigi Di Maio unveiled the National Innovation Fund.⁸⁴⁵ The initiative has a budget of EUR1 billion. It is intended to support innovative companies and bring together public and private resources to meet this objective.⁸⁴⁶

On 2 April 2019, the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport announced that it will allocate EUR240 million to the freight transport sector over a three-year period (2019-2021).⁸⁴⁷ The funding will provide reimbursements for motorway tolls, training, travel expenses, and freight fleet renewal.⁸⁴⁸

⁸³⁸ Investment Plan for Europe: EUR60 million of EU supported finance for innovative businesses in Italy, European Commission (Luxembourg) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eur-60-million-eu-supported-finance-innovative-businesses-italy-2018-oct-19_en

⁸³⁹ Investment Plan for Europe: EUR60 million of EU supported finance for innovative businesses in Italy, European Commission (Luxembourg) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eur-60-million-eu-supported-finance-innovative-businesses-italy-2018-oct-19_en

⁸⁴⁰ Press Release of the Council of Ministers n.29, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 27 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <http://www.governo.it/articolo/convocazione-del-consiglio-dei-ministri-n-29/10442>

⁸⁴¹ Italy Implements EU Anti-Tax-Avoidance Directives, IPSOA (Milan) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. <http://www.ipsoa.it/documents/fisco/fiscalita-internazionale/quotidiano/2018/12/10/italy-implements-eu-anti-tax-avoidance-directives-what-are-the-new-rules>

⁸⁴² Il Mercato Del Lavoro 2018 - Verso una lettura integrata, Ministero del Lavoro e delle Politiche Sociali (Rome) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 21 August 2019. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/documenti-e-norme/studi-e-statistiche/Documents/Il%20Mercato%20del%20lavoro%202018,%20verso%20una%20lettura%20integrata/Il-Mercato-del-lavoro-2018.pdf>

⁸⁴³ Redefiniti I rapport finanziari tra Stato e Friuli Venezia Giulia, Ministero dell’Economia e delle Finanze (Rome) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 13 March 2019. http://www.mef.gov.it/ufficio-stampa/comunicati/2019/comunicato_0040.html

⁸⁴⁴ Redefiniti I rapport finanziari tra Stato e Friuli Venezia Giulia, Ministero dell’Economia e delle Finanze (Rome) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 13 March 2019. http://www.mef.gov.it/ufficio-stampa/comunicati/2019/comunicato_0040.html

⁸⁴⁵ The National Innovation Fund Unveiled, Ministry of Economic Development (Turin) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/en/news/2039363-the-national-innovation-fund-unveiled>

⁸⁴⁶ The National Innovation Fund Unveiled, Ministry of Economic Development (Turin) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/en/news/2039363-the-national-innovation-fund-unveiled>

⁸⁴⁷ Autotrasporto merci: stanziati 240 milioni per il triennio 2019-2021, Ministero delle Infrastrutture e dei Trasporti (Rome) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 23 June 2019. <http://www.mit.gov.it/comunicazione/news/autotrasporto-merci/autotrasporto-merci-stanziati-240-milioni-per-il-triennio>

On 4 April 2019, the Council of Ministers approved a decree-law to introduce measures for economic growth.⁸⁴⁹ The decree includes tax cuts for individuals and businesses, investment schemes for SMEs, and economic incentives to retain highly educated citizens.⁸⁵⁰

On 18 April 2019, the Ministry of Economy and Finance published the second edition of the Benessere Equo e Sostenibile (Equitable and Sustainable Wellbeing) report, evaluating 12 indicators relating to socio-economic well-being in the country. This report evaluated metrics relating to inequality, poverty, non-participation rate in the labour market, and the gender employment gap.⁸⁵¹

On 7 May 2019, the Ministry of Economic Development announced that an agreement was signed between Amazon and the ICE Agency (ICE Agenzia) to support Italian SMEs in developing sales and marketing strategies and promoting Italian products abroad.⁸⁵²

On 5 June 2019, the government indicated it will take steps to ensure that its budget and fiscal spending remain in compliance with the European Commission's debt regulations.⁸⁵³ The press release was issued in response to the European Commission's concerns that Italy's current deficit spending would not meet its target of reducing its ratio of national debt to gross domestic product.⁸⁵⁴

Italy has demonstrated efforts to monitor developments in its financial markets and implement all policy tools in order to promote and sustain growth. Italy has also implemented reporting mechanisms to monitor and foster the continued development of human well-being and its labour market.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Matthew Kronberg and Sana Shaban

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to continue monitoring market developments and using all policy tools to support strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth that generates widespread prosperity.

⁸⁴⁸ Autotrasporto merci: stanziati 240 milioni per il triennio 2019-2021, Ministero delle Infrastrutture e dei Trasporti (Rome) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 23 June 2019. <http://www.mit.gov.it/comunicazione/news/autotrasporto-merci/autotrasporto-merci-stanziati-240-milioni-per-il-triennio>

⁸⁴⁹ Press Release of the Council of Ministers n.53, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 23 June 2019. <http://www.governo.it/it/articolo/comunicato-stampa-del-consiglio-dei-ministri-n-53/11303>

⁸⁵⁰ Press Release of the Council of Ministers n.53, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 23 June 2019. <http://www.governo.it/it/articolo/comunicato-stampa-del-consiglio-dei-ministri-n-53/11303>

⁸⁵¹ Equitable and Sustainable Well-Being (Benessere Equo e Sostenibile) Indicators in the Italian public finance process, United Nations Statistics Division (New York) Access Date: 21 August 2019. https://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/events/2019/FOCG/FOCG%202a_Italy_SDG_budget_process.pdf.

⁸⁵² Made in Italy: Amazon e ICE insieme a sostegno delle PMI, Ministero dello sviluppo Economico (Rome) 7 May 2019. Access Date: 23 June 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/2039687-made-in-italy-amazon-e-ice-insieme-a-sostegno-delle-pmi>

⁸⁵³ Report of the European Commission, note of the Presidency of the Council, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 5 June 2019. Access Date: 23 June 2019. <http://www.governo.it/it/articolo/rapporto-della-commissione-europea-nota-della-presidenza-del-consiglio/12038>

⁸⁵⁴ Report of the European Commission, note of the Presidency of the Council, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 5 June 2019. Access Date: 23 June 2019. <http://www.governo.it/it/articolo/rapporto-della-commissione-europea-nota-della-presidenza-del-consiglio/12038>

On 12 June 2018, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe held the 7th meeting of the Headquarters for Creating a Society in which All Women Shine at the Prime Minister's Office.⁸⁵⁵ The Intensive Policy to Accelerate the Empowerment of Women 2018 introduced a new system that encourages male civil servants to take childcare leave. It also established corporate governance reforms to encourage the appointment of female executives.⁸⁵⁶ The government sought to strengthen measures against sexual harassment, and review the implementation of the Act on Promotion of Women's Participation and Advancement in the Workplace.⁸⁵⁷

On 29 June 2018, the National Diet passed the Act on Arrangement of Relevant Act on Promoting the Work Style Reform, which sought to equalize pay between regular and non-regular workers, cap overtime to 100 hours a month, and exempt white-collar workers from the overtime limit.⁸⁵⁸ In a press conference held at the Prime Minister's Office, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe stated that the Act "makes diverse ways of working possible" and "enables people to work even when raising children or providing nursing care."⁸⁵⁹

On 12 July 2018, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation agreed to loan approximately USD91 million to the Government of Turkmenistan to "provide financing for the Turkmen State Power Corporation to purchase a full set of facilities from the Sumimoto Corporation and construct a gas-fired power plant in Lebap Region."⁸⁶⁰ This constitutes an investment in infrastructure that stimulates job creation.

On 27 July 2018, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation agreed to loan approximately USD467 million to a long-term floating production, storage and offloading vessel chartering services for the Brazil state-owned oil company Petróleo Brasileiro S.A., in order to assist its development of the Mero oil field near the coast of Brazil.⁸⁶¹ This constitutes an investment in infrastructure that stimulates job creation.

On 31 July 2018, the Ministry of Finance stated that its foreign exchange intervention operations for the period of 28 June 2018 to 27 July 2018 was JPY0.⁸⁶² This constitutes restraint from using targeted exchange rates or currency devaluation for competitive purposes.

On 5 September 2018, the Government of Japan and the Government of the Republic of Ecuador agreed in principle on the bilateral tax convention.⁸⁶³ This Convention seeks to "eliminate double

⁸⁵⁵ Headquarters for Creating a Society in which All Women Shine, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 12 June 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201806/_00032.html

⁸⁵⁶ Headquarters for Creating a Society in which All Women Shine, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 12 June 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201806/_00032.html

⁸⁵⁷ Headquarters for Creating a Society in which All Women Shine, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 12 June 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201806/_00032.html

⁸⁵⁸ 働き方改革を推進するための関係法律の整備に関する法律（平成30年法律第71号）の概要, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo) 6 July 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. <https://www.mhlw.go.jp/content/000332869.pdf>

⁸⁵⁹ Press Conference on the Enactment of the Work Style Reform Bills, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201806/_00069.html

⁸⁶⁰ Buyer's Credit for Government of Turkmenistan, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 13 July 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/0713-011158.html>

⁸⁶¹ Project Financing for FPSO Operation Project of the Mero Oil Field in the Libra Block of Brazil, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 30 July 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/0730-011246.html>

⁸⁶² Foreign Exchange Intervention Operations (June 28, 2018 — July 27, 2018), Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 31 July 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018.

https://www.mof.go.jp/english/international_policy/reference/feio/monthly/20180731.htm

taxation and prevent international tax evasion and tax avoidance” and “promote mutual investments and economic exchanges between the two countries.”⁸⁶⁴

On 19 September 2018, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation agreed to loan USD50 million to “environment-related projects focusing on renewable energy in Brazil.”⁸⁶⁵

On 26 September 2018, Japan accepted the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting.⁸⁶⁶ This Convention seeks to eliminate double taxation and prevent international tax evasion and tax avoidance.⁸⁶⁷

On 5 October 2018, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe held the 19th meeting of the Council on Investments for the Future at the Prime Minister’s Office.⁸⁶⁸ He indicated his intent to “increase labor productivity by proactively introducing technological innovations to workplaces” and collaborate with financial institutions to advance the adoption of cashless payment systems.⁸⁶⁹

On 16 October 2018, in Madrid, the Government of Japan and the Government of the Kingdom of Spain signed the Convention for the Elimination of Double Taxation with respect to Taxes on Income and the Prevention of Tax Evasion and Avoidance.⁸⁷⁰ This Convention seeks to “eliminate double taxation and prevent international tax evasion and tax avoidance” and “promote mutual investments and economic exchanges between the two countries.”⁸⁷¹

On 18 October 2018, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation agreed to loan approximately USD604 million to the Jawa 1 Gas-to-Power Project in Indonesia.⁸⁷² This loan seeks to provide financial support to “Japanese companies that invest in overseas infrastructure projects and operate and manage these facilities on a long-term basis.”⁸⁷³

⁸⁶³ Tax Convention with Ecuador Agreed in Principle, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 5 September 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20180905ec.htm

⁸⁶⁴ Tax Convention with Ecuador Agreed in Principle, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 5 September 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20180905ec.htm

⁸⁶⁵ Fifth Credit Line for BNDES under GREEN Operations Supporting Renewable Energy Projects in Brazil, Japan Bank of International Cooperation (Tokyo) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/1022-011483.html>

⁸⁶⁶ Convention to Implement Measures to Prevent BEPS will Enter into Force, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018.

https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20180927mli.htm

⁸⁶⁷ Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018.

https://www.mof.go.jp/tax_policy/summary/international/press_release/20180927mli_b.pdf

⁸⁶⁸ Council on Investments for the Future, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 5 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201810/04mirai.html

⁸⁶⁹ Council on Investments for the Future, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 5 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201810/04mirai.html

⁸⁷⁰ New Tax Convention with Spain was Signed, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 17 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20181017es.htm

⁸⁷¹ New Tax Convention with Spain was Signed, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 17 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20181017es.htm

⁸⁷² Project Financing for Jawa 1 Gas-to-Power Project in Indonesia, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/1022-011485.html>

⁸⁷³ Project Financing for Jawa 1 Gas-to-Power Project in Indonesia, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/1022-011485.html>

On 19 October 2018, the Government of Japan and the Government of the Republic of Croatia signed the Agreement between Japan and the Republic of Croatia for the Elimination of Double Taxation with respect to Taxes on Income and the Prevention of Tax Evasion and Avoidance in Zagreb.⁸⁷⁴ This Agreement seeks to “eliminate double taxation and prevent international tax evasion and tax avoidance” and “promote mutual investments and economic exchanges between the two countries.”⁸⁷⁵

On 22 October 2018, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe held the 20th meeting of the Council on Investments for the Future at the Prime Minister’s Office.⁸⁷⁶ He indicated his intent to raise the age limit for continued employment beyond 65 years old, and to “secure employment opportunities for the elderly until they reach 70 years of age.”⁸⁷⁷ He further pledged to “personally take the lead in establishing a council inviting major corporations that are dedicated to expanding mid-career hires” to expand the employment of experienced workers.⁸⁷⁸

On 23 October 2018, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe attended a Ministerial Council meeting on the Employment of Persons with Disabilities in the Public Service.⁸⁷⁹ He requested his ministers to “ensure that everyone in [their] respective ministries and agencies is fully mindful about promoting the employment of persons with disabilities,” and take steps to prevent continued neglect of the statutory employment quota of persons with disabilities.⁸⁸⁰ He further emphasized the importance of “expand[ing] opportunities for those with disabilities to demonstrate their motivation and abilities and play an active role, such as developing a new recruitment scheme for persons with disabilities, a system for moving up to full-time employee, and a system of supports for persons with disabilities at the workplace.”⁸⁸¹

On 26 October 2018, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation agreed to loan approximately USD60 million to the Comisión Federal de Electricidad of Mexico.⁸⁸² This loan seeks to help “finance the purchase of Japanese equipment and services necessary for power development in

⁸⁷⁴ Tax Agreement with Croatia was Signed, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20181019hr.htm

⁸⁷⁵ Tax Agreement with Croatia was Signed, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20181019hr.htm

⁸⁷⁶ Council on Investments for the Future, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201810/_00049.html

⁸⁷⁷ Council on Investments for the Future, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201810/_00049.html

⁸⁷⁸ Council on Investments for the Future, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201810/_00049.html

⁸⁷⁹ Ministerial Council on the Employment of Persons with Disabilities in the Public Service, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 23 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201810/_00052.html

⁸⁸⁰ Ministerial Council on the Employment of Persons with Disabilities in the Public Service, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 23 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201810/_00052.html

⁸⁸¹ Ministerial Council on the Employment of Persons with Disabilities in the Public Service, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 23 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201810/_00052.html

⁸⁸² Export Credit Line (12th Power Loan) for Comisión Federal de Electricidad in Mexico, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 29 October 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/1029-011528.html>

Mexico.”⁸⁸³ This demonstrates an investment in high-quality infrastructure that stimulates job creation.

On 31 October 2018, the Ministry of Finance stated that its foreign exchange intervention operations for the period from 27 September 2018 to 29 October 2018 was JPY0.⁸⁸⁴ This constitutes continued restraint from using targeted exchange rates or currency devaluation for competitive purposes.

On 2 November 2018, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation agreed to loan approximately USD227 million to the Gulf SRC Gas-Fired Combined Cycle Power Plant Project in Thailand.⁸⁸⁵ This loan seeks to provide financial support to “Japanese companies that invest in overseas infrastructure projects and operate and manage these facilities on a long-term basis.”⁸⁸⁶

On 28 November 2018, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation agreed to loan approximately GBP743 million to the Moray East offshore wind power generation project in the United Kingdom.⁸⁸⁷ This loan seeks to provide financial support for the construction and operation of an offshore wind farm located 22 km off the coast of Moray, Scotland.⁸⁸⁸

On 29 November 2018, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation agreed to loan approximately USD36 million to the Banco de la Nación Argentina.⁸⁸⁹ This loan seeks to “provide financial support to local companies in Argentina that require funding to purchase infrastructure-related equipment from Japanese companies and their overseas affiliates.”⁸⁹⁰

On 3 December 2018, the Government of Japan and the Government of the Argentine Republic agreed in principle on the tax convention between Japan and the Argentine Republic.⁸⁹¹ This Convention seeks to “eliminate international double taxation and prevent tax evasion and tax avoidance” and “promote mutual investments and economic exchanges between the two countries.”⁸⁹²

⁸⁸³ Export Credit Line (12th Power Loan) for Comisión Federal de Electricidad in Mexico, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 29 October 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018.

<https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/1029-011528.html>

⁸⁸⁴ Foreign Exchange Intervention Operations (September 27, 2018 — October 29, 2018), Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 31 October 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018.

https://www.mof.go.jp/english/international_policy/reference/feio/monthly/20181031.htm

⁸⁸⁵ Project Financing for Gulf SRC Gas-Fired Combined Cycle Power Plant Project in Thailand, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 9 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018.

<https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/1109-011580.html>

⁸⁸⁶ Project Financing for Gulf SRC Gas-Fired Combined Cycle Power Plant Project in Thailand, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 9 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018.

<https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/1109-011580.html>

⁸⁸⁷ Project Financing for Moray East Offshore Wind Power Generation Project in the U.K., Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018.

<https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/1129-011637.html>

⁸⁸⁸ Project Financing for Moray East Offshore Wind Power Generation Project in the U.K., Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018.

<https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/1129-011637.html>

⁸⁸⁹ Export Credit Line for Banco de la Nación Argentina, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/1203-011643.html>

⁸⁹⁰ Export Credit Line for Banco de la Nación Argentina, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/1203-011643.html>

⁸⁹¹ Tax Convention with Argentina Agreed in Principle, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20181203ar.htm

⁸⁹² Tax Convention with Argentina Agreed in Principle, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20181203ar.htm

On 19 December 2018, the government of Japan and the government of the Republic of Colombia signed the Convention between Japan and the Republic of Colombia for the Elimination of Double Taxation with respect to Taxes on Income and the Prevention of Tax Evasion and Avoidance in Tokyo.⁸⁹³ This Convention seeks to “eliminate double taxation and prevent international tax evasion and tax avoidance” and “promote mutual investments and economic exchanges between the two countries.”⁸⁹⁴

On 21 December 2018, the government of Japan and the government of Jamaica agreed in principle on a tax convention between the two countries.⁸⁹⁵ This convention seeks to “eliminate double taxation and prevent international tax evasion and tax avoidance,” and “promote mutual investments and economic exchanges between the two countries.”⁸⁹⁶

On 16 January 2019, the government of Japan and the government of the Republic of Ecuador signed the convention between Japan and the Republic of Ecuador for the Elimination of Double Taxation with respect to Taxes on Income and the Prevention of Tax Evasion and Avoidance in Quito.⁸⁹⁷

On 31 January 2019, the Ministry of Finance stated that its foreign exchange intervention operations for the period of 27 December 2018 to 29 January 2019 was JPY0.⁸⁹⁸ This constitutes continued restraint from using targeted exchange rates or currency devaluation for competitive purposes.

On 13 February 2019, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe held the 23rd meeting of the Council on Investments for the Future at the Prime Minister’s Office.⁸⁹⁹ He indicated his intent to “develop a new system to address issues such as the government’s coordination over its competition policies for the digital market...to meet the demand of highly-specialized knowledge and expertise and enable swift responses in the accelerating changes in the digital market.”⁹⁰⁰

On 14 February 2019, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe held the 38th meeting of the Council on National Strategic Special Zones at the Prime Minister's Office.⁹⁰¹ He indicated his intent to “proactively introduce AI and big data to all aspects of daily life, such as education, healthcare, caregiving, government, energy, and waste management, and integrate these technologies into society” as part of the Super City Initiative.⁹⁰²

⁸⁹³ Tax Convention with Colombia was signed, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2019. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20181220co.htm

⁸⁹⁴ Tax Convention with Colombia was signed, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2019. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20181220co.htm

⁸⁹⁵ Tax Convention with Jamaica Agreed in Principle, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2019. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20181221jm.htm

⁸⁹⁶ Tax Convention with Jamaica Agreed in Principle, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2019. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20181221jm.htm

⁸⁹⁷ Tax Convention with Ecuador was signed, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20190116ec.htm

⁸⁹⁸ Foreign Exchange Intervention Operations (December 27 2018 — January 29 2019), Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019.

https://www.mof.go.jp/english/international_policy/reference/feio/monthly/20190131.htm

⁸⁹⁹ Council on Investments for the Future, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201902/_00014.html

⁹⁰⁰ Council on Investments for the Future, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201902/_00014.html

⁹⁰¹ Council on National Strategic Special Zones, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201902/_00017.html

⁹⁰² Council on National Strategic Special Zones, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201902/_00017.html

On 28 February 2019, the Ministry of Finance stated that its foreign exchange intervention operations for the period of 30 January 2019 to 26 February 2019 was JPY0.⁹⁰³ This constitutes continued restraint from using targeted exchange rates or currency devaluation for competitive purposes.

On 12 March 2019, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation agreed to loan approximately JPY4,727 million to the National Bank for Foreign Economic Activity of the Republic of Uzbekistan.⁹⁰⁴ This loan seeks to provide the necessary funds for “the purchase of a complete backbone telecommunication network system manufactured by NEC Corporation etc. from Toyota Tsusho Corporation.”⁹⁰⁵ This constitutes an investment in infrastructure that stimulates job creation.

On 28 March 2019, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation agreed to loan approximately 120 million Swedish krona to HZI Jönköping Biogas AB.⁹⁰⁶ This loan seeks to “provide the necessary funds for HZI Jönköping Biogas to construct a waste treatment plant using methane fermentation technology.”⁹⁰⁷ This constitutes an investment in infrastructure that stimulates job creation.

On 29 March 2019, the Ministry of Finance stated that its foreign exchange intervention operations for the period of 27 February 2019 to 27 March 2019 was JPY0.⁹⁰⁸ This constitutes continued restraint from using targeted exchange rates or currency devaluation for competitive purposes.

On 31 March 2019, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation agreed to loan approximately USD555 million to Sharjah Hamriyah Independent Power Company PJSC.⁹⁰⁹ This loan seeks to provide the necessary funds for the company to build and operate a “1,800MW gas-fired combined cycle power plant located in Hamriyah, Sharjah.”⁹¹⁰ This constitutes an investment in infrastructure that stimulates job creation.

On 1 April 2019, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation agreed to loan approximately USD900 million to Pengerang Refining Company Sdn. Bhd.⁹¹¹ This loan seeks to provide the

⁹⁰³ Foreign Exchange Intervention Operations (January 30, 2019 - February 26, 2019), Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019.

https://www.mof.go.jp/english/international_policy/reference/feio/monthly/20190228.htm

⁹⁰⁴ Export Credit Line for the National Bank for Foreign Economic Activity of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019.

<https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/0313-011953.html>

⁹⁰⁵ Export Credit Line for the National Bank for Foreign Economic Activity of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019.

<https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/0313-011953.html>

⁹⁰⁶ Loan for Waste Treatment Project by a Swedish subsidiary of Hitachi Zosen Corporation Group, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019.

<https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2019/0401-012061.html>

⁹⁰⁷ Loan for Waste Treatment Project by a Swedish subsidiary of Hitachi Zosen Corporation Group, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019.

<https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2019/0401-012061.html>

⁹⁰⁸ Foreign Exchange Intervention Operations (February 27, 2019 - March 27, 2019), Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019.

https://www.mof.go.jp/english/international_policy/reference/feio/monthly/20190329.htm

⁹⁰⁹ Project Financing for Hamriyah Natural Gas-fired Combined Cycle Power Plant in the Emirate of Sharjah, UAE, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019.

<https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2019/0401-012047.html>

⁹¹⁰ Project Financing for Hamriyah Natural Gas-fired Combined Cycle Power Plant in the Emirate of Sharjah, UAE, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019.

<https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2019/0401-012047.html>

⁹¹¹ Buyer's Credit for RAPID Project in Malaysia, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2019/0402-012044.html>

necessary funds to “construct and operate an integrated complex consisting of several petrochemical plants” in Johor, Malaysia.⁹¹² This constitutes an investment in infrastructure that stimulates job creation.

On 19 April 2019, the government of Japan and the government of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay agreed in principle on a tax convention between the two countries.⁹¹³ This convention seeks to eliminate “international double taxation,” prevent “tax evasion and tax avoidance,” and promote “mutual investments and economic exchanges between the two countries.”⁹¹⁴

On 19 April 2019, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation agreed to loan approximately USD1,199 million to Van Phong Power Company Limited.⁹¹⁵ This loan seeks to provide the necessary funds for the company to build and operate “a super critical coal-fired power plant with an installed capacity of 1,320 MW” in Khánh Hòa, Vietnam.⁹¹⁶ This constitutes an investment in infrastructure that stimulates job creation.

On 15 May 2019, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe held the 27th meeting of the Council on Investments for the Future at the Prime Minister’s Office.⁹¹⁷ He indicated his intent to “secure employment opportunities [for individuals] up till the age of 70” by making available “a wide range of options through employment at other companies, support for self-employment and launching a new business, as well as various social contribution activities, in addition to the extension of the retirement age and the introduction of a continued employment system.”⁹¹⁸

On 17 May 2019, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe held the 45th meeting of the Council for the Implementation of Education Rebuilding at the Prime Minister’s Office.⁹¹⁹ He indicated his intent to “steadily implement the rebuilding of education” based on measures such as “the use of new technologies in education, including the utilization of distance learning for all elementary, junior high, and high schools, the installation of ICT [information and communications technologies] infrastructure in schools, and the enhancement of teachers’ abilities to teach using ICT.”⁹²⁰

On 30 May 2019, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation agreed to loan approximately USD900 million to Compañía Minera Teck Quebrada Blanca S.A.⁹²¹ This loan seeks to “provide

⁹¹² Buyer's Credit for RAPID Project in Malaysia, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2019/0402-012044.html>

⁹¹³ Tax Convention with Uruguay Agreed in Principle, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 19 April 2018. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20190419uy.htm

⁹¹⁴ Tax Convention with Uruguay Agreed in Principle, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 19 April 2018. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20190419uy.htm

⁹¹⁵ Project Finance for Van Phong 1 Coal-Fired Power Generation Project in the Republic of Vietnam, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 19 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2019/0419-012106.html>

⁹¹⁶ Project Finance for Van Phong 1 Coal-Fired Power Generation Project in the Republic of Vietnam, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 19 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2019/0419-012106.html>

⁹¹⁷ Council on Investments for the Future, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 15 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201905/_00018.html

⁹¹⁸ Council on Investments for the Future, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 15 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201905/_00018.html

⁹¹⁹ The Council for the Implementation of Education Rebuilding, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 17 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201905/_00025.html

⁹²⁰ The Council for the Implementation of Education Rebuilding, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 17 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201905/_00025.html

⁹²¹ Project Finance for Quebrada Blanca Phase 2 Project in Chile, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 31 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2019/0531-012214.html>

necessary long-term finance for the development of the Quebrada Blanca [copper mine] Phase 2 project” in Chile.⁹²² This constitutes an investment in infrastructure that stimulates job creation.

On 30 May 2019, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe jointly held the Follow-Up Meeting on the Plan to Realize the Dynamic Engagement of All Citizens and the Follow-up Meeting for the Work Style Reform at the Prime Minister’s Office.⁹²³ He stated that his government passed a set of bills that would “make early childhood education free of charge” from October 2019 onwards, and provide children in need with “access to higher education” from April 2020 onwards.⁹²⁴

On 31 May 2019, the Ministry of Finance stated that its foreign exchange intervention operations for the period of 25 April 2019 to 29 May 2019 was JPY0.⁹²⁵ This constitutes continued restraint from using targeted exchange rates or currency devaluation for competitive purposes.

Japan has complied with its commitment to foster inclusive labour market development by promoting gender equality, encouraging female leadership and advancing equitable childcare leave policies. Japan has complied with its commitment to inclusive financial market development by seeking to promote digitalization of the economy via public-private initiatives on technological investments and cashless payment systems. It has also demonstrated efforts to utilize all policy tools to achieve sustainable growth.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Austin Zheng

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to continue monitoring market developments and using all policy tools to support strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth that generates widespread prosperity.

On 31 July 2018, Esther McVey, Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, announced an increase in funding to businesses that “provide extra employment support” for disabled people who have the greatest barriers to work.⁹²⁶ McVey announced: “we are committed to ensuring that disabled people have the necessary support to thrive in the workplace and ... to reach their full potential.”⁹²⁷ This

⁹²² Project Finance for Quebrada Blanca Phase 2 Project in Chile, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 31 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2019/0531-012214.html>

⁹²³ Joint Meeting of the Follow-Up Meeting on the Plan to Realize the Dynamic Engagement of All Citizens and the Follow-up Meeting for the Work Style Reform, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 30 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201905/_00051.html

⁹²⁴ Joint Meeting of the Follow-Up Meeting on the Plan to Realize the Dynamic Engagement of All Citizens and the Follow-up Meeting for the Work Style Reform, Cabinet Public Relations Office (Tokyo) 30 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201905/_00051.html

⁹²⁵ Foreign Exchange Intervention Operations (April 25, 2019 - May 29, 2019), Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 31 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019.

https://www.mof.go.jp/english/international_policy/reference/feio/monthly/20190531.htm

⁹²⁶ Increased funding announced for disabled people with the greatest barriers to work, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 31 July 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/increased-funding-announced-for-disabled-people-with-the-greatest-barriers-to-work>

⁹²⁷ Increased funding announced for disabled people with the greatest barriers to work, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 31 July 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/increased-funding-announced-for-disabled-people-with-the-greatest-barriers-to-work>

increased payment is expected to provide employment and support to an additional 2,000 disabled people across England, Scotland, and Wales.⁹²⁸

On 1 August 2018, the Government Equalities Office published the “What Works” guidance.⁹²⁹ It provided recommendations to businesses with regards to improving the recruitment and progression of women and closing the gender pay gap through transparent salary negotiations. The implementation of the “What Works” guide will ensure that candidates have equal access to opportunities at work regardless of their gender.⁹³⁰ This demonstrates the UK’s commitment to building an inclusive labour market through the elimination of gender discrimination and the gender pay gap.

On 27 August 2018, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport announced the creation of a GBP1 million fund, the Digital Skills Innovation Fund. This fund is intended to boost the provision of digital skills across the country.⁹³¹ The fund will be used to help women, disabled individuals, marginalized individuals and those living in low socioeconomic areas to “succeed in digital roles.”⁹³² In addition, another GBP400,000 from the Digital Inclusion Fund will also be utilized to “help older and disabled people acquire digital skills” since “it is crucial everyone is able to take advantage of digital technology,” according to the Minister for Digital, Culture, Media and Sports Margot James.⁹³³

On 19 September 2018, the House of Commons Treasury Committee published the final report of its investigation on the role of cryptocurrencies in the United Kingdom.⁹³⁴ The Committee recommended two ways of introducing regulation of crypto-assets, either by “incorporating crypto-asset activity into the existing regulation” or “designing a new framework of the regulation specifically for crypto-assets.”⁹³⁵ The Committee urged the inclusion a “minimum issuance of ICOs [initial coin offerings] and the provision of crypto exchange services” in the regulatory framework for whichever method is selected.⁹³⁶ Moreover, the Committee recommended that the Government extend the Fifth Anti-Money Laundering direction and counter-terrorist financing rules to digital

⁹²⁸ Increased funding announced for disabled people with the greatest barriers to work, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 31 July 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/increased-funding-announced-for-disabled-people-with-the-greatest-barriers-to-work>

⁹²⁹ 100% of UK employers publish gender pay gap data, Government Equalities Office (London) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/100-of-uk-employers-publish-gender-pay-gap-data>

⁹³⁰ 100% of UK employers publish gender pay gap data, Government Equalities Office (London) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/100-of-uk-employers-publish-gender-pay-gap-data>

⁹³¹ New funds to boost diversity of people working in digital and tech jobs, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 27 August 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funds-to-boost-diversity-of-people-working-in-digital-and-tech-jobs>

⁹³² New funds to boost diversity of people working in digital and tech jobs, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 27 August 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funds-to-boost-diversity-of-people-working-in-digital-and-tech-jobs>

⁹³³ New funds to boost diversity of people working in digital and tech jobs, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 27 August 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funds-to-boost-diversity-of-people-working-in-digital-and-tech-jobs>

⁹³⁴ Crypto Assets, House of Commons Treasury Committee (London) 19 September 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmtreasy/910/91002.htm>

⁹³⁵ Crypto Assets, House of Commons Treasury Committee (London) 19 September 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmtreasy/910/91002.htm>

⁹³⁶ Crypto Assets, House of Commons Treasury Committee (London) 19 September 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmtreasy/910/91002.htm>

currencies as quickly as possible. This report and its conclusion indicated that the UK is moving towards introducing regulations on crypto-assets in the financial market.⁹³⁷

On 27 September 2018, Prime Minister Theresa May announced a GBP840 million initiative to fund the upgrade of transport links in ten city regions across the UK.⁹³⁸ Theresa May stated, “these improvements to vital infrastructure will ... empower local businesses to create more, better-paying jobs.”⁹³⁹

On 1 October 2018, Chancellor of the Exchequer Phil Hammond announced a package of reforms intended to help businesses provide job training and promote cooperation within the private sector.⁹⁴⁰ The package will also invest in skills training to boost productivity in the changing economy, and it will enable small and medium-sized enterprises to leverage management expertise from larger businesses.⁹⁴¹ These reforms highlight the UK’s commitment towards fostering an inclusive financial market and ensuring that the labour force keeps pace with technological changes.

On 15 October 2018, the UK Atomic Energy Authority partnered with the Science and Technology Facilities Council to construct a new building for Oxfordshire Advanced Skills at the authority’s Culham site. The new centre allowed the agency to expand its current capacity and provide local firms with up to 350 well-trained technicians annually, in order to fill the gap of “badly-needed technical skills for the local economy.”⁹⁴² This investment is intended to stimulate job creation and provide job-training to local residents in order to keep pace with technological changes.

On 17 October 2018, the Department for International Trade promoted a portfolio of seven new investment opportunities, totaling GBP2 billion.⁹⁴³ The investment will “create homes and jobs across the country,” according to Liam Fox, the International Trade Secretary.⁹⁴⁴

On 22 October 2018, at the International Anti-Corruption Conference in Copenhagen, Secretary of the UK Department of International Development Penny Mordaunt announced the adoption of “wide-ranging measures to tackle corruption at home and abroad.” The UK Government will take

⁹³⁷ Crypto Assets, House of Commons Treasury Committee (London) 19 September 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmtreasy/910/91002.htm>

⁹³⁸ PM announces ten cities shortlisted for major transport funding across England, Prime Minister’s Office (London) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-announces-ten-cities-shortlisted-for-major-transport-funding-across-england>

⁹³⁹ PM announces ten cities shortlisted for major transport funding across England, Prime Minister’s Office (London) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-announces-ten-cities-shortlisted-for-major-transport-funding-across-england>

⁹⁴⁰ Government support to boost skills and prosperity, Her Majesty’s Treasury (London) 1 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-support-to-boost-skills-and-prosperity>

⁹⁴¹ Government support to boost skills and prosperity, Her Majesty’s Treasury (London) 1 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-support-to-boost-skills-and-prosperity>

⁹⁴² New training centre to keep Oxfordshire a hi-tech hotspot, UK Atomic Energy Authority (Culham) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 26 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-training-centre-to-keep-oxfordshire-a-hi-tech-hotspot>

⁹⁴³ £2 billion of new investment opportunities launched across the UK, Department for International Trade (London) 17 October 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/2-billion-of-new-investment-opportunities-launched-across-the-uk>

⁹⁴⁴ £2 billion of new investment opportunities launched across the UK, Department for International Trade (London) 17 October 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/2-billion-of-new-investment-opportunities-launched-across-the-uk>

the lead in launching an international campaign to promote transparency of company ownership as a “global norm.”⁹⁴⁵

On 29 October 2018, Her Majesty’s Treasury published Budget 2018, which outlines changes to taxation and finances ahead of the new fiscal year.⁹⁴⁶ The Budget introduces several changes to the current tax system by extending taxation to off-payroll employees in the private sector, implementing a digital services tax on large businesses, and increasing investment in high-quality infrastructure(s).⁹⁴⁷

On 31 October 2018, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport announced that GBP3 million in funding will be provided to digital skills training in Greater Manchester as a part of Budget 2018.⁹⁴⁸ This funding will ensure that people in Greater Manchester have the opportunity to acquire the digital skills they need to access jobs in the digital and technology sector.⁹⁴⁹

On 4 November 2018, the Competition and Markets Authority and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy initiated new research on retailers’ price discrimination against online shoppers to ensure that “markets work fairly and in the interest of consumers.”⁹⁵⁰ This initiative demonstrates the UK’s continued effort to promote competition within the marketplace as a source of long-term growth.

On 15 November 2018, the President of the Board of Trade Liam Fox announced an investment of GBP240 million in Welsh energy and infrastructure projects, which will be promoted to international investors and generate “jobs ... here in Wales and across the UK.”⁹⁵¹

On 16 November 2018, the Department for Education announced that it will distribute GBP22 million among 26 innovative partnerships through the Construction Skills Fund.⁹⁵² The new hubs

⁹⁴⁵ UK Government unveils extensive measures to clamp down on global corruption, giving criminals “nowhere to hide,” Department for International Development (London) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 26 October 2018.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-unveils-extensive-measures-to-clamp-down-on-global-corruption-giving-criminals-nowhere-to-hide>

⁹⁴⁶ Budget 2018: Documents, Her Majesty’s Treasury (London) 29 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/budget-2018-documents>

⁹⁴⁷ Budget 2018: Documents, Her Majesty’s Treasury (London) 29 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/budget-2018-documents>

⁹⁴⁸ £3 million to boost digital skills in Manchester, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 31 October 2018. Access Date: 19 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/3-million-to-boost-digital-skills-in-manchester>

⁹⁴⁹ £3 million to boost digital skills in Manchester, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 31 October 2018. Access Date: 19 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/3-million-to-boost-digital-skills-in-manchester>

⁹⁵⁰ Government and CMA to research targeting of consumers through personalized pricing, Competition and Markets Authority (London) 4 November 2018. Access Date: 19 November 2018.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-and-cma-to-research-targeting-of-consumers-through-personalised-pricing>

⁹⁵¹ £240 million investment drive creates thousands of Welsh jobs, Department for International Trade (London) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 19 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/liam-fox-announces-240-million-investment-drive-creating-thousands-of-welsh-jobs-as-board-of-trade-meets-in-wales-for-first-time>

⁹⁵² Construction industry to benefit from major skills boost, Department for Education (London) 16 November 2018.

Access Date: 19 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/construction-industry-to-benefit-from-major-skills-boost>

will train more than 17,000 people, as the national government works towards meeting its objective of training 158,000 new construction workers by 2023.⁹⁵³

On 21 November 2018, the Education and Skills Funding Agency launched the “Opportunities Through Apprenticeships” project, which enables workers from disadvantaged communities to benefit from high-quality apprenticeship opportunities.⁹⁵⁴ Minister of State for Apprenticeships and Skills Anne Milton stated that the project will “provide people for all ages a great opportunity” to take up apprenticeships, “especially in growing engineering and ICT [information and communications technology] sectors.”⁹⁵⁵ The project demonstrates the UK’s commitment to labor market development, particularly to improving social mobility by providing high-quality education and training opportunities to all citizens.

On 22 November 2018, Minister for Disabled People, Health and Work Sarah Newton confirmed that the Work and Health Challenge Fund will provide a total of GBP3.9 million to 19 projects.⁹⁵⁶ These projects will assist disabled individuals in accessing advice and support in the labour market. This financial support is provided in an effort to close the disability employment gap and build a more inclusive workforce.⁹⁵⁷

On 28 November 2018, the Department of Business Energy and Industrial Strategy announced a GBP3 million investment in the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund.⁹⁵⁸ Three new research projects will examine the potential of artificial intelligence technologies to “create new opportunities and improve services across the whole economy.”⁹⁵⁹

On 10 December 2018, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced a new package of transparency and anti-corruption measures to address potential large-scale money laundering scandals among the Limited Partnerships in the UK. The measures, namely reporting

⁹⁵³ Construction industry to benefit from major skills boost, Department for Education (London) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 19 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/construction-industry-to-benefit-from-major-skills-boost>

⁹⁵⁴ Opportunities Through Apprenticeships’ project is launched, Education and Skills Funding Agency (London) 21 November 2018. Access Date: 29 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/opportunities-through-apprenticeships-project-is-launched>

⁹⁵⁵ ‘Opportunities Through Apprenticeships’ project is launched, Education and Skills Funding Agency (London) 21 November 2018. Access Date: 29 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/opportunities-through-apprenticeships-project-is-launched>

⁹⁵⁶ Ministers calls on businesses to reveal how many disabled staff they employ, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 30 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/minister-calls-on-businesses-to-reveal-how-many-disabled-staff-they-employ>

⁹⁵⁷ Ministers calls on businesses to reveal how many disabled staff they employ, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 30 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/minister-calls-on-businesses-to-reveal-how-many-disabled-staff-they-employ>

⁹⁵⁸ New era of tech-driven legal and financial services to boost productivity and improve customer experience, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 30 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-era-of-tech-driven-legal-and-financial-services-to-boost-productivity-and-improve-customer-experience>

⁹⁵⁹ New era of tech-driven legal and financial services to boost productivity and improve customer experience, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 30 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-era-of-tech-driven-legal-and-financial-services-to-boost-productivity-and-improve-customer-experience>

requirements, show that the UK is “taking strong action in the international light against money laundering” in order to enhance the UK’s business environment for global investors.⁹⁶⁰

On 7 January 2019, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government announced an additional GBP14 million investment in the South Tees Development Corporation, specifically to establish construction access, utilities, a new spine road and roundabout.⁹⁶¹ Northern Powerhouse Minister Jake Berry stated that this investment is expected to “create 500 new jobs on the site and attract an extra half a million pounds of private investment.”⁹⁶²

On 28 January 2019, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport announced additional funding of at least GBP500,000 to the Cyber Skills Immediate Impact Fund. This funding is dedicated to boosting the number and diversity of workers in the UK’s cyber security industry, including to “retrain veterans in cyber security, in particular focusing on women, neurodiverse candidates and black, Asian and minority ethnic individuals.”⁹⁶³

On 31 January 2019, Scottish Secretary David Mundell announced a GBP100 million investment from the government to the Ayrshire Growth Deal.⁹⁶⁴ David Mundell claimed that this federal investment will be “transformative for the region, booting jobs and prosperity across Ayrshire,” and it is a “huge commitment to growing Scotland’s economy.”⁹⁶⁵

On 14 February 2019, the Cabinet Office announced a GBP15 million investment for the development of public sector lands as a part of the One Public Estate programme.⁹⁶⁶ Over 100 sites across the UK are committed to the programme, ranging from the redevelopment of hospitals to the development of new houses and stations. This programme aims to bring forward 10,000 new homes and 14,000 new jobs in the next five years.⁹⁶⁷

On 15 February 2019, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced a GBP13 million investment to support 40 new projects dedicated to the development of Artificial

⁹⁶⁰ New Measures to tackle international money laundering, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 10 November 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-measures-to-tackle-international-money-laundering>

⁹⁶¹ Northern Powerhouse Minister green lights £14 million investment to transform heart of Redcar steel site, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (London) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/northern-powerhouse-minister-green-lights-14-million-investment-to-transform-heart-of-redcar-steel-site>

⁹⁶² Northern Powerhouse Minister green lights £14 million investment to transform heart of Redcar steel site, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (London) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/northern-powerhouse-minister-green-lights-14-million-investment-to-transform-heart-of-redcar-steel-site>

⁹⁶³ New funding will help drive diversity in cyber security, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funding-will-help-drive-diversity-in-cyber-security>

⁹⁶⁴ UK Government announces £100 million for Ayrshire Growth Deal, Office of the Secretary of State for Scotland (Edinburgh) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-announces-100-million-for-ayrshire-growth-deal>

⁹⁶⁵ UK Government announces £100 million for Ayrshire Growth Deal, Office of the Secretary of State for Scotland (Edinburgh) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-announces-100-million-for-ayrshire-growth-deal>

⁹⁶⁶ Government backs plans to create new homes and jobs in next five years, Cabinet Office (London) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-backs-plans-to-create-new-homes-and-jobs-in-next-five-years>

⁹⁶⁷ Government backs plans to create new homes and jobs in next five years, Cabinet Office (London) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-backs-plans-to-create-new-homes-and-jobs-in-next-five-years>

Intelligence and data analytics projects.⁹⁶⁸ The projects will regulate market policies and assist businesses and consumers in tackling insurance frauds.⁹⁶⁹

On 4 March 2019, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government announced that it will launch a GBP1.6 billion fund called the Stronger Towns Fund.⁹⁷⁰ The purpose of the fund is to stimulate job creation and facilitate economic growth in regions of the country that have not benefitted from recent economic prosperity.⁹⁷¹ The initiative reaffirms the British government's continued commitment to ensuring inclusive and balanced economic growth.

On 14 March 2019, the Department of International Trade launched GBP2.2 billion worth of new investment opportunities to create new homes and stimulate job creation for citizens across the UK.⁹⁷²

On 13 May 2019, the government announced that the Derry-Londonderry region will receive a GBP105 million investment package that aims to boost innovation and the city's digital potential.⁹⁷³ The Communities Secretary, James Brokenshire, stated that this major investment will "bring enormous benefits and create high-value jobs" for the community of Derry-Londonderry and Strabane.⁹⁷⁴

On 10 June 2019, the British government announced it will make GBP18.5 million available to diversify the technology sector.⁹⁷⁵ The investment will help businesses in the technology sector employ more individuals and provide adults with retraining opportunities in order for them to find better employment opportunities in today's competitive job market.⁹⁷⁶

The United Kingdom has demonstrated efforts towards monitoring developments in the labour and financial markets and utilizing all policy tools to promote and sustain growth in an inclusive manner.

⁹⁶⁸ Artificial intelligence to tackle insurance fraud and assess flood damage, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/artificial-intelligence-to-tackle-insurance-fraud-and-assess-flood-damage>

⁹⁶⁹ Artificial intelligence to tackle insurance fraud and assess flood damage, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/artificial-intelligence-to-tackle-insurance-fraud-and-assess-flood-damage>

⁹⁷⁰ £1.6 billion Stronger Towns Fund launched, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (London) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 21 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/16-billion-stronger-towns-fund-launched>

⁹⁷¹ £1.6 billion Stronger Towns Fund launched, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (London) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 21 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/16-billion-stronger-towns-fund-launched>

⁹⁷² £2.2 billion of new UK investment opportunities launched, Department for International Trade (London) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/22-billion-of-new-uk-investment-opportunities-launched>

⁹⁷³ £105 million economic package for the North West, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (London) 13 May 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/105-million-economic-package-for-the-north-west>

⁹⁷⁴ £105 million economic package for the North West, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (London) 13 May 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/105-million-economic-package-for-the-north-west>

⁹⁷⁵ £18.5 million to boost diversity in AI tech roles and innovation in online training for adults, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 10 June 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/185-million-to-boost-diversity-in-ai-tech-roles-and-innovation-in-online-training-for-adults>

⁹⁷⁶ £18.5 million to boost diversity in AI tech roles and innovation in online training for adults, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 10 June 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/185-million-to-boost-diversity-in-ai-tech-roles-and-innovation-in-online-training-for-adults>

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Mary Qiu

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to continue monitoring market developments and using all policy tools to support strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth that generates widespread prosperity.

On 2 July 2018, the Department of Education announced that the Puerto Rico Department of Education will pilot a model to “equitably allocate local, state and federal resources based on student needs.”⁹⁷⁷ This system would help Puerto Rico allocate more resources to “low-income families, language learners and students in rural schools.”⁹⁷⁸

On 19 July 2018, President Donald J. Trump signed an Executive Order authorizing the establishment of the President’s National Council for the American Worker.⁹⁷⁹ The council will develop recommendations regarding how the American government can provide skills training to the workforce, in order to ensure that its workforce remains competitive. The council will also foster collaboration with the private sector to effectively deliver training programs.⁹⁸⁰

On 31 July 2018, the Department of the Treasury released a report recommending improvements for U.S. firms to “more rapidly adopt competitive technologies, safeguard consumer data, and operate with greater regulatory efficiency.”⁹⁸¹

On 8 August 2018, the Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration announced the availability of up to USD100 million for Trade and Economic Transition National Dislocated Worker Grants.⁹⁸² The grants are intended to assist with job training and career services for dislocated workers who experienced “job loss or employer/industrial reorganization due to trade or automation.”⁹⁸³ The grants subsidize the costs of job training provided by businesses in the private sector, in order to ensure that the workforce can remain competitive and keep pace with technological changes.

⁹⁷⁷ Puerto Rico to Pilot New Student-Centered Funding System, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.) 2 July 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/puerto-rico-pilot-new-student-centered-funding-system>

⁹⁷⁸ Puerto Rico to Pilot New Student-Centered Funding System, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.) 2 July 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/puerto-rico-pilot-new-student-centered-funding-system>

⁹⁷⁹ Executive Order Establishing the President’s National Council for the American Worker, White House (Washington D.C.) 19 July 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-establishing-presidents-national-council-american-worker/>

⁹⁸⁰ Executive Order Establishing the President’s National Council for the American Worker, White House (Washington D.C.) 19 July 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-establishing-presidents-national-council-american-worker/>

⁹⁸¹ Treasury Releases Report on Nonbank Financials, Fintech, and Innovation, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 31 July 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm447>

⁹⁸² U.S. Department of Labor Announces Funding Availability for Trade and Economic Transition National Dislocated Worker Grants, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 8 August 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20180808>

⁹⁸³ U.S. Department of Labor Announces Funding Availability for Trade and Economic Transition National Dislocated Worker Grants, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 8 August 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20180808>

On 14 August 2018, the Department of Education announced a new federal assistance program totaling USD359.8 million. This program assists with the costs of education for students displaced by natural disasters in 20 states and the U.S. Virgin Island.⁹⁸⁴

On 21 September 2018, the Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the National Industry Liaison Group.⁹⁸⁵ The MOU will support contractor education to further equal employment opportunities and align federal regulations.⁹⁸⁶

On 24 September 2018, the Department of the Treasury announced new tax credit for paid family and medical leave.⁹⁸⁷ This tax credit will provide tax relief for qualified employees with compensation of less than USD72,000 in the prior year.

On 30 September 2018, the US, Canada, and Mexico reached an agreement on a new trilateral trade agreement known as the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement.⁹⁸⁸ The agreement will commit the parties to refrain from competitive currency devaluations. It will also introduce mechanisms to review currency policy, once it enters into force.⁹⁸⁹ Furthermore, the agreement includes provisions to enforce anti-corruption laws and enhance government transparency.⁹⁹⁰

On 17 October 2018, Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin met with the Mexican Finance Minister, Jose Antonio Gonzalez Anaya, to discuss financial and economic issues between the US and Mexico.⁹⁹¹ Mnuchin and Anaya signed a Memorandum of Understanding to update the Exchange Stabilization Agreement, a framework which promotes exchange rate stability and economic growth.⁹⁹²

⁹⁸⁴ Secretary DeVos Announces New Federal Assistance for the Education of Displaced Students, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.) 14 August 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/secretary-devos-announces-new-federal-assistance-education-displaced-students>

⁹⁸⁵ U.S. Department of Labor Signs Memorandum of Understanding to Promote Contractor Engagement, Compliance Assistance, and Proactive Compliance, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/ofccp/ofccp20180921>

⁹⁸⁶ U.S. Department of Labor Signs Memorandum of Understanding to Promote Contractor Engagement, Compliance Assistance, and Proactive Compliance, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/ofccp/ofccp20180921>

⁹⁸⁷ Treasury Announces New Employer Tax Credit for Paid Family and Medical Leave, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 24 September 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm493>

⁹⁸⁸ Joint Statement from United States Representative Robert Lighthizer and Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 30 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2018/september/joint-statement-united-states>

⁹⁸⁹ Joint Statement by the Secretary of the Treasury and Finance Minister of Mexico, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 17 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm527>

⁹⁹⁰ United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement Text, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 1 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://ustr.gov/trade-agreements/free-trade-agreements/united-states-mexico-canada-agreement/united-states-mexico>

⁹⁹¹ Joint Statement by the Secretary of the Treasury and Finance Minister of Mexico, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 17 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm527>

⁹⁹² Joint Statement by the Secretary of the Treasury and Finance Minister of Mexico, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 17 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm527>

On 19 October 2018, the Department of the Treasury issued proposed regulations pertaining to the tax benefits created by the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.⁹⁹³ The proposed incentives were designed to stimulate investment in designated Opportunity Zones and create further employment opportunities.

On 12 December 2018, President Donald Trump signed an Executive Order to establish the White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council.⁹⁹⁴ This Council aims to “stimulate economic opportunity and mobility, encourage entrepreneurship, expand quality educational opportunities, develop and rehabilitate quality housing stock, and promote workforce development,” among other things.⁹⁹⁵ The Council will explore new ways to use public funds in order to stimulate economic growth in local economies, traditionally plagued by socioeconomic disadvantages.⁹⁹⁶

On 20 December 2018, the Department of the Treasury issued the National Strategy for Combating Terrorist and Other Illicit Financing (National Illicit Finance Strategy).⁹⁹⁷ The National Illicit Finance Strategy assesses existing government efforts to combat illicit financial threats and explores improvements to aid financial institutions and government institutions in enforcing the strategy.⁹⁹⁸ The strategy highlights the continued commitment of the United States to implementing structural reforms in order to address money laundering and terrorist financing.

On 28 February 2019, the Trump administration announced the Education Freedom Scholarships, which are designed to empower students across the country and help them meet personalized needs.⁹⁹⁹ These scholarships will aid students in need by helping them attain educational freedom and realize their development potential.¹⁰⁰⁰

On 11 March 2019, the Trump administration presented its proposed Fiscal Year 2020 (FY2020) Budget.¹⁰⁰¹ The proposed budget would eliminate several student loan programs that currently make

⁹⁹³ Treasury Releases Proposed Regulations on Opportunity Zones Designed to Incentivize Investment in American Communities, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm530>

⁹⁹⁴ Executive Order on Establishing the White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council, White House (Washington D.C.) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 18 December 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-establishing-white-house-opportunity-revitalization-council/>

⁹⁹⁵ Executive Order on Establishing the White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council, White House (Washington D.C.) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 18 December 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-establishing-white-house-opportunity-revitalization-council/>

⁹⁹⁶ Executive Order on Establishing the White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council, White House (Washington D.C.) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 18 December 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-establishing-white-house-opportunity-revitalization-council/>

⁹⁹⁷ Treasury Publishes National Illicit Finance Strategy and Supporting Risk Assessments, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 20 December 2018. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm581>

⁹⁹⁸ Treasury Publishes National Illicit Finance Strategy and Supporting Risk Assessments, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 20 December 2018. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm581>

⁹⁹⁹ Trump Administration Unveils Plan for Historic Investment in America’s Students through Education Freedom Scholarships, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/trump-administration-unveils-plan-historic-investment-americas-students-through-education-freedom-scholarships>

¹⁰⁰⁰ Trump Administration Unveils Plan for Historic Investment in America’s Students through Education Freedom Scholarships, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/trump-administration-unveils-plan-historic-investment-americas-students-through-education-freedom-scholarships>

¹⁰⁰¹ Administration Presents President Trump’s Fiscal Year 2020 Budget, White House (Washington D.C.) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 13 March 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/administration-presents-president-trumps-fiscal-year-2020-budget-request/>

higher education more accessible, namely the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program and Subsidized Stafford Loans.¹⁰⁰² The budget also proposes to facilitate paid parental leave at the state-level, which would allow new parents to recover from childbirth without negatively impacting their economic situation.¹⁰⁰³ Finally, the budget will invest approximately USD15 billion in modernizing the Internal Revenue Service in order to expand and strengthen its tax enforcement.¹⁰⁰⁴ The budget must first be approved by Congress before it can be implemented.

On 24 April 2019, the Department of Treasury identified individuals and entities designated as financiers of Hizballah, a terrorist group based in Lebanon.¹⁰⁰⁵ These measures will help stem terrorist financing and dismantle the global network of Hezbollah.¹⁰⁰⁶

On 13 May 2019, President Trump signed an Executive Order on the Economic Empowerment of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.¹⁰⁰⁷ This order will help improve the access of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to economic resources and opportunities, in an effort to enable their full integration into the broad national economy.¹⁰⁰⁸

On 15 May 2019, the Department of Transportation announced that it will make USD900 million in funding available through the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development grants program.¹⁰⁰⁹ Funding will be awarded to surface transportation infrastructure projects that improve infrastructure, promote regional connectivity, or stimulate local economic growth.¹⁰¹⁰

On 29 May 2019, the Department of Treasury announced the establishment of a Financial Innovation Partnership between the United States and the United Kingdom.¹⁰¹¹ The partnership will boost bilateral collaboration between the two states and “deepen bilateral engagement on emerging

¹⁰⁰² Administration Presents President Trump’s Fiscal Year 2020 Budget, White House (Washington D.C.) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 13 March 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/administration-presents-president-trumps-fiscal-year-2020-budget-request/>

¹⁰⁰³ Administration Presents President Trump’s Fiscal Year 2020 Budget, White House (Washington D.C.) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 13 March 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/administration-presents-president-trumps-fiscal-year-2020-budget-request/>

¹⁰⁰⁴ Administration Presents President Trump’s Fiscal Year 2020 Budget, White House (Washington D.C.) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 13 March 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/administration-presents-president-trumps-fiscal-year-2020-budget-request/>

¹⁰⁰⁵ Treasury Targets Sanctions Evasion Conduits for Major Hizballah Financiers, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 24 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm668>

¹⁰⁰⁶ Treasury Targets Sanctions Evasion Conduits for Major Hizballah Financiers, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 24 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm668>

¹⁰⁰⁷ Executive Order on Economic Empowerment of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, White House (Washington D.C.) 13 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-economic-empowerment-asian-americans-pacific-islanders/>

¹⁰⁰⁸ Executive Order on Economic Empowerment of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, White House (Washington D.C.) 13 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-economic-empowerment-asian-americans-pacific-islanders/>

¹⁰⁰⁹ U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elaine L. Chao Announces Availability of \$900 Million in Infrastructure Grant Funds, U.S. Department of Transportation (Washington) 15 May 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019. <https://www.transportation.gov/briefing-room/us-secretary-transportation-elaine-l-chao-announces-availability-900-million>

¹⁰¹⁰ U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elaine L. Chao Announces Availability of \$900 Million in Infrastructure Grant Funds, U.S. Department of Transportation (Washington) 15 May 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019. <https://www.transportation.gov/briefing-room/us-secretary-transportation-elaine-l-chao-announces-availability-900-million>

¹⁰¹¹ United States and United Kingdom Establish the Financial Innovation Partnership, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 29 May 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2018. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm698>

trends in the financial services innovation.”¹⁰¹² It will focus on regulatory and commercial engagement between government authorities and the private sector.¹⁰¹³

The United States has demonstrated efforts to monitor developments in the labor and financial markets and implement all policy tools in order to promote and sustain growth.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Zemin Liu

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to continue monitoring market developments and using all policy tools to support strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth that generates widespread prosperity.

On 15 June 2018, the European Investment Fund (EIF) and Bank Gospodarstwa Krajowego (BGK) announced that they will double their support for loans available to small Polish businesses and entrepreneurs.¹⁰¹⁴ The new guarantee agreement brings the number of available loans to PLN4 billion, and aims to support “innovation, research, and development, entrepreneurship, growth and employment.”¹⁰¹⁵

On 19 June 2018, the EIF and seven banks of the Erste Group signed a guarantee agreement that will provide EUR50 million in loans for organizations “active in the education, health and social services sectors, or employing disadvantages, marginalized or vulnerable groups.”¹⁰¹⁶ The loans will be available to socially oriented organizations in Austria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, and Serbia.¹⁰¹⁷

On 19 June 2018, the European Union announced the launch of the External Investment Plan in Morocco.¹⁰¹⁸ Under the plan, the EU will provide technical assistance and EUR4.1 billion in grants to

¹⁰¹² United States and United Kingdom Establish the Financial Innovation Partnership, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 29 May 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2018. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm698>

¹⁰¹³ United States and United Kingdom Establish the Financial Innovation Partnership, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 29 May 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2018. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm698>

¹⁰¹⁴ Junker Plan: 18,000 Polish SMEs to benefit from increased support by EIF and BGK bank, European Commission (Warsaw) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/junker-plan-18000-polish-smes-benefit-increased-support-eif-and-bgk-bank-2018-jun-15_en

¹⁰¹⁵ Junker Plan: 18,000 Polish SMEs to benefit from increased support by EIF and BGK bank, European Commission (Warsaw) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/junker-plan-18000-polish-smes-benefit-increased-support-eif-and-bgk-bank-2018-jun-15_en

¹⁰¹⁶ The European Investment Fund and Erste Group sign a EUR50 million deal to finance social enterprises in Austria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Serbia, European Commission (Brussels) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/european-investment-fund-and-erste-group-sign-eur-50-million-deal-finance-social-enterprises-austria-croatia-czech-republic-hungary-romania-slovakia-and-serbia-2018-jun-19_en

¹⁰¹⁷ The European Investment Fund and Erste Group sign a EUR50 million deal to finance social enterprises in Austria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Serbia, European Commission (Brussels) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/european-investment-fund-and-erste-group-sign-eur-50-million-deal-finance-social-enterprises-austria-croatia-czech-republic-hungary-romania-slovakia-and-serbia-2018-jun-19_en

¹⁰¹⁸ EU-Morocco partnership: first investments in Morocco under the European External Investment Plan to increase business opportunities, enhancing job creation, private sector development and inclusive growth, European Commission (Brussels) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 26 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4190_en.htm

support sustainable development in sub-Saharan Africa with the goal of improving “business opportunities, enhancing job creation, private sector development, and inclusive growth.”¹⁰¹⁹

On 21 June 2018, the Council of the European Union reached an agreement on the general approach to improving “access to work-life balance arrangements” for parents and caregivers.¹⁰²⁰ The approach sets new minimum standards for paternity leave, introduces caregiver’s leave, and extends the duration and eligibility of flexible working arrangements.

On 22 June 2018, the Council of the European Union agreed to strengthen administrative cooperation between the member states to reduce value added tax fraud.¹⁰²¹ The agreement also allows for “improved investigating coordination between tax administrations and law enforcement.”¹⁰²²

On 28 June 2018, the European Council adopted its conclusion on jobs, growth, and competitiveness.¹⁰²³ The Council stated that it will “take work forward on the Commission proposal on digital taxation.”¹⁰²⁴

On 4 July 2018, the EIF signed a new guarantee agreement with the Cooperative Bank of Thessaly, allowing the bank to provide entrepreneurs and young farmers with up to EUR7.5 million in loans.¹⁰²⁵

On 9 July 2018, the President of the European Central Bank (ECB) announced that the ECB will be phasing out net asset purchases at the end of the year.¹⁰²⁶ While ending quantitative easing, the bank will continue to implement expansionary monetary policy.

On 11 July 2018, the European Commission decided to activate the enhanced surveillance framework that allows for “close monitoring of the economic, fiscal and financial situation” in Greece.¹⁰²⁷ Since Greece has completed the European Stability Mechanism programme, the

¹⁰¹⁹ EU-Morocco partnership: first investments in Morocco under the European External Investment Plan to increase business opportunities, enhancing job creation, private sector development and inclusive growth, European Commission (Brussels) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 26 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4190_en.htm

¹⁰²⁰ Leave and flexible work for parents and carers: Council agrees general approach on the draft directive on work-life balance, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2018/06/21/leave-and-flexible-work-for-parents-and-carers-council-agrees-general-approach-on-the-draft-directive-on-work-life-balance/>

¹⁰²¹ VAT fraud: Agreement on measures to boost administrative cooperation, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 22 June 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2018/06/22/vat-fraud-agreement-on-measures-to-boost-administrative-cooperation/>

¹⁰²² VAT: European Commission welcomes adoption of new tools to combat fraud in the EU, European Commission (Brussels) 22 June 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-3868_en.htm

¹⁰²³ European Council conclusions, European Council (Brussels) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018.

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2018/06/29/20180628-euco-conclusions-final/>

¹⁰²⁴ European Council conclusions, European Council (Brussels) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018.

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2018/06/29/20180628-euco-conclusions-final/>

¹⁰²⁵ 7.5 million of EU financing for micro-entrepreneurs in Greece under Juncker Plan, European Commission (Thessaly) 4 July 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/eu75-million-eu-financing-micro-entrepreneurs-greece-under-juncker-plan-2018-jul-04_en

¹⁰²⁶ Hearing of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs of the European Parliament, European Central Bank (Brussels) 9 July 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018.

<https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/key/date/2018/html/ecb.sp180709.en.html>

¹⁰²⁷ Commission supports normalization in Greece through activation of post-program framework, European Commission (Brussels) 11 July 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4381_en.htm

framework does not include any new reforms. However, the framework is a monitoring and early risk identification tool designed to “build confidence with markets, investors and companies.”¹⁰²⁸

On 12 July 2018, the EIF signed a guarantee agreement with Bank Polska Kasa Opieki. The agreement will make an additional PLN1.2 billion in loans available to Polish start-ups and small businesses.¹⁰²⁹

On 21 July 2018, the European Investment Bank (EIB) made an agreement with Banco Santander to make EUR500 million in loans available to Spanish small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).¹⁰³⁰ The EIB will contribute EUR250 million towards the program with the goal of “stimulating economic growth and job creation.”¹⁰³¹

On 26 July 2018, the ECB president confirmed that the ECB was not using monetary policy tools to impact the exchange rate, thus complying with its commitment of “abstaining from competitive devaluations.”¹⁰³²

On 7 August 2018, the European Investment Fund signed a guarantee agreement with ALTUM, a state-owned development institution of Latvia. The agreement will provide 600 micro-entrepreneurs with access to loans “at a reduced interest rate with lower collateral requirements.”¹⁰³³

On 3 September 2018, the European Investment Fund and Cassa Depositi e Prestiti launched a guarantee program under the Cultural and Creative Sectors Guarantee Facility, comprised of EUR300 million in loans available to SMEs operating in creative and cultural sectors.¹⁰³⁴

On 12 September 2018, European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker delivered the State of the Union Address.¹⁰³⁵ In the address, the European Commission underlined the need for “stronger anti-money laundering supervision,” and proposed amendments to the European Banking Authority (EBA).¹⁰³⁶ These amendments will concentrate on the financial sector’s “anti-money laundering

¹⁰²⁸ Commission supports normalization in Greece through activation of post-program framework, European Commission (Brussels) 11 July 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4381_en.htm

¹⁰²⁹ Junker Plan: further 265 million for small businesses in Poland, European Commission (Warsaw) 12 July 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/junker-plan-further-eu285-million-small-businesses-poland-2018-jul-12_en

¹⁰³⁰ Investment Plan for Europe: EIB and Santander provide EUR500 million to finance SMEs, European Commission (Madrid) 31 July 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eib-and-santander-provide-eur-500-million-finance-smes-2018-jul-31_en

¹⁰³¹ Investment Plan for Europe: EIB and Santander provide EUR500 million to finance SMEs, European Commission (Madrid) 31 July 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eib-and-santander-provide-eur-500-million-finance-smes-2018-jul-31_en

¹⁰³² Press Conference, European Central Bank (Frankfurt am Main) 26 July 2018. Access Date: 26 October 2018. <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/pressconf/2018/html/ecb.is180726.en.html>

¹⁰³³ EUR15 million of EU financing for micro-entrepreneurs in Latvia under the Junker Plan, European Commission (Luxembourg) 7 August 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/eur-15-million-eu-financing-micro-entrepreneurs-latvia-under-junker-plan-2018-aug-07_en

¹⁰³⁴ EUR300 million for Italian SMEs in creative and cultural sectors, European Commission (Rome) 3 September 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/eur-300-million-italian-smes-creative-and-cultural-sectors-2018-sep-03_en

¹⁰³⁵ State of the Union 2018 — Stronger anti-money laundering supervision for a stable banking and financial sector, European Commission (Strasbourg) 12 September 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-5724_en.htm

¹⁰³⁶ State of the Union 2018 — Stronger anti-money laundering supervision for a stable banking and financial sector, European Commission (Strasbourg) 12 September 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-5724_en.htm

powers” within the EBA, and improve coordination between Member State anti-money laundering authorities by establishing a new permanent committee.¹⁰³⁷

On 27 September 2018, the EIF announced a new counter-agreement with BGK under the Cultural and Creative Sectors Guarantee Facility. This agreement will allow the BGK to provide PLN525 million in loans to companies in Poland’s cultural and creative sectors that are currently underserved.¹⁰³⁸

On 11 October 2018, the EIF and Bank Polska Kasa Opieki Leasing S.A announced an agreement that will generate up to PLN1.5 million in loans for Polish SMEs under the Competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises.¹⁰³⁹ The EIF also signed a guarantee agreement with Banque et Caisse d’Épargne de l’État to make EUR40 million in loans available for SMEs in Luxembourg.¹⁰⁴⁰

On 19 October 2018, the EIF and Cassa di Risparmio di Bolzano — Südtiroler Sparkasse announced an agreement intended to provide loans “on favourable terms to innovative SMEs and small mid-caps.”¹⁰⁴¹ The EIF and the bank agreed on a EUR60 million portfolio that will support innovative businesses in Italy.¹⁰⁴²

On 23 October 2018, the European Commission presented the Work Programme for 2019, outlining its top priorities for the coming year.¹⁰⁴³ The European Commission is committed to keeping the EU “on a stable and sustainable growth path” with concrete proposals to be outlined in the next Multiannual Financial Framework, which will focus on “youth unemployment, migration, security, the technological and digital transformation as well as the transition to a more sustainable, low-carbon economy.”¹⁰⁴⁴ The European Commission is also committed to delivering reforms to create

¹⁰³⁷ State of the Union 2018 — Stronger anti-money laundering supervision for a stable banking and financial sector, European Commission (Strasbourg) 12 September 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-5724_en.htm

¹⁰³⁸ EU backs more than half a billion zloty of loans for creative and cultural SMEs in Poland, European Commission (Luxembourg) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/eu-backs-more-half-billion-zloty-loans-creative-and-cultural-smes-poland-2018-sep-27_en

¹⁰³⁹ Investment Plan for Europe supports EUR350 million of leases for SMEs in Poland, European Commission (Luxembourg) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-supports-eur-350-million-leases-smes-poland-2018-oct-11_en

¹⁰⁴⁰ Investment Plan for Europe: EIF and BCEE confirm EUR40 million for businesses in Luxembourg, European Commission (Luxembourg) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eif-and-bcee-confirm-eur-40-million-businesses-luxembourg-2018-oct-11_en

¹⁰⁴¹ Investment Plan for Europe: EUR60 million of EU supported finance for innovative businesses in Italy, European Commission (Luxembourg) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eur-60-million-eu-supported-finance-innovative-businesses-italy-2018-oct-19_en

¹⁰⁴² Investment Plan for Europe: EUR60 million of EU supported finance for innovative businesses in Italy, European Commission (Luxembourg) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eur-60-million-eu-supported-finance-innovative-businesses-italy-2018-oct-19_en

¹⁰⁴³ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, European Commission (Strasbourg) 23 October 2018. Access Date: 26 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/cwp_2019_en.pdf

¹⁰⁴⁴ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, European Commission (Strasbourg) 23 October 2018. Access Date: 26 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/cwp_2019_en.pdf

“fair and efficient taxation” suitable for the digital economy.¹⁰⁴⁵ One of the European Commission’s top priorities is reaching an agreement on the pan-European Personal Pension Product and European Market infrastructure reforms that will improve “EU’s financial supervisory architecture.”¹⁰⁴⁶ The programme reaffirms the European Commission’s commitment to establishing a European Labour Authority and finalizes the European Accessibility Act, which serves to guarantee “high social standards and workers’ protection” and provide people with disabilities “equal right to participate fully in society and labour market.”¹⁰⁴⁷

On 24 October 2018, the European Commission published the Erasmus+ Program Guide and a call for proposals for the Erasmus+ programme.¹⁰⁴⁸ The Commission announced that it “launch[ed] a pilot program supporting six European University alliances” with an aim to “promote a strengthened European identity while boosting excellence and helping to make European higher education institutions more competitive.”¹⁰⁴⁹

On 25 October 2018, the European Commission approved EUR243 million under the LIFE programme. The programme finances environmentally friendly projects and aims to facilitate the EU’s “transition to a more sustainable and low carbon future.”¹⁰⁵⁰

On 26 October 2018, the EIF and the Helenos Funds signed a capacity-building agreement under the EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation.¹⁰⁵¹ Under the agreement, EUR25 million will be invested in 25 microfinance institutions and social finance providers that “promote social fairness equal opportunities and access to the labour market.”¹⁰⁵²

¹⁰⁴⁵ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, European Commission (Strasbourg) 23 October 2018. Access Date: 26 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/cwp_2019_en.pdf

¹⁰⁴⁶ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, European Commission (Strasbourg) 23 October 2018. Access Date: 26 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/cwp_2019_en.pdf

¹⁰⁴⁷ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, European Commission (Strasbourg) 23 October 2018. Access Date: 26 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/cwp_2019_en.pdf

¹⁰⁴⁸ An expected budget of €3 billion to be invested in young Europeans and to help create European Universities in 2019, European Commission (Brussels) 24 October 2018. Access Date: 26 October 2018.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/erasmus-2018-oct-24_en

¹⁰⁴⁹ An expected budget of €3 billion to be invested in young Europeans and to help create European Universities in 2019, European Commission (Brussels) 24 October 2018. Access Date: 26 October 2018.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/erasmus-2018-oct-24_en

¹⁰⁵⁰ LIFE Program, European Commission (Brussels) 25 October 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/life-programme-2018-oct-25_en.

¹⁰⁵¹ Juncker Plan: new EUR24 million fund benefits from first capacity building agreement in Europe to support microfinance providers, European Commission (Luxembourg) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/juncker-plan-new-eur-25-million-fund-benefits-first-capacity-building-agreement-europe-support-microfinance-providers-2018-oct-26_en

¹⁰⁵² Juncker Plan: new EUR24 million fund benefits from first capacity building agreement in Europe to support microfinance providers, European Commission (Luxembourg) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/juncker-plan-new-eur-25-million-fund-benefits-first-capacity-building-agreement-europe-support-microfinance-providers-2018-oct-26_en

On 6 November 2018, the EIF announced that with the support of InnovFin Equity and COSME EFG, a total of EUR190 million will be invested in Vallis Capital Partners and Mustard Seed Maze equity funds.¹⁰⁵³ These Portuguese funds will provide financing for social enterprises as well as SMEs.

On 8 November 2018, the European Commission decided to refer Luxembourg to the Court of Justice of the EU for “not completely implementing EU anti-money laundering rules.”¹⁰⁵⁴ The decision was made because Luxemburg did not transpose the 4th Anti-Money Laundering Directive into national law. The European Commission also adopted an opinion requiring a Maltese anti-money laundering supervisor to take additional measures to fully comply with the 4th Anti-Money Laundering Directive.¹⁰⁵⁵

On 15 November 2018, the EIF signed two guarantee agreements with the Finnish bank Oma Säästöpankki Oyj.¹⁰⁵⁶ The agreements will make EUR40 million in loans available to Finish micro-entrepreneurs, including EUR10 million in loans for social enterprises.¹⁰⁵⁷

On 19 November 2018, the EIB signed an agreement with Bankia to each contribute EUR25 million in available loans to Spanish SMEs, in order “to encourage them to give jobs to unemployed young people.”¹⁰⁵⁸

On 21 November 2018, the EIF and Austria Wirtschaftsservice signed a counter-guarantee agreement that makes an additional EUR48 million in loans available to innovative SMEs in Austria.¹⁰⁵⁹

On 23 November 2018, the European Commission announced two cooperation programmes that will promote sustainable development and inclusive education policies in Central Asia.¹⁰⁶⁰ With a budget of EUR88 million, one program will support the private sector, investments, environmental protection, and promote the rule of law in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and

¹⁰⁵³ EUR190 million for innovative Portuguese SMEs announced at Web Summit in Lisbon, European Commission (Luxembourg) 6 November 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/eur-190-million-innovative-portuguese-smes-announced-web-summit-lisbon-2018-nov-06_en

¹⁰⁵⁴ Commission refers Luxembourg to the Court of Justice for not completely implementing EU anti-money laundering rules, European Commission (Brussels) 8 November 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6251_en.htm

¹⁰⁵⁵ Commission requests Maltese anti-money laundering watchdog to step up supervision of banks, European Commission (Brussels) 8 November 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6303_en.htm

¹⁰⁵⁶ EU financing agreements for social and micro-entrepreneurs in Finland under Juncker Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/eu-financing-agreements-social-and-micro-entrepreneurs-finland-under-juncker-plan-2018-nov-15_en

¹⁰⁵⁷ EU financing agreements for social and micro-entrepreneurs in Finland under Juncker Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/eu-financing-agreements-social-and-micro-entrepreneurs-finland-under-juncker-plan-2018-nov-15_en

¹⁰⁵⁸ EIB and Bankia join forces to promote the creation of jobs for young people in Spain, European Commission (Madrid) 19 November 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/eib-and-bankia-join-forces-promote-creation-jobs-young-people-spain-2018-nov-19_en

¹⁰⁵⁹ EUR96 million of EIF and aws finance for innovative business in Austria, European Commission (Luxembourg) 21 November 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/eur-96-million-eif-and-aws-finance-innovative-businesses-austria-2018-nov-21_en

¹⁰⁶⁰ EU to promote sustainable development in Central Asia with €124 million, European Commission (Brussels) 23 November 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6525_en.htm

Uzbekistan.¹⁰⁶¹ An additional programme will provide EUR36 million to support “effective and inclusive education policies in Kyrgyzstan.”¹⁰⁶²

On 26 November 2018, the EIF and the European Fund for Strategic Investment announced a EUR10 million investment in Creas Impacto and EUR3 million in Equity4Good.¹⁰⁶³ These two Spanish funds will provide funding for social enterprises that focus on sustainability, education, health, and inclusion.¹⁰⁶⁴

On 27 November 2018, the EIF signed an agreement with Italian Banca Popolare Sant’Angelo that will make EUR10 million in loans available to micro-entrepreneurs.¹⁰⁶⁵ The agreement is a part of the EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation, which focuses on start-ups, women, and young people.¹⁰⁶⁶

On 27 November 2018, the European Commission announced a EUR474 million co-operation package for Afghanistan.¹⁰⁶⁷ As a part of the package, EUR311 million will be devoted to supporting reforms in Afghanistan, focusing on “public sector reform and the fight against corruption; basic service delivery and gender equality; public financial management and macro-economic stability.”¹⁰⁶⁸

On 30 November 2018, the European Commission approved the disbursement of the first EUR500 million to Ukraine as a part of the new Macro-Financial Assistance, which brings the total amount of assistance to EUR3.3 billion.¹⁰⁶⁹ The programme supports structural reforms in Ukraine, but it is conditional upon the “implementation of specific policy measures” in the areas of anti-corruption, finance, banking, and social policy.¹⁰⁷⁰

¹⁰⁶¹ EU to promote sustainable development in Central Asia with €124 million, European Commission (Brussels) 23 November 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6525_en.htm

¹⁰⁶² EU to promote sustainable development in Central Asia with €124 million, European Commission (Brussels) 23 November 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6525_en.htm

¹⁰⁶³ The European Investment Fund invests in Creas Impacto and Ship2B, European Commission (Luxembourg) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/european-investment-fund-invests-creas-impacto-and-ship2b-2018-nov-26_en

¹⁰⁶⁴ The European Investment Fund invests in Creas Impacto and Ship2B, European Commission (Luxembourg) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/european-investment-fund-invests-creas-impacto-and-ship2b-2018-nov-26_en

¹⁰⁶⁵ Junker Plan: 10 million euros for micro-entrepreneurs in Italy, European Commission (Luxembourg) 27 November 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/junker-plan-10-million-euros-micro-entrepreneurs-italy-2018-nov-27_en

¹⁰⁶⁶ Junker Plan: 10 million euros for micro-entrepreneurs in Italy, European Commission (Luxembourg) 27 November 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/junker-plan-10-million-euros-micro-entrepreneurs-italy-2018-nov-27_en

¹⁰⁶⁷ New €474 million co-operation package for Afghanistan, European Commission (Geneva) 27 November 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6565_en.htm

¹⁰⁶⁸ New €474 million co-operation package for Afghanistan, European Commission (Geneva) 27 November 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6565_en.htm

¹⁰⁶⁹ EU approves disbursement of €500 million in Macro-Financial Assistance to Ukraine, European Commission (Brussels) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6600_en.htm

¹⁰⁷⁰ EU approves disbursement of €500 million in Macro-Financial Assistance to Ukraine, European Commission (Brussels) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6600_en.htm

On 5 December 2018, the European Parliament and the European Council reached a provisional agreement on the EU's budget for the upcoming year.¹⁰⁷¹ The budget allocates EUR80.5 billion to “boosting the European economy, employment and competitiveness,” EUR2.8 billion to Erasmus+ educational programmes, and EUR350 million to the Youth Employment Initiative.¹⁰⁷²

On 6 December 2018, the EU announced that it will allocate EUR125 million in funding to Sahel countries.¹⁰⁷³ The new funding available for Sahel countries will be used for development projects to improve “resilience and social cohesion.”¹⁰⁷⁴

On 7 December 2018, the EIF reached an agreement with Croatian Privredna Banka Zagreb.¹⁰⁷⁵ The agreement will make EUR25 million of loans available to Croatian small and mid-cap enterprises with the goal to facilitating expansion, innovation, and job creation.¹⁰⁷⁶

On 11 December 2018, the European Commission outlined detailed steps for a transition to new VAT rules. The new measures aim to improve VAT collection for e-commerce and reduce VAT fraud as well as to prepare the Member States and e-businesses for the new rules that come into force in 2021.¹⁰⁷⁷

On 12 December 2018, the European Commission adopted EUR134 million in new programs for the Horn of Africa. The programmes financed by the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa includes six programs to help “refugee populations become self-sufficient and support host communities.” The programmes also include four national programs and a regional programme of EUR5 million to support “financial investigation and anti-money laundering tools to disrupt human trafficking and smuggling networks.”¹⁰⁷⁸

On 17 December 2018, the EU Trust Fund announced a EUR122 million aid package to support programmes in Jordan, Turkey, and Iraq.¹⁰⁷⁹ The programmes include “supporting livelihood through cultural heritage development” communities in Iraq, in addition to support for Syrian

¹⁰⁷¹ The EU Budget for 2019: growth, solidarity and security in Europe and beyond — provisional agreement reached, European Commission (Brussels) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6381_en.htm

¹⁰⁷² The EU Budget for 2019: growth, solidarity and security in Europe and beyond — provisional agreement reached, European Commission (Brussels) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6381_en.htm

¹⁰⁷³ EU steps up support for the development of the Sahel, European Commission (Brussels) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6667_en.htm

¹⁰⁷⁴ EU steps up support for the development of the Sahel, European Commission (Brussels) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6667_en.htm

¹⁰⁷⁵ Investment Plan for Europe: EUR25 million for innovative Croatian SMEs and small mid-caps, European Commission (Luxembourg/Zagreb) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eur-25-million-innovative-croatian-smes-and-small-mid-caps-2018-dec-07_en

¹⁰⁷⁶ Investment Plan for Europe: EUR25 million for innovative Croatian SMEs and small mid-caps, European Commission (Luxembourg/Zagreb) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eur-25-million-innovative-croatian-smes-and-small-mid-caps-2018-dec-07_en

¹⁰⁷⁷ VAT: New details on rules for e-commerce presented, including a new role for online marketplaces in the fight against tax fraud, European Commission (Brussels) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6732_en.htm

¹⁰⁷⁸ Emergency Trust Fund for Africa: new support for the Horn of Africa worth EUR134 million, European Commission (Brussels) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6729_en.htm

¹⁰⁷⁹ EU regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian crisis: with new projects adopted for refugees and local communities in Jordan, Iraq, and Turkey, the EU Trust Fund mobilised so far €1.6 billion, European Commission (Brussels) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6809_en.htm

refugees in Jordan and Turkey. The programmes also provide funds for micro-loans and higher education to “Syrian refugees and vulnerable communities in Turkey.”¹⁰⁸⁰

On 27 December 2018, the European Investment Bank, the European Investment Fund and Spanish state-owned Instituto de Credito Oficial reached an agreement to provide over EUR1 billion in loans to SMEs “working in rural areas and agri-food companies.”¹⁰⁸¹

On 9 January 2019, the European Investment Bank announced that EUR22.3 million will be lent to the Garanti Bank Romania. The funds will be available to small and medium-sized enterprises through loans.¹⁰⁸² From the EUR22.3 million loan, EUR10 million will be devoted to female entrepreneurs, in an effort to empower women and provide them with the financial tools to achieve success.¹⁰⁸³

On 18 January 2019, the European Commission announced that an additional EUR35 million will be provided to Côte d'Ivoire under the Development Programmes. These funds will be used to support vocational training and reforms in “the sectors of public finance management” and “economic development policies.”¹⁰⁸⁴

On 24 January 2019, the European Commission and Ethiopia reached an agreement that the EU will contribute an additional EUR130 million to support job creation in Ethiopia.¹⁰⁸⁵ Under this agreement, EUR50 million will be invested in job creation programmes, EUR25 million will be invested in sustainable energy projects, and EUR45 million will be allocated to the establishment of agro-industrial parks.¹⁰⁸⁶

On 24 January 2019, the European Parliament and the Council reached “a provisional agreement” on the work-life balance for parents and carers directive.¹⁰⁸⁷ The new directive sets standards for paternity leave compensation, provides for five-day carer’s leaves, and “strengthens the right for all

¹⁰⁸⁰ EU regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian crisis: with new projects adopted for refugees and local communities in Jordan, Iraq, and Turkey, the EU Trust Fund mobilised so far €1.6 billion, European Commission (Brussels) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6809_en.htm

¹⁰⁸¹ Support for the rural economy: EIB, EIF and ICO sign an agreement with Grupo Cajamar to provide over EUR1bn to SMEs and the self-employed, European Commission (Brussels) 27 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/support-rural-economy-eib-eif-and-ico-sign-agreement-grupo-cajamar-provide-over-eur-1bn-smes-and-self-employed-2018-dec-27_en

¹⁰⁸² Investment Plan for Europe: EIB and Garanti Bank join forces to support businesses run by women in Romania, European Commission (Luxembourg/Bucharest) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eib-and-garanti-bank-join-forces-support-businesses-run-women-romania-2019-jan-09_en

¹⁰⁸³ Investment Plan for Europe: EIB and Garanti Bank join forces to support businesses run by women in Romania, European Commission (Luxembourg/Bucharest) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eib-and-garanti-bank-join-forces-support-businesses-run-women-romania-2019-jan-09_en

¹⁰⁸⁴ European Union steps up cooperation with Côte d'Ivoire, European Commission (Brussels) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-501_en.htm

¹⁰⁸⁵ The European Union and Ethiopia step up their partnership and cooperation, European Commission (Brussels) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-589_en.htm

¹⁰⁸⁶ The European Union and Ethiopia step up their partnership and cooperation, European Commission (Brussels) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-589_en.htm

¹⁰⁸⁷ Work-Life Balance: Commission welcomes the provisional agreement reached today, European Commission (Brussels) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-424_en.htm

parents and carers to request flexible working arrangements.”¹⁰⁸⁸ As the next step, the provincial agreement needs to be formally adopted by the Council and the European Parliament.¹⁰⁸⁹

On 9 February 2019, the European Commission announced EUR225 million worth of support programs for 25 countries in Africa.¹⁰⁹⁰ Through regional organizations, the funds will be invested in economic integration, job creation, “urban coastal development... and maritime security in the Red Sea area.”¹⁰⁹¹

On 26 February 2019, the European Commission announced that over EUR10 billion will be invested in low-carbon technologies.¹⁰⁹² Through these investments, the Commission aims to “keep building a modern, competitive and socially fair Paris-aligned economy for all Europeans.”¹⁰⁹³

On 1 March 2019, the European Investment Fund and Belgium Credal and Hefboom signed a EUR25 million agreement to provide loans to 530 start-up and developing social enterprises that “struggle to access finance from traditional lenders.”¹⁰⁹⁴

On 7 March 2019, the European Investment Fund and MicroBank reached a guarantee agreement that will make EUR50 million in financing available for “500 start-up and developing social enterprises across Spain.” Such financing will focus on “social and employment integration, autonomy and care for disability and dependence, the fight against poverty and social exclusion, intercultural activities and environmental protection.”¹⁰⁹⁵

On 7 March 2019, the European Commission’s Director-General for International Cooperation and Development signed four financial agreements with Mozambique, totalling EUR217 million.¹⁰⁹⁶ The

¹⁰⁸⁸ Work-Life Balance: Commission welcomes the provisional agreement reached today, European Commission (Brussels) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-424_en.htm

¹⁰⁸⁹ Work-Life Balance: Commission welcomes the provisional agreement reached today, European Commission (Brussels) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-424_en.htm

¹⁰⁹⁰ EU boosts regional cooperation with 25 African countries, European Commission (Brussels) 9 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-866_en.htm

¹⁰⁹¹ EU boosts regional cooperation with 25 African countries, European Commission (Brussels) 9 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-866_en.htm

¹⁰⁹² Towards a climate-neutral Europe: EU invests over EUR10 billion in innovative clean technologies, European Commission (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1381_en.htm

¹⁰⁹³ Towards a climate-neutral Europe: EU invests over EUR10 billion in innovative clean technologies, European Commission (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1381_en.htm

¹⁰⁹⁴ First in Belgium: EUR25 million of EU financing for Belgian social-entrepreneurs under Juncker Plan, European Commission (Luxembourg) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/first-belgium-eu25-million-eu-financing-belgian-social-entrepreneurs-under-juncker-plan-2019-mar-01_en

¹⁰⁹⁵ Investment Plan: Social-enterprises to benefit from new €50 million EU agreement with MicroBank and EIF, European Commission (Luxembourg) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-social-enterprises-benefit-new-eu50-million-eu-agreement-microbank-and-eif-2019-mar-07_en

¹⁰⁹⁶ Africa-EU Alliance: DG Manservisi in Mozambique as EU boosts cooperation with Portuguese-speaking Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/africa-eu-alliance-dg-manservisi-mozambique-eu-boosts-cooperation-portuguese_en

funds will support transport projects in rural areas, “promote sustainable agriculture and agribusiness,” and promote the “sustainable management of natural resources.”¹⁰⁹⁷

On 12 March 2019, EU Member States reached an agreement on the detailed measures needed to simplify VAT rules for the sales of goods online.¹⁰⁹⁸ The new rules will ensure that “online marketplaces play their part in the fight against tax fraud.”¹⁰⁹⁹

On 12 March 2019, EU finance ministers updated the EU’s list of non-cooperative tax jurisdictions, placing 15 countries on the blacklist and 34 countries on the ‘grey list’ for further monitoring.¹¹⁰⁰ EU Member States will impose countermeasures against such countries, including “increased monitoring and audits, withholding taxes, special documentation requirements and anti-abuse provisions.”¹¹⁰¹

On 18 March 2019, the European Commission announced over EUR2 billion of funding in 2019-2020 for the European Innovation Council, selecting 68 additional startups and SMEs for funding under the pilot.¹¹⁰² In addition, between 15 and 20 innovation leaders will be appointed to the EIC Advisory Board, and a first set of programme managers will be recruited.¹¹⁰³

On 19 March 2019, the European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission reached a provisional agreement on revisions to the “European rules on social security coordination.”¹¹⁰⁴ The agreement aims to update and protect the rights of citizens migrating to another EU country, providing job seekers with “more time to find work abroad” and addressing “the long-term care needs of older people living abroad.”¹¹⁰⁵

On 2 April 2019, the European Commission approved a EUR4 billion investment package for infrastructure projects.¹¹⁰⁶ The package includes investments in “health, transport, research, environment and energy” across 10 member states.¹¹⁰⁷

¹⁰⁹⁷ Africa-EU Alliance: DG Manservisi in Mozambique as EU boosts cooperation with Portuguese-speaking Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/africa-eu-alliance-dg-manservisi-mozambique-eu-boosts-cooperation-portuguese_en

¹⁰⁹⁸ Commission welcomes agreement on new rules paving the way for better VAT collection on online sales, European Commission (Brussels) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1595_en.htm

¹⁰⁹⁹ Commission welcomes agreement on new rules paving the way for better VAT collection on online sales, European Commission (Brussels) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1595_en.htm

¹¹⁰⁰ Fair Taxation: EU updates list of non-cooperative tax jurisdictions, European Commission (Brussels) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1606_en.htm

¹¹⁰¹ Fair Taxation: EU updates list of non-cooperative tax jurisdictions, European Union (Brussels) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1606_en.htm

¹¹⁰² EUR2 billion to fast forward the creation of the European Innovation Council, European Commission (Brussels) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1694_en.htm

¹¹⁰³ EUR2 billion to fast forward the creation of the European Innovation Council, European Commission (Brussels) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1694_en.htm

¹¹⁰⁴ Fair labour mobility: Commission welcomes the provisional agreement reached on the modernised rules on social security coordination, European Commission (Brussels) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-1613_en.htm

¹¹⁰⁵ Fair labour mobility: Commission welcomes the provisional agreement reached on the modernised rules on social security coordination, European Commission (Brussels) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-1613_en.htm

¹¹⁰⁶ Commission adopts EUR4 billion investment package for infrastructure projects across 10 Member States, European Commission (Brussels) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1872_en.htm

On 4 April 2019, the European Commission approved EUR115.5 million for the Sahel region under five new programmes and three top-ups of existing programs.¹¹⁰⁸ These programs aim to “enhance security, migrant protection and job creation” in the region.¹¹⁰⁹

On 5 April 2019, the European Investment Fund and Caixa Geral de Depósitos signed a guarantee agreement that will provide EUR25 million in financing for “small and medium companies in the cultural and creative sector in Portugal.”¹¹¹⁰

On 9 April 2019, the EU Member States signed three “digital cooperation initiatives” aiming to accelerate “digital development in key areas.”¹¹¹¹ These declarations address cooperation in “empowering women’s participation in digital” economies, digitising “European agriculture and rural areas,” and “digitising cultural heritage.”¹¹¹²

On 12 April 2019, the European Commission approved a EUR4.2 million programme to assist African and European neighbourhood small business.¹¹¹³ The programme will focus on providing access to financing for businesses and start-ups managed by women, young entrepreneurs, or small businesses in low-income countries.¹¹¹⁴

On 18 April 2019, the European Parliament voted in favour of the InvestEU programme, which aims “to boost investment in Europe in the next long-term EU budget.”¹¹¹⁵ InvestEU will build on the success of the Juncker Plan and maintain its approach to investment by “using limited amounts of public resources with an EU budget guarantee to leverage substantial private and public funds.”¹¹¹⁶

On 29 April 2019, the European Commission and the European Investment Bank announced a EUR1 billion loan package targeting young farmers.¹¹¹⁷ This loan package’s amount will be matched

¹¹⁰⁷ Commission adopts EUR4 billion investment package for infrastructure projects across 10 Member States, European Commission (Brussels) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1872_en.htm

¹¹⁰⁸ EU Trust Fund for Africa: EUR115.5 million to enhance security, migrant protection and job creation in the Sahel region, European Commission (Brussels) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1890_en.htm

¹¹⁰⁹ EU Trust Fund for Africa: EUR115.5 million to enhance security, migrant protection and job creation in the Sahel region, European Commission (Brussels) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1890_en.htm

¹¹¹⁰ Investment Plan for Europe: €25 million for cultural and creative businesses in Portugal, European Commission (Luxembourg) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eu25-million-cultural-and-creative-businesses-portugal-2019-apr-05_en

¹¹¹¹ Digital Day 2019: EU countries will commit to three digital cooperation initiatives, European Commission (Brussels) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2015_en.htm

¹¹¹² Digital Day 2019: EU countries will commit to three digital cooperation initiatives, European Commission (Brussels) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2015_en.htm

¹¹¹³ EU to facilitate financing for small businesses in Africa and the European Neighbourhood, European Commission (Washington) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2112_en.htm

¹¹¹⁴ EU to facilitate financing for small businesses in Africa and the European Neighbourhood, European Commission (Washington) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2112_en.htm

¹¹¹⁵ EU Budget 2021-2027: Commission welcomes Parliament's green light on InvestEU, European Commission (Brussels) 18 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2149_en.htm

¹¹¹⁶ EU Budget 2021-2027: Commission welcomes Parliament's green light on InvestEU, European Commission (Brussels) 18 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2149_en.htm

¹¹¹⁷ Young farmers: €1 billion to facilitate access to finance, European Commission (Brussels) 29 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2294_en.htm

by participating Member States' banks and leasing companies operating across the EU, bringing the total amount of funds to EUR2 billion.¹¹¹⁸

On 10 May 2019, the EIB and Spanish Banca March signed a guarantee agreement of EUR70 million, providing an additional EUR100 million to the bank's "SMEs' financial capacities."¹¹¹⁹ Banca March will match the EIB contribution and make a total of EUR340 million in financing available to small and medium-sized enterprises.¹¹²⁰

On 15 May 2019, the European Commission launched the Transaction Network Analysis tool, which "will enable Member States to rapidly exchange and jointly process VAT data."¹¹²¹ Through the analysis, anti-fraud officials across member states will be able to detect and intercept VAT carousel fraud "as fast and effectively as possible."¹¹²²

On 29 May 2019, the European Investment Fund signed a EUR80 million guarantee agreement with Swedish DBT and a EUR200 million agreement with Portuguese Caixa Geral de Depósitos.^{1123,1124} These agreements will improve small and medium-sized enterprises access to financing in Sweden and Portugal, respectively.

On 5 June 2019, the European Commission proposed a EUR168.3 billion EU budget, focusing on jobs, economic growth, young people, security, and solidarity.¹¹²⁵ Under the budget proposal, EUR83 billion will be allocated to "boost economic growth, European regions and ... support young people."¹¹²⁶

The European Union has demonstrated efforts to monitor market developments and utilize all policy tools, both in the EU and abroad, to promote and sustain growth.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Bogdan Stovba

¹¹¹⁸ Young farmers: €1 billion to facilitate access to finance, European Commission (Brussels) 29 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2294_en.htm

¹¹¹⁹ EIB and Banca March provide €340m to finance Spanish SMEs and mid-caps, European Commission (Madrid) 10 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/eib-and-banca-march-provide-eu340m-finance-spanish-smes-and-mid-caps-2019-may-10_en

¹¹²⁰ EIB and Banca March provide €340m to finance Spanish SMEs and mid-caps, European Commission (Madrid) 10 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/eib-and-banca-march-provide-eu340m-finance-spanish-smes-and-mid-caps-2019-may-10_en

¹¹²¹ VAT Fraud: New tool to help EU countries crack down on criminals and recoup billions, European Commission (Brussels) 15 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2468_en.htm

¹¹²² VAT Fraud: New tool to help EU countries crack down on criminals and recoup billions, European Commission (Brussels) 15 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2468_en.htm

¹¹²³ €200 million for businesses in Portugal following EIF and CGD agreement, European Commission (Luxembourg) 29 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/eu200-million-businesses-portugal-following-eif-and-cgd-agreement-2019-may-29_en

¹¹²⁴ DBT and European Investment Fund sign €80 million guarantee agreement to increase lending to SMEs in Sweden, European Commission (Stockholm/Luxembourg) 29 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/dbt-and-european-investment-fund-sign-eu80-million-guarantee-agreement-increase-lending-smes-sweden-2019-may-29_en

¹¹²⁵ EU budget 2020: Commission focuses its proposal on jobs, growth and security, European Commission (Brussels) 5 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2809_en.htm

¹¹²⁶ EU budget 2020: Commission focuses its proposal on jobs, growth and security, European Commission (Brussels) 5 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2809_en.htm

5. Labour and Employment: Skills and Education

“We are resolved to ensure that all workers have access to the skills and education necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies.”

G7 Charlevoix Leaders’ Communiqué

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+1.00		

Background

Following the rapid technological change in recent years, G7 members need to ensure that all citizens are equipped to keep up with the demands of a changing labour market. It is vital for every citizen to “contribute to, and share in, economic success” as it helps in maximizing economic prosperity.¹¹²⁷

In particular, G7 members aim to promote the culture of lifelong learning for all generations of workers.¹¹²⁸ This practice has been encouraged by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Education Ministers since 1996, with an emphasis on improving competencies for all “from cradle to grave.”¹¹²⁹ The OECD stresses that all types (“formal,” “non-formal” and “informal”) of learning should be recognized.¹¹³⁰ The importance of diverse learning methods tailored to different stages and groups of people has always been a key priority as well.¹¹³¹

The OECD has also put much emphasis on the importance of apprenticeship and vocational learning, with studies and country reviews carried out by the Vocational Education and Training and Adult Learning Team.¹¹³² Apprenticeships, which typically combine state-funded off-the-job education with work placements, are found to be “a worthwhile investment both for employers and

¹¹²⁷ Charlevoix Commitment on Equality and Economic Growth. Access Date: 24 August 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/EqualityEconomicGrowth.pdf>.

¹¹²⁸ G7 Charlevoix Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Charlevoix 2018 (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 28 August 2018.

¹¹²⁹ “Lifelong Learning for All: Policy Directions”, Education Policy Analysis, Chapter 1, OECD (Paris). Access Date: 28 August 2018.

[http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DEELSA/ED/CERI/CD\(2000\)12/PART1/REV2&docLanguage=En](http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DEELSA/ED/CERI/CD(2000)12/PART1/REV2&docLanguage=En).

¹¹³⁰ “Lifelong Learning for All: Policy Directions”, Education Policy Analysis, Chapter 1, OECD (Paris). Access Date: 28 August 2018.

[http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DEELSA/ED/CERI/CD\(2000\)12/PART1/REV2&docLanguage=En](http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DEELSA/ED/CERI/CD(2000)12/PART1/REV2&docLanguage=En).

¹¹³¹ “Lifelong Learning for All: Policy Directions”, Education Policy Analysis, Chapter 1, OECD (Paris). Access Date: 28 August 2018.

[http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DEELSA/ED/CERI/CD\(2000\)12/PART1/REV2&docLanguage=En](http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DEELSA/ED/CERI/CD(2000)12/PART1/REV2&docLanguage=En).

¹¹³² OECD Policy Reviews of Vocational Education and Training (VET) and Adult Learning, OECD (Paris). Access Date: 29 August 2018. <http://www.oecd.org/education/innovation-education/vet.htm>.

individuals” and vocational training can aid the integration of immigrants.^{1133,1134} These sentiments are echoed in the G7 Charlevoix Leaders’ Communiqué as the members commit to developing innovative new approaches and create opportunities that improve employers’ engagement.¹¹³⁵

As part of the plan to provide market-driven training, the G7 Charlevoix Leaders’ Communiqué stresses the expansion of training for girls and women in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.¹¹³⁶ This connects with the top priority of gender equality during Canada’s G7 Presidency, which aims to increase women’s access to good quality jobs.¹¹³⁷ The mission to support female labour participation is also a major priority highlighted in the International Monetary Fund Annual Report in 2017, as it can lead to growth in gross domestic product.¹¹³⁸

This commitment to preparing workers for emerging technologies builds on previous G7 commitments. At the G7 Taormina Summit in 2017, G7 members agreed on a People-Centered Action Plan on Innovation, Skills, and Labor, with emphasis on challenges brought by the Next Production Revolution (NPR), which are changes that will affect the production process.¹¹³⁹ The Taormina Summit was the first G7 summit to address NPR.¹¹⁴⁰ While the Charlevoix Leaders’ Communiqué does not mention the NPR, it should be remarked that the phrase “new world of work” carries similar meaning. The G7 Research Group measured compliance to provide stability in the labour force and found an average compliance score of +0.50 or 75 percent.¹¹⁴¹

In June 2018, the G7 Charlevoix Summit’s commitment to economic growth through labour and employment policies was articulated in the Charlevoix Commitment on Equality and Economic Growth document, which was endorsed by the Leaders of the G7.¹¹⁴² This is part of the commitment to “eradicate poverty, advance gender equality, foster income equality, ensure better access to financial resources and create decent work and quality of life for all.”¹¹⁴³

¹¹³³ Kuczera, M., "Striking the right balance: Costs and benefits of apprenticeship", OECD Education Working Papers, No. 153, OECD Publishing (Paris) 11 February 2017. Access Date: 29 August 2018. https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/education/striking-the-right-balance_995fff01-en.

¹¹³⁴ Unlocking the potential of migrants through vocational education and training (VET), OECD (Paris). Access Date: 29 August 2018. <http://www.oecd.org/education/skills-beyond-school/unlocking-the-potential-of-migrants-through-vocational-education-and-training-vet.htm>.

¹¹³⁵ G7 Charlevoix Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Charlevoix 2018 (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 28 August 2018.

¹¹³⁶ G7 Charlevoix Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Charlevoix 2018 (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 28 August 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/official-documents/charlevoix-g7-summit-communique/>

¹¹³⁷ G7 Public Engagement Paper — Advancing Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment, G7 Charlevoix 2018 (Charlevoix). Access Date: 28 August 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/g7-presidency/themes/advancing-gender-equality-women-empowerment/g7-public-engagement-paper/>

¹¹³⁸ IMF Annual Report 2017 — Promoting Inclusive Growth, IMF (Washington). Access Date: 28 August 2018. <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/ar/2017/eng/spotlight.htm#gender>.

¹¹³⁹ G7 People-Centered Action Plan on Innovation, Skills and Labor, G7 Taormina 2017 (Taormina). Access Date: 28 August 2018. http://www.g7italy.it/sites/default/files/documents/Action%20Plan_0.pdf.

¹¹⁴⁰ 2017 G7 Taormina Final Compliance Report, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 4 June 2018. Access Date: 28 August 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2017compliance-final/2017-G7-final-compliance.pdf>.

¹¹⁴¹ 2017 G7 Taormina Final Compliance Report, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 4 June 2018. Access Date: 28 August 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2017compliance-final/2017-G7-final-compliance.pdf>.

¹¹⁴² Charlevoix Commitment on Equality and Economic Growth, G7 Charlevoix 2018 (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 27 August 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/official-documents/charlevoix-commitment-equality-economic-growth/>

¹¹⁴³ G7 Charlevoix Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Charlevoix 2018 (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 28 August 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/official-documents/charlevoix-g7-summit-communique/>.

Commitment Features

G7 members are “resolved to ensure that all workers have access to the skills and education necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies.”

The commitment is broken into two sections where the G7 member: 1) resolved to ensure all workers have access to the skills necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies; and 2) resolved to ensure all workers have access to the education necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies.

“Emerging technologies” has a resulting definition that “identifies five attributes that feature in the emergence of novel technologies. These are 1) radical novelty, 2) relatively fast growth, 3) coherence, 4) prominent impact, and 5) uncertainty and ambiguity.”¹¹⁴⁴ This includes fields such as artificial intelligence, 3D printing, blockchain, Internet of Things, etc.

For the first component, “to ensure” suggest a pledge to the commitment and is defined as “to make something certain to happen.”¹¹⁴⁵ Access should be interpreted to mean “the right to obtain or make use of the entity in reference.”¹¹⁴⁶ The effectiveness of “skills” development and training can be measured by employment to population ratio by skill level. Employment to population ratio and incidence of involuntary part-time work can be used to capture full economic participation.¹¹⁴⁷ Thus, actions that count toward compliance must have an explicit impact on improving the well-being of the population. For the purpose of this report, such improvements should be reflected by measures of economic prosperity that present a comprehensive picture.

Furthermore, other than measures that directly impact the skills and knowledge of workers, G7 members should also have tax systems that reduce inequality and support labour market participation.¹¹⁴⁸ Changes can be done to the tax burdens such that workers are incentivized. Other potential adjustments to the welfare system that can protect workers who are affected by technological changes include changes to social insurance programmes e.g. unemployment benefits. These skills and education should also account for the changing terrain and the “new world” in which they refer, which includes skillsets in the emerging field of artificial intelligence and computer technology skills as well as other emerging technologies.

The goal of the second part of the commitment is to prepare all workers for innovation and emerging technologies. By committing to help citizens “adapt” to the emerging technologies, G7 members need to ensure that the skills and knowledge of job seekers can be adjusted to suit the new conditions and needs of the ever-changing labour market. This builds the foundation towards allowing all citizens to “prosper,” which means they can succeed in material terms.¹¹⁴⁹

¹¹⁴⁴ What is An Emerging Technology? SSRN 9 August 2015. Access Date: 1 October 2018. https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2564094.

¹¹⁴⁵ Compliance Coding Manual, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 27 September 2017. Access Date: 30 September 2018. https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1wVDddUQmOQ9EwQ8STOn8xG20yj_X4RI2.

¹¹⁴⁶ Compliance Coding Manual, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 27 September 2017. Access Date: 30 September 2018. https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1wVDddUQmOQ9EwQ8STOn8xG20yj_X4RI2.

¹¹⁴⁷ Achieving Growth that Works for Everyone, G7 Charlevoix 2018 (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 28 August 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/official-documents/achieving-growth-works-everyone/>.

¹¹⁴⁸ Charlevoix Commitment on Equality and Economic Growth, G7 Charlevoix 2018 (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 27 August 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/official-documents/charlevoix-commitment-equality-economic-growth/>.

¹¹⁴⁹ Prosper, English Oxford Living Dictionaries (Oxford). Access Date: 27 August 2018. <https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/prosper>

Other than reforms and policies carried out by the governments of the G7 members, efforts done through collaborations with different parties and stakeholders to improve the workforce count as compliance. Such collaborations can be with businesses, civil society organizations or educational partners. Note that both the government and the collaboration partner have to be involved in order for the action to be considered as compliance, either through financial support, exchange of knowledge or other forms of collaborations.

The difference between “skills” and “education” in this commitment is dictated by the nature of the knowledge that they acquire. “Skills” can be transferable from various experiences in order for one to propose in the new world of technology, whereas “education” alludes to a type of formal instruction in the field of technology that will aid workers to excel in this cutting-edge technology occupations.

For full compliance, the G7 member must ensure workers have access to the skills AND education necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies. For both skills and education, this includes skill set transference as well as formal education on the new technologies. These emerging technologies can include but are not limited to artificial intelligence, 3D printing, blockchain and Internet of Things where to prosper must be accounted for in material terms.

Partial compliance is awarded when G7 member ensures either that workers have access to the skills OR the education necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies. Compliance to either the former or latter will result in a 0. Non-compliance is when the G7 member doesn’t ensure workers have access to the skills OR the education necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member does not ensure all workers have access to the skills NOR education necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies.
0	The G7 member ensures all workers have access to the skills OR education necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies.
+1	The G7 member ensures all workers have access to the skills AND education necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies.

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Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to ensure that all workers have access to the skills and education necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies.

On 14 June 2018, the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labor, Patty Hajdu, announced that the government of Canada will fund CAD2.8 million to Trucking Human Resources Canada through the Sectoral Initiatives Program, to develop the sectoral labour market information needed to help the trucking and logistics industry take advantage of opportunities created by e-

commerce.¹¹⁵⁰ The project will develop bilingual tools to help employers recruit and retain employees from untapped labour pools.¹¹⁵¹

On 27 June 2018, Minister Patty Hajdu and Christina Gray, Alberta's Minister of Labour, announced that the governments of Canada and Alberta have signed agreements where Canada will provide the province with over CAD1.7 billion over six years to invest in Albertan workers.¹¹⁵² This is an increase in funding of nearly CAD500 million over the period, compared to previous funding levels.¹¹⁵³ This increase means that about 124,000 more Alberta workers will benefit than before.¹¹⁵⁴ The agreement will provide apprenticeship training, academic upgrading, English as a second language, etc. to prepare for the innovation-driven economy.¹¹⁵⁵

On 27 June 2018, the governments of Canada and Northwest Territories signed agreements that will see Canada provide over CAD46 million over six years to invest in Northwest Territories workers.¹¹⁵⁶ These agreements represent an increase in funding of nearly CAD4 million over the period, compared to previous funding levels, and helping an estimated 1,300 more workers in Northwest

¹¹⁵⁰ Government of Canada announces \$2.8 million for Trucking Human Resources Canada to help workers and employers in a changing economy, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Gatineau). 14 June 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/06/government-of-canada-announces-28-million-for-trucking-human-resources-canada-to-help-workers-and-employers-in-a-changing-economy.html>.

¹¹⁵¹ Government of Canada announces \$2.8 million for Trucking Human Resources Canada to help workers and employers in a changing economy, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Gatineau). 14 June 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/06/government-of-canada-announces-28-million-for-trucking-human-resources-canada-to-help-workers-and-employers-in-a-changing-economy.html>.

¹¹⁵² Government of Canada announces funding agreements to give Albertans better access to jobs and training, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Edmonton). 27 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/06/government-of-canada-announces-funding-agreements-to-give-albertans-better-access-to-jobs-and-training.html>.

¹¹⁵³ Government of Canada announces funding agreements to give Albertans better access to jobs and training, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Edmonton). 27 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/06/government-of-canada-announces-funding-agreements-to-give-albertans-better-access-to-jobs-and-training.html>.

¹¹⁵⁴ Government of Canada announces funding agreements to give Albertans better access to jobs and training, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Edmonton). 27 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/06/government-of-canada-announces-funding-agreements-to-give-albertans-better-access-to-jobs-and-training.html>.

¹¹⁵⁵ Government of Canada announces funding agreements to give Albertans better access to jobs and training, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Edmonton). 27 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/06/government-of-canada-announces-funding-agreements-to-give-albertans-better-access-to-jobs-and-training.html>.

¹¹⁵⁶ Government of Canada announces agreement to give workers in Northwest Territories tools and training to find and keep good jobs, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Yellowknife) 27 June 2018, Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/06/government-of-canada-announces-agreement-to-give-workers-in-northwest-territories-tools-and-training-to-find-and-keep-good-jobs.html>.

Territories over the six years.¹¹⁵⁷ This will allow under-represented groups to have access to have upskilling and academic upgrading to adapt to the economy.¹¹⁵⁸

On 16 July 2018, the Minister of Science and Minister of Sport and Persons with Disabilities, Kirsty Duncan, announced that the Government of Canada will invest CAD29.7 million of Collaborative Research and Training Experience grants to provide students with training programs for the job of the new world, along with grants to 18 Canadian research teams to collaborate with global networks.¹¹⁵⁹

On 3 August 2018, the Government of Canada announced that it will provide tools and skills training to workers in Newfoundland and Labrador to create more job opportunities and to help workers thrive in the new world of innovative technology.¹¹⁶⁰

On 3 August 2018, the Government of Canada announced that it will collaborate with small businesses and not-for-profit organizations to offer 1,200 internship positions to post-secondary graduates to help them develop the digital and problem-solving skills needed in the changing world of technology.¹¹⁶¹

On 21 August 2018, Minister Patty Hajdu announced that the federal government will provide over CAD835,000 to the Cowichan Valley Youth Services Society for its Youth Employment Mentorship Program, where youth will have the opportunity to gain job skills and work experiences.¹¹⁶²

On 30 August 2018, Minister Patty Hajdu announced that the government of Canada will invest CAD166,000 to Carpenters Local 1669 Training Centre to upgrade its equipment, such that key groups e.g. women and people with disabilities, can train with up-to-date resources.¹¹⁶³

¹¹⁵⁷ Government of Canada announces agreement to give workers in Northwest Territories tools and training to find and keep good jobs, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Yellowknife) 27 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/06/government-of-canada-announces-agreement-to-give-workers-in-northwest-territories-tools-and-training-to-find-and-keep-good-jobs.html>.

¹¹⁵⁸ Government of Canada announces agreement to give workers in Northwest Territories tools and training to find and keep good jobs, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Yellowknife) 27 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/06/government-of-canada-announces-agreement-to-give-workers-in-northwest-territories-tools-and-training-to-find-and-keep-good-jobs.html>.

¹¹⁵⁹ Canadian researchers connect with business and international peers to train next generation of science and engineering leaders, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (Sherbrooke). 16 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Media-Media/NewsRelease-CommuniqueDePresse_eng.asp?ID=996.

¹¹⁶⁰ Government of Canada announces agreement to give workers of Newfoundland and Labrador the tools they need to find and keep good jobs, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (St. John's). 3 August 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/08/government-of-canada-announces-agreement-to-give-workers-of-newfoundland-and-labrador-the-tools-they-need-to-find-and-keep-good-jobs.html>.

¹¹⁶¹ Government of Canada will provide 1,200 paid internships to graduates, Ministry of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa). 3 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2018/08/government-of-canada-will-provide-1200-paid-internships-to-graduates.html>

¹¹⁶² Government of Canada provides skills training and job opportunities for young Canadians in Duncan, British Columbia, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Duncan). 21 August 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/08/government-of-canada-provides-skills-training-and-job-opportunities-for-young-canadians-in-duncan-british-columbia.html>.

On 18 September 2018, Minister Patty Hajdu announced that the federal government will subsidize over CAD1.5 million to the Native Education College for the Essential Skills for Aboriginal Business project.¹¹⁶⁴ The project aims to increase literacy and employment skills of aboriginal people by providing training models that “combin[e] employability skills, literacy, and essential skills training and workplace simulation activities.”¹¹⁶⁵

On 21 September 2018, the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labor, Patty Hajdu, announced that the government of Canada will subsidize CAD618,000 to the Ontario provincial government to launch the Ontario Electrical League for the Consortia Pilot Project.¹¹⁶⁶ The program will provide apprentice training to teach workers in the electrical sector necessary skills in meeting the needs of today’s labour market.¹¹⁶⁷

On 9 October 2018, the Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, Navdeep Bains, announced that the government will invest CAD25 million in the Creative Destruction Lab at the University of Toronto’s Rotman School of Management to help young entrepreneurs venture business investment and opportunity in innovative technology and to help develop women’s leadership and representation in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields.¹¹⁶⁸

On 19 October 2018, the Government of Canada announced it will provide up to CAD49.9 million funding to ArcelorMittal Canada Inc, to support up to 4,700 middle-class jobs in Ontario and 1,700 jobs in Quebec by helping the company to modernize its equipment.¹¹⁶⁹

On 25 October 2018, the Government of Canada announced that it will provide a CAD8 million funding to the Niagara Peninsula Aboriginal Area Management Board to facilitate the Government of Canada’s Adult Learning, Literacy and Essential Skills Program and the Skills and Partnership

¹¹⁶³ The Honourable Patty Hajdu announces funding for training equipment to help apprentices in Thunder Bay complete their skills training and be workforce- ready, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Canada). 30 August 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/08/the-honourable-patty-hajdu-announces-funding-for-training-equipment-to-help-apprentices-in-thunder-bay-complete-their-skills-training-and-be-workfo.html>.

¹¹⁶⁴ Government of Canada helps Indigenous people in Vancouver get the literacy and essential skills they need to find good jobs, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Vancouver) 18 September 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/09/government-of-canada-helps-indigenous-people-in-vancouver-get-the-literacy-and-essential-skills-they-need-to-find-good-jobs.html>.

¹¹⁶⁵ Government of Canada helps Indigenous people in Vancouver get the literacy and essential skills they need to find good jobs, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Vancouver) 18 September 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/09/government-of-canada-helps-indigenous-people-in-vancouver-get-the-literacy-and-essential-skills-they-need-to-find-good-jobs.html>

¹¹⁶⁶ Ontario employers get help to hire and train apprentices in the electrical sector with Government of Canada’s support, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Etobicoke) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/09/ontario-employers-get-help-to-hire-and-train-apprentices-in-the-electrical-sector-with-government-of-canadas-support.html>

¹¹⁶⁷ Ontario employers get help to hire and train apprentices in the electrical sector with Government of Canada’s support, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Etobicoke) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/09/ontario-employers-get-help-to-hire-and-train-apprentices-in-the-electrical-sector-with-government-of-canadas-support.html>

¹¹⁶⁸ Government of Canada invests in Creative Destruction Lab at the University of Toronto’s Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto Rotman School of Management (Toronto) 9 October 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://www.rotman.utoronto.ca/Connect/MediaCentre/NewsReleases/20181009?fbclid=IwAR2Xk1nLizuOA701aIDe0HHhbp4mDdwwY3j6lzd3Fekl80_7-gxTGSICH4Y.

¹¹⁶⁹ Government announces support for 6,400 Canadian steel workers in Ontario and Quebec, Ministry of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Hamilton) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018.

Fund, which help Indigenous youth across southern Ontario to gain work experiences in tourism, hospitality, and the building trades as well as necessary skills and job trainings in these fields.¹¹⁷⁰

On 12 November 2018, the Government of Canada announced funding to the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka to facilitate its Youth Quest project that will help 600 young Canadians gain skills and job training through work experience in construction, manufacturing, retail/wholesale, accommodation, and food service, and general office/customer service fields.¹¹⁷¹

On 28 November 2018, the Government of Canada released its Fall Economic Statement 2018, where it proposed to establish a Social Finance Fund that will help to create more jobs and build a more equal job market in Canada.¹¹⁷² The Government of Canada aims to finance CAD755 million over the next 10 years into establishing the Social Finance Fund, that will contribute to helping non-profit organizations and increasing job opportunities among the middle-class.¹¹⁷³

On 3 December 2018, the Government of Canada announced funding to the Women Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub, which “ensur[es] women entrepreneurs and the organizations that support them will have the information they need to increase participation of women in the economy.”¹¹⁷⁴ The Minister of Small Business and Export Promotion Mary Ng announced that the Government of Canada will invest nearly CAD9 million over the next three years into the program to facilitate women participation and women entrepreneurship in Canada.¹¹⁷⁵

On 3 December 2018, the Ministry of Innovation, Science and Economic Development announced the Regional Economic Growth through Innovation program, where it will fund Canada’s Regional Development Agencies to fund businesses through development stages and to create an inclusive ecosystem that will help businesses thrive in the changing world of innovative technologies.¹¹⁷⁶

On 3 to 5 December 2018, the Government of Canada announced its agreement with the provincial governments of Nunavut, New Brunswick, and Manitoba to provide funding from the federal

¹¹⁷⁰ Government of Canada helps over 260 Indigenous youth across southern Ontario region improve job skills and gain work experience, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Welland) 25 October 2018. 1 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/10/government-of-canada-helps-over-260-indigenous-youth-across-southern-ontario-region-improve-job-skills-and-gain-work-experience.html>.

¹¹⁷¹ Government of Canada provides skills training and job opportunities for 600 young Canadians in Barrie area, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Barrie) 12 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/11/government-of-canada-provides-skills-training-and-job-opportunities-for-600-young-canadians-in-barrie-area.html>

¹¹⁷² Government of Canada announces fund that will have a real impact for the middle class, Ministry of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Mississauga) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2018/11/government-of-canada-announces-fund-that-will-have-a-real-impact-for-the-middle-class.html>.

¹¹⁷³ Government of Canada announces fund that will have a real impact for the middle class, Ministry of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Mississauga) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2018/11/government-of-canada-announces-fund-that-will-have-a-real-impact-for-the-middle-class.html>.

¹¹⁷⁴ Minister Ng announces funding for research on women entrepreneurship, Ministry of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018.

¹¹⁷⁵ Minister Ng announces funding for research on women entrepreneurship, Ministry of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2018/11/minister-ng-announces-funding-for-research-on-women-entrepreneurship.html>.

¹¹⁷⁶ New regional innovation programming supports business development and growth, Ministry of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2018/12/new-regional-innovation-programming-supports-business-development-and-growth.html>.

government to help increase workers benefit and jobs and skills training to workers, especially minorities such as people with disabilities, women, and Indigenous peoples to stay in the job field and to thrive in their work in the changing world of technology.^{1177,1178,1179}

On 6 December 2018, Canada held the G7 Conference on Artificial Intelligence, where Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced the Government of Canada will invest up to CAD230 million for the AI-Powered Supply Chains Supercluster, which will create more than 16,000 jobs over the next 10 years.¹¹⁸⁰

On 14 December 2018, the Government of Canada announced to fund CAD285,000 to Ironworkers Local 736 for the Welder Training and Testing Capacity Increase project, in order to provide skills trainings and job opportunities for young apprentices in Southern Ontario.¹¹⁸¹

On 17 December 2018, the Government of Canada announced the Fall Economic Statement 2018, where a Social Finance Fund of CAD755 million was announced to be implemented to “help create jobs, foster economic growth, and help build a more equal and fairer Canada.”¹¹⁸²

On 19 December 2018, the Minister of Small Business and Export Promotion, Mary Ng, and the Minister of Women and Gender Equality, Maryam Monsef, met with local women entrepreneurs in Peterborough to advocate the government’s strategy to help female entrepreneurs grow and to highlight the Women Entrepreneurship Strategy.¹¹⁸³

¹¹⁷⁷ Governments of Canada and Nunavut announce agreements to give workers the tools they need to find and keep good jobs, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Gatineau) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018.

¹¹⁷⁸ Governments of Canada and New Brunswick announce agreements to give workers the tools they need to find and keep good jobs, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Gatineau) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/11/governments-of-canada-and-new-brunswick-announce-agreements-to-give-workers-the-tools-they-need-to-find-and-keep-good-jobs.html>.

¹¹⁷⁹ Governments of Canada and Manitoba announce agreements to give workers the tools they need to find and keep good jobs, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Gatineau) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/11/governments-of-canada-and-manitoba-announce-agreements-to-give-workers-the-tools-they-need-to-find-and-keep-good-jobs.html>.

¹¹⁸⁰ Prime Minister announces investment in artificial intelligence to create over 16,000 jobs for Canadians, Prime Minister’s Office (Montreal) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/12/06/prime-minister-announces-investment-artificial-intelligence-create-over-16000-jobs>.

¹¹⁸¹ Government of Canada funds projet with Ironworkers Local 736 to help apprentices in Southern Ontario, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Ancaster) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/12/government-of-canada-funds-project-with-ironworkers-local-736-to-help-apprentices-in-southern-ontario.html>.

¹¹⁸² Government of Canada announces fund that will have a real impact for the middle class in Montreal, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Montreal) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/12/government-of-canada-announces-fund-that-will-have-a-real-impact-for-the-middle-class-in-montreal.html>.

¹¹⁸³ Minister Ng and Minister Monsef meet with local women entrepreneurs, Ministry of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2018/12/minister-ng-and-minister-monsef-meet-with-local-women-entrepreneurs.html>.

On 18 January 2019, Minister Mary Ng began a four-day tour across Canada to meet with small business owners and entrepreneurs to share the government's strategies in making paths for small businesses to grow and prosper in the changing world of economy.¹¹⁸⁴

On 28 January 2019, the Government of Canada announced the establishment of Clean Technology Stream of the Venture Capital Catalyst Initiative, where CAD50 million funding is invested to venture capital for Canadian clean technology companies to help them grow.¹¹⁸⁵

On 28 January 2019, the Government of Canada announced CAD6.6 million funding to Choices for Youth, where 450 youth in St. John's will benefit and receive skills training, job opportunities, and housing opportunities through this project.¹¹⁸⁶

On 27 February 2019, the Government of Canada announced over CAD1 billion funding towards FedDev Ontario to help local economic growth and facilitate innovation and growth amongst businesses in Southern Ontario.¹¹⁸⁷

On 28 February 2019, the Government of Canada announced CAD950,000 funding towards Atelier spécialisé les Moulins to help young Canadians in Mascouche prosper in the new world of economy by providing skills and job training as well as job opportunities to them.¹¹⁸⁸

On 8 March 2019, the Government of Canada signed the Workforce Development Agreement and the Labour Market Development Agreement with the Saskatchewan government to provide the province nearly CAD500 million over the next six years to help Saskatchewan create training opportunities for people such as to help people with disabilities, launch apprenticeship training, and create Adult Basic Education to help adults gain basic literacy and essential skills.¹¹⁸⁹ The funding will

¹¹⁸⁴ Minister Ng begins tour to highlight Government of Canada's small business tax rate reduction, Ministry of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/01/minister-ng-begins-tour-to-highlight-government-of-canadas-small-business-tax-rate-reduction.html>.

¹¹⁸⁵ Minister Ng announces investment in venture capital for Canadian clean tech companies, Ministry of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/01/minister-ng-announces-investment-in-venture-capital-for-canadian-clean-tech-companies.html>.

¹¹⁸⁶ Government of Canada provides skills training and job opportunities for 450 young Canadians in St. John's, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (St. John's) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-provides-skills-training-and-job-opportunities-for-450-young-canadians-in-stjohns.html>.

¹¹⁸⁷ FedDev Ontario announces new funding and dedicated rural support for a stronger Southern Ontario, Ministry of Innovation, Science and Economic Development (Vars) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/economic-development-southern-ontario/news/2019/02/feddev-ontario-announces-new-funding-and-dedicated-rural-support-for-a-stronger-southern-ontario.html>.

¹¹⁸⁸ Government of Canada provides skills training and job opportunities for young Canadians in Mascouche, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Macouche) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-provides-skills-training-and-job-opportunities-for-young-canadians-in-mascouche.html>.

¹¹⁸⁹ Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan announce agreements to give workers the tools they need to find and keep good jobs, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Gatineau) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/03/governments-of-canada-and-saskatchewan-announce-agreements-to-give-workers-the-tools-they-need-to-find-and-keep-good-jobs.html>.

also help to create labour services such as career counselling and employment services and Rapid Response Teams to help “businesses and workers affected by production slowdowns or layoffs.”¹¹⁹⁰

On 19 March 2019, the Government of Canada released its Budget Plan 2019 with a focus of investing in the middle class.¹¹⁹¹ The Government of Canada will take actions in “helping workers gain new skills with the creation of the new Canada Training Benefits, [m]aking post-secondary education more affordable by lowering interest rates on Canada Student Loans, [p]roviding more on-the-job learning to young Canadians by creating up to 84,000 new student work placements per year by 2023-2024, [e]nhancing support of apprenticeship, [c]reating meaningful opportunities through the Canada Service Corps, [s]upporting Indigenous post-secondary education, [and] creating opportunities for young Canadians to travel, work or study abroad.”¹¹⁹²

On 18 April 2019, the Government of Canada announced an investment of CAD41 million to a Waterloo-based not-for-profit organization and three start-up companies to help them with their project of developing products that “integrate quantum, artificial intelligence and machine learning technologies.”¹¹⁹³ This funding helped to secure 75 jobs while creating up to 167 new skilled jobs.¹¹⁹⁴

On 23 April 2019, the Government of Canada launched the start of Canada Summer Jobs 2019 to create over 70,000 paid work opportunities for Canadian youths.¹¹⁹⁵

On 16 May 2019, the Government of Canada announced the Canada Training Credit to give eligible workers tax credit of a lifetime up to CAD5,000 to pay for their training and tuition cost.¹¹⁹⁶ It also announced a new Employment Insurance Training Support Benefit and Employment Insurance

¹¹⁹⁰ Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan announce agreements to give workers the tools they need to find and keep good jobs, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Gatineau) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/03/governments-of-canada-and-saskatchewan-announce-agreements-to-give-workers-the-tools-they-need-to-find-and-keep-good-jobs.html>.

¹¹⁹¹ Budget Plan 2019, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019.

<https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/toc-tdm-en.html>.

¹¹⁹² Budget 2019: Helping Canadians Find and Keep Good Jobs, Ministry of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Mont-Tremblant) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019.

<https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/toc-tdm-en.html>.

¹¹⁹³ Government of Canada partners with digital industries to invest in ground-breaking technology and businesses, Ministry of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Waterloo) 18 April 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-partners-with-digital-industries-to-invest-in-ground-breaking-technology-and-businesses.html>.

¹¹⁹⁴ Government of Canada partners with digital industries to invest in ground-breaking technology and businesses, Ministry of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Waterloo) 18 April 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-partners-with-digital-industries-to-invest-in-ground-breaking-technology-and-businesses.html>.

¹¹⁹⁵ Canada Summer Jobs 2019 Hiring Season Kicks Off, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Cape Breton) 23 April 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/04/canada-summer-jobs-2019-hiring-season-kicks-off---over-85000-jobs-available-for-youth-in-canada-on-jobbankcayouth.html>.

¹¹⁹⁶ The Canada Training Benefit: Empowering Canada’s workforce to adapt and prepare for the jobs tomorrow, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Saskatoon) 16 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/05/the-canada-training-benefit-empowering-canadas-workforce-to-adapt-and-prepare-for-the-jobs-of-tomorrow0.html>.

Premium Rebate for Small Businesses to help workers on leave to train and employers to offset the EI burden.¹¹⁹⁷

On 17 May 2019, the Government of Canada made CAD236,000 through Digital Literacy Exchange program to help Canadians in low-income households, members of language minority groups, seniors, people with disabilities, and people who have not completed high school to gain basic computer skills.¹¹⁹⁸

On 23 May 2019, the Government of Canada announced a new eight-year project which has close to CAD3.8 million investment to help around 1,200 internationally trained newcomers to have their foreign credentials recognized here in Canada for them to start working.¹¹⁹⁹

Canada has demonstrated its compliance by providing funds to provincial governments and organizations to create skills training programs, creating dialogue among the public and private sector on information regarding government's strategies in helping various demographics to adapt and prosper in the changing world of economy, increasing funding to apprentice programs in various sectors of work, such that various underrepresented groups in the labour market, e.g. women, Indigenous people and those with disabilities, can have the skills and education to adapt and prosper in the changing economy.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Jijun Meng

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to ensure that all workers have access to the skills and education necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies.

On 14 June 2018, the Minister of Labour, Muriel Pénicaud unveiled plans for the development of a program to promote innovation amongst vulnerable people in the employment market.¹²⁰⁰ This comes as the next stage in the Skills Investment Plan, which aims to train two million unemployed people over the next five years.¹²⁰¹ By focusing on developing skills related to innovation and local

¹¹⁹⁷ The Canada Training Benefit: Empowering Canada's workforce to adapt and prepare for the jobs tomorrow, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Saskatoon) 16 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/05/the-canada-training-benefit-empowering-canadas-workforce-to-adapt-and-prepare-for-the-jobs-of-tomorrow0.html>.

¹¹⁹⁸ Government of Canada investing in teaching digital skills to Canadians who need them most, Ministry of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Westmount) 17 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-investing-in-teaching-digital-skills-to-canadians-who-need-them-most.html>.

¹¹⁹⁹ Government of Canada helps 1,200 internationally trained newcomers in the Greater Toronto Area get their skills credentials recognized in Canada, Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada (Mississauga) 23 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-helps-1200-internationally-trained-newcomers-in-the-greater-toronto-area-get-their-skills-credentials-recognized-in-canada.html>.

¹²⁰⁰ 100% inclusion: promouvoir l'innovation sociale, Page officielle du Gouvernement français (Paris) 14 June 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/argumentaire/100-inclusion-promouvoir-l-innovation-sociale>.

¹²⁰¹ 100% inclusion: promouvoir l'innovation sociale, Page officielle du Gouvernement français (Paris) 14 June 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/argumentaire/100-inclusion-promouvoir-l-innovation-sociale>.

start-ups, the Ministry of Labour hopes to provide young people with the skills needed to be competitive in the labour market.¹²⁰²

On 19 June 2018, the National Assembly provisionally adopted a proposed law on the Liberty to Choose One's Professional Future.¹²⁰³ The proposal makes explicit reference towards ensuring a developing economy through innovation.¹²⁰⁴ The main focus of the law is that employees will have the capacity to work on international secondments. This fosters greater global sharing of techniques and skills and allows workers to develop their own skills in emerging areas of technology while abroad.¹²⁰⁵

On 21 June 2018, the France Stratégie (French Strategic Department) published a report on the different mechanisms to bring Blockchain technology to France.¹²⁰⁶ The main recommendations proposed by the working group on Blockchain focus on the need for interdisciplinary research and training development.¹²⁰⁷

On 21 June 2018, Prime Minister Édouard Philippe announced France's plans to invest in industrial research in technological and economic sectors while visiting the M2P Technological Research Institute.¹²⁰⁸ The plan consists of a commitment of EUR57 billion in areas such as skills training in innovation as well as in alternative energy sources research and industry innovation.¹²⁰⁹ Part of the funding will also go towards technology start-ups to ensure that they have access to the support needed to remain competitive and to grow their "innovation ecosystems."¹²¹⁰

On 10 July 2018, Prime Minister Édouard Philippe announced plans to develop multidisciplinary training for students to enhance their expertise in bioproduction and bio-informatics.¹²¹¹ He also

¹²⁰² 100% inclusion: promouvoir l'innovation sociale, Page officielle du Gouvernement français (Paris) 14 June 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/argumentaire/100-inclusion-promouvoir-l-innovation-sociale>.

¹²⁰³ Le Projet de Loi 'Avenir Professionnel' Adopté par l'Assemblée Nationale, Actualités du droit (Paris) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.actualitesdudroit.fr/browse/social/fonction-rh-et-grh/14269/le-projet-de-loi-avenir-professionnel-adopte-par-l-assemblee-nationale>.

¹²⁰⁴ Le Projet de Loi 'Avenir Professionnel' Adopté par l'Assemblée Nationale, Actualités du droit (Paris) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.actualitesdudroit.fr/browse/social/fonction-rh-et-grh/14269/le-projet-de-loi-avenir-professionnel-adopte-par-l-assemblee-nationale>.

¹²⁰⁵ Le Projet de Loi 'Avenir Professionnel' Adopté par l'Assemblée Nationale, Actualités du droit (Paris) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.actualitesdudroit.fr/browse/social/fonction-rh-et-grh/14269/le-projet-de-loi-avenir-professionnel-adopte-par-l-assemblee-nationale>

¹²⁰⁶ Les Enjeux des Blockchains, France Stratégie (Paris) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <http://www.strategie.gouv.fr/publications/enjeux-blockchains>.

¹²⁰⁷ Les Enjeux des Blockchains, France Stratégie (Paris) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <http://www.strategie.gouv.fr/publications/enjeux-blockchains>

¹²⁰⁸ L'ambition de la France pour l'investissement et l'innovation, Page officielle du Gouvernement français (Paris) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/partage/10317-notre-ambition-pour-l-investissement-et-l-innovation>.

¹²⁰⁹ L'ambition de la France pour l'investissement et l'innovation, Page officielle du Gouvernement français (Paris) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/partage/10317-notre-ambition-pour-l-investissement-et-l-innovation>.

¹²¹⁰ L'ambition de la France pour l'investissement et l'innovation, Page officielle du Gouvernement français (Paris) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/partage/10317-notre-ambition-pour-l-investissement-et-l-innovation>.

¹²¹¹ Discours devant le Conseil Stratégique des Industries de Santé, Page officielle du Gouvernement français (Paris) 10 July 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/partage/10373-discours-devant-le-conseil-strategique-des-industries-de-sante>

revealed new funding opportunities for biotechnology startups to pursue their research, especially in collaborative settings.¹²¹²

On 10 July 2018, during the debate on the bill reforming apprenticeship and vocational training in the Senate, Minister of Labour Muriel Pénicaud announced that the government is considering the creation of a long-term unemployment benefit.¹²¹³ This would be complemented by other assistance programs such as potential apprenticeships in developing economic sectors.¹²¹⁴

On 1 August 2018, Bruno Le Maire, France's Minister of Economy, met with Luigi Di Maio, Italy's Minister of Economic Development to discuss the industrial cooperation between two countries as well as the strategy of economic development at the bilateral level.¹²¹⁵ Two leaders agreed that a more ambitious European industrial policy is required to generate more jobs and increase competitiveness in the international field.¹²¹⁶ They discussed the need for French and Italian industries to implement technologies of the future and bring them to the forefront of innovation.¹²¹⁷ In the meeting, France and Italy highlighted that they will be working together on key projects like innovative textile, microelectronics as well as artificial intelligence¹²¹⁸. Additionally, different financial models for investment have been discussed in order to support the growth of small and medium-sized enterprises.¹²¹⁹ On 24 September 2018, two Ministers met again at the Friends of Industry Conference in Paris and further discussed the objectives mentioned above.¹²²⁰

¹²¹² Discours devant le Conseil Stratégique des Industries de Santé, Page officielle du Gouvernement français (Paris) 10 July 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/partage/10373-discours-devant-le-conseil-strategique-des-industries-de-sante>.

¹²¹³ Chômage: le gouvernement planche sur la création d'une allocation longue durée, Le Figaro (Paris) 10 July 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <http://www.lefigaro.fr/flash-eco/2018/07/10/97002-20180710FILWWW00187-chomage-le-gouvernement-planche-sur-une-allocation-longue-duree.php>.

¹²¹⁴ Chômage: le gouvernement planche sur la création d'une allocation longue durée, Le Figaro (Paris) 10 July 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <http://www.lefigaro.fr/flash-eco/2018/07/10/97002-20180710FILWWW00187-chomage-le-gouvernement-planche-sur-une-allocation-longue-duree.php>.

¹²¹⁵ Italy and France, bilateral meeting on economic development and industrial cooperation, Italy Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <http://www.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/index.php/en/202-news-english/2038466-italy-and-france-bilateral-meeting-on-economic-development-and-industrial-cooperation>.

¹²¹⁶ Italy and France, bilateral meeting on economic development and industrial cooperation, Italy Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <http://www.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/index.php/en/202-news-english/2038466-italy-and-france-bilateral-meeting-on-economic-development-and-industrial-cooperation>.

¹²¹⁷ Italy and France, bilateral meeting on economic development and industrial cooperation, Italy Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <http://www.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/index.php/en/202-news-english/2038466-italy-and-france-bilateral-meeting-on-economic-development-and-industrial-cooperation>.

¹²¹⁸ Italy and France, bilateral meeting on economic development and industrial cooperation, Italy Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <http://www.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/index.php/en/202-news-english/2038466-italy-and-france-bilateral-meeting-on-economic-development-and-industrial-cooperation>.

¹²¹⁹ Italy and France, bilateral meeting on economic development and industrial cooperation, Italy Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <http://www.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/index.php/en/202-news-english/2038466-italy-and-france-bilateral-meeting-on-economic-development-and-industrial-cooperation>.

¹²²⁰ Italy and France, bilateral meeting on economic development and industrial cooperation, Italy Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <http://www.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/index.php/en/202-news-english/2038466-italy-and-france-bilateral-meeting-on-economic-development-and-industrial-cooperation>.

On 1 October 2018, the Minister of Labour, Muriel Pénicaud, announced a plan to facilitate the professional integration of refugees.¹²²¹ The Minister of Labour stated that the initial funding of the program will be EUR15 million and will aim to help 4,000–5,000 refugees by 2019.¹²²² The plan aims to ensure the successful transition of migrant refugees into the modern French economy.¹²²³

On 2 October 2018, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation announced the Year of Chemistry which focuses on a series of events recognized the contributions of chemistry towards societal and economic development.¹²²⁴ The program promotes scientific and technical culture to audiences of all ages. There will also be a round table on the links between chemistry, education, research, and industry.¹²²⁵

On 6 October 2018, the Ministry of Education launched the 6th year of Code Week France.¹²²⁶ The program consists of six introductory workshops on computer programming offered across 50 schools to help foster the development of digital skills.¹²²⁷ This year, the Ministry of Education partnered with several groups such as the League of Education, Columbus and Libraries Without Borders to provide code initiation workshops. Other events were held across the country for young people, parents and teachers alike.¹²²⁸

On 18 October 2018, the Ministry of Education's new platform, www.monstagedetroisieme.fr, went live.¹²²⁹ The platform aims to connect students and local companies through a variety of internship

¹²²¹ Muriel Pénicaud annonce 15 millions d'euros pour l'insertion professionnelle des réfugiés, Le Figaro (Paris) 1 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <http://www.lefigaro.fr/social/2018/10/01/20011-20181001ARTFIG00303-muriel-penicaud-annonce-15-millions-d-euros-pour-l-insertion-professionnelle-des-refugies.php>.

¹²²² Muriel Pénicaud annonce 15 millions d'euros pour l'insertion professionnelle des réfugiés, Le Figaro (Paris) 1 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <http://www.lefigaro.fr/social/2018/10/01/20011-20181001ARTFIG00303-muriel-penicaud-annonce-15-millions-d-euros-pour-l-insertion-professionnelle-des-refugies.php>.

¹²²³ Muriel Pénicaud annonce 15 millions d'euros pour l'insertion professionnelle des réfugiés, Le Figaro (Paris) 1 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <http://www.lefigaro.fr/social/2018/10/01/20011-20181001ARTFIG00303-muriel-penicaud-annonce-15-millions-d-euros-pour-l-insertion-professionnelle-des-refugies.php>.

¹²²⁴ Lancement de l'Année de la chimie de l'école à l'université : Comment la chimie contribue-t-elle à la connaissance, à l'économie et à la société? Ministère de l'Éducation Nationale et de la Jeunesse (Paris) 2 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <http://www.education.gouv.fr/cid134649/lancement-de-l-annee-de-la-chimie-de-l-ecole-a-l-universite.html>.

¹²²⁵ Lancement de l'Année de la chimie de l'école à l'université : Comment la chimie contribue-t-elle à la connaissance, à l'économie et à la société? Ministère de l'Éducation Nationale et de la Jeunesse (Paris) 2 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <http://www.education.gouv.fr/cid134649/lancement-de-l-annee-de-la-chimie-de-l-ecole-a-l-universite.html>.

¹²²⁶ Lancement de la 6e édition de la "Code Week" France : deux semaines pour célébrer l'apprentissage du code et la programmation numérique Ministère de l'Éducation Nationale et de la Jeunesse (Paris) 6 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <http://www.education.gouv.fr/cid135146/lancement-de-la-6e-edition-de-la-code-week-france.html>.

¹²²⁷ Lancement de la 6e édition de la "Code Week" France : deux semaines pour célébrer l'apprentissage du code et la programmation numérique Ministère de l'Éducation Nationale et de la Jeunesse (Paris) 6 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <http://www.education.gouv.fr/cid135146/lancement-de-la-6e-edition-de-la-code-week-france.html>.

¹²²⁸ Lancement de la 6e édition de la "Code Week" France : deux semaines pour célébrer l'apprentissage du code et la programmation numérique Ministère de l'Éducation Nationale et de la Jeunesse (Paris) 6 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <http://www.education.gouv.fr/cid135146/lancement-de-la-6e-edition-de-la-code-week-france.html>.

¹²²⁹ Jean-Michel Blanquer et Julien Denormandie appellent les entreprises à se mobiliser pour proposer des stages aux élèves de 3e des quartiers prioritaires, Ministère de l'Éducation Nationale et de la Jeunesse (Paris) 18 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <http://www.education.gouv.fr/cid135351/jean-michel-blanquer-et-julien-denormandie-appellent-les-entreprises-a-se-mobiliser-pour-proposer-des-stages-aux-eleves-de-3e-des-quartiers-prioritaires.html>.

schemes to provide preparation for students entering the modern French labour market.¹²³⁰ The early provision of internships is enabled by the French government's large-scale mobilization of companies across a variety of fields.¹²³¹

On 25 October 2018, Prime Minister Édouard Philippe convened the 2nd Interministerial Committee on Disability.¹²³² One of the five priorities is to fund start-ups working on technological aids for people with disabilities and employing artificial intelligence in a socially conscious way and thus provide important access to funding and expertise to further foster innovation in this field.¹²³³

On 11 November 2018, the French Government launched Paris Digital Week, bringing together academics, industry and civil society representatives to participate in workshops and seminars on developing plans to tackle digital challenges.¹²³⁴ Hundreds of innovative projects were presented and special focus was given to developing youth involvement in these areas.¹²³⁵ The GovTech summit that took place on November 12 especially worked on developing plans to support the new European ecosystem of innovators and fostered collaboration between government agencies and start-ups.¹²³⁶

On 16 April 2019, the French Government announced "TECH.GOUV," a new program aimed at digitally transforming public services.¹²³⁷ The strategy will focus on six different areas: training, inclusion, accessibility, applicability, industry alliances and economic benefit.¹²³⁸ The pilot program will include an especial focus on working across the private and public sector to train workers in digital skills and to find new and innovative digital applications.¹²³⁹

¹²³⁰ Jean-Michel Blanquer et Julien Denormandie appellent les entreprises à se mobiliser pour proposer des stages aux élèves de 3e des quartiers prioritaires, Ministère de l'Éducation Nationale et de la Jeunesse (Paris) 18 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <http://www.education.gouv.fr/cid135351/jean-michel-blanquer-et-julien-denormandie-appellent-les-entreprises-a-se-mobiliser-pour-proposer-des-stages-aux-eleves-de-3e-des-quartiers-prioritaires.html>.

¹²³¹ Jean-Michel Blanquer et Julien Denormandie appellent les entreprises à se mobiliser pour proposer des stages aux élèves de 3e des quartiers prioritaires, Ministère de l'Éducation Nationale et de la Jeunesse (Paris) 18 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <http://www.education.gouv.fr/cid135351/jean-michel-blanquer-et-julien-denormandie-appellent-les-entreprises-a-se-mobiliser-pour-proposer-des-stages-aux-eleves-de-3e-des-quartiers-prioritaires.html>.

¹²³² Les cinq grandes priorités du Comité interministériel du handicap 2018, Page officielle du Gouvernement français (Paris) 24 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/argumentaire/les-cinq-grandes-priorites-du-comite-interministeriel-du-handicap-2018>.

¹²³³ Les cinq grandes priorités du Comité interministériel du handicap 2018, Page officielle du Gouvernement français (Paris) 24 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/argumentaire/les-cinq-grandes-priorites-du-comite-interministeriel-du-handicap-2018>.

¹²³⁴ Paris Digital Week: découvrez le programme, Page officielle du Gouvernement français (Paris) 11 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018.

¹²³⁵ Paris Digital Week: découvrez le programme, Page officielle du Gouvernement français (Paris) 11 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/paris-digital-week-decouvrez-le-programme>.

¹²³⁶ Paris Digital Week: découvrez le programme, Page officielle du Gouvernement français (Paris) 11 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/paris-digital-week-decouvrez-le-programme>.

¹²³⁷ TECH.GOUV : accélérer la transformation numérique du service public, La DINSIC (Paris) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.numerique.gouv.fr/actualites/tech-gouv-acceler-la-transformation-numerique-du-service-public/>.

¹²³⁸ TECH.GOUV : accélérer la transformation numérique du service public, La DINSIC (Paris) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.numerique.gouv.fr/actualites/tech-gouv-acceler-la-transformation-numerique-du-service-public/>.

¹²³⁹ TECH.GOUV : accélérer la transformation numérique du service public, La DINSIC (Paris) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.numerique.gouv.fr/actualites/tech-gouv-acceler-la-transformation-numerique-du-service-public/>.

On 21 May 2019, a joint initiative from France's governmental Science and Technology Department announced a series of exchange programs for doctoral students and young researchers in the area of artificial intelligence to foster collaboration between French and German laboratories and experts.¹²⁴⁰

France has demonstrated care to furthering both access to skills and education needed for its labour market in order to prosper in the new age filled emerging technologies. This was seen through programs like the sixth year of Code Week France and plan to facilitate the professional integration of refugees.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ioana Burtea

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to ensure that all workers have access to the skills and education necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies.

On 12 June 2018, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research held the first symposium of the Cliché-free Initiative in Berlin, where panel sessions and job orientations took place to encourage young women and men to explore their career option.¹²⁴¹

On 18 July 2018, the Federal Cabinet of Germany passed a law amendment on creating opportunities for long-term unemployed individuals.¹²⁴² Germany will offer employment assistance on the job for newly employed individuals to get used to the new working environment as part of the program alongside with government subsidy.¹²⁴³

On 10 August 2018, the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy announced the German government will increase the subsidy of inter-company vocational training centers to fully digitalize their equipment in order to help prepare SMEs and workers for the digitalized world.¹²⁴⁴ State Secretary Dr. Ulrich Nussbaum mentioned that the nation-wide network of centers would help SMEs and the craft sector "keep pace with changes."¹²⁴⁵

¹²⁴⁰ Appels à projets SST et Inria en IA mobilité et organisation d'événements, Inria (Paris) 25 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.inria.fr/actualite/actualites-inria/appels-a-projets-sst-et-inria-en-ia>.

¹²⁴¹ Gemeinsam für eine Berufswahl ohne Grenzen, Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (Berlin). 12 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.bmbf.de/de/gemeinsam-fuer-eine-berufswahl-ohne-grenzen-6352.html>.

¹²⁴² Neue Perspektiven und Teilhabechancen durch öffentlich geförderte Arbeit, Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales (Berlin) 18 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/2018/teilhabechancengesetz.html>.

¹²⁴³ Neue Perspektiven und Teilhabechancen durch öffentlich geförderte Arbeit, Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales (Berlin) 18 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/2018/teilhabechancengesetz.html>.

¹²⁴⁴ Higher grants for digitization in advanced training institutions, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 10 August 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20180810-hoehere-zuschuesse-fuer-die-digitalisierung-von-weiterbildungseinrichtungen.html>.

¹²⁴⁵ Higher grants for digitization in advanced training institutions, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 10 August 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20180810-hoehere-zuschuesse-fuer-die-digitalisierung-von-weiterbildungseinrichtungen.html>.

On 22 October 2018, the German Patent and Trade Mark Office along with “SINGA Deutschland,” “LOK StartupCamp” and “Start-Up Your Future” provided a conference on information about the intellectual property to migrants and refugees wishing to start companies in Germany.¹²⁴⁶ The conference shared information on intellectual property to SME entrepreneurs with immigration background and migrants and refugees who wish to become start-up entrepreneurs hoping to engage them in meaningful conversations and spread information for them to achieve success in Germany.¹²⁴⁷

On 2 October 2018, Germany adopted a new immigration law that allows companies to recruit more skilled foreign workers, stop the priority requirement that insist companies to choose German workers first in the pool of candidates, and encourages foreign graduates and workers with vocational training to come to Germany and gain work experience.¹²⁴⁸

On 16 November 2018, Germany adopted its Artificial Intelligence Strategy, with the goals of “making Germany and Europe global leaders on the development and use of AI technologies and securing Germany’s competitiveness in the future, safeguarding the responsible development and use of AI which serves the good of society, and integrating AI in society in ethical, legal, cultural and institutional terms in the context of a broad societal dialogue and active political measures.”¹²⁴⁹ The federal government will invest EUR3 billion promote innovation in the private sector by sending AI instructors to SMEs to support enterprises in learning the technology.¹²⁵⁰ The federal government will also “strengthen AI research and education at higher education institutions ... [and] promote the transfer of AI to businesses and society.”¹²⁵¹

On 19-20 November 2018, the Federal Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs took the opportunity of Inclusion Days to discuss and facilitate learning among people with disabilities on how digitalization could help them in terms of their work and in their workplace.¹²⁵²

On 26 November 2018, the Federal Minister of Education and Research, Thomas Rachel, launched a support program of the Vocational Training Program to train workers in terms of foreign language skills and other key skills necessary to thrive in the workplace and to allow international participation

¹²⁴⁶ The DPMA provides IP information to people with migrant and refugee backgrounds, German Patent and Trade Mark Office (Berlin) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018.

¹²⁴⁷ The DPMA provides IP information to people with migrant and refugee backgrounds, German Patent and Trade Mark Office (Berlin) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. https://www.dpma.de/english/our_office/publications/guestsatdpma/infoday/index.html.

¹²⁴⁸ Germany Agrees on Immigration Law to Tackle Labor Shortages, U.S. News & World Report L.P. (U.S.) 2 October 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2018-10-02/german-parties-agree-on-immigration-law-to-tackle-labor-shortages>.

¹²⁴⁹ Federal Government adopts Artificial Intelligence Strategy, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.de.digital/DIGITAL/Redaktion/EN/Meldungen/2018/2018-11-16-federal-government-adopts-artificial-intelligence-strategy.html>.

¹²⁵⁰ Federal Government adopts Artificial Intelligence Strategy, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.de.digital/DIGITAL/Redaktion/EN/Meldungen/2018/2018-11-16-federal-government-adopts-artificial-intelligence-strategy.html>.

¹²⁵¹ Federal Government adopts Artificial Intelligence Strategy, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.de.digital/DIGITAL/Redaktion/EN/Meldungen/2018/2018-11-16-federal-government-adopts-artificial-intelligence-strategy.html>.

¹²⁵² “Digitalisierung nutzen, um neue Teilhabechancen zu eröffnen”, Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales (Berlin) 20 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/2018/inklusionstage-2018.html>.

in this program.¹²⁵³ The federal government will provide funding of EUR3 million in 2019 and more in 2020 and 2021 to support international mobility and more worker participation in the support program.¹²⁵⁴

On 7 December 2018, the Federal Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs began to receive applications for new projects for the 2019 funding period of the Participation Fund.¹²⁵⁵ Eligible projects include further training for self-employment organizations and work exchange opportunities, where accepted project will receive EUR6,000 per year.¹²⁵⁶

On 19 December 2018, the Federal Cabinet decided on the new Skilled Labour Strategy, where Germany will aim to secure and expand domestic, as well as international, skilled labor potentials.¹²⁵⁷ The Strategy will allow workers with vocational skills to gain easier access to the German workforce.¹²⁵⁸

On 13 February 2019, the Federal Ministry of Education launched the MINT education program, where EUR55 million is invested in helping students, youth, and professionals gain more opportunities to explore their interests in the STEM field.¹²⁵⁹

On 11 February 2019, Minister Altmaier launched the “GO!” Start Up campaign in Saarbrücken to encourage people starting their own businesses.¹²⁶⁰

On 13 March 2019, the Cabinet passed a law to increase vocational training rate and allowance, to simplify requirements and regulations, and to reduce the administrative burden.¹²⁶¹

¹²⁵³ AusbildungWeltweit: Mehr Mobilität für Auszubildende, Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (Berlin) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.bmbf.de/de/ausbildungweltweit-mehr-mobilitaet-fuer-auszubildende-7413.html>.

¹²⁵⁴ AusbildungWeltweit: Mehr Mobilität für Auszubildende, Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (Berlin) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.bmbf.de/de/ausbildungweltweit-mehr-mobilitaet-fuer-auszubildende-7413.html>.

¹²⁵⁵ Förderbekanntmachung des Bundesministeriums für Arbeit und Soziales, Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales (Berlin) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Presse/Meldungen/2018/foerderbekanntmachung-des-bundesministeriums-fuer-arbeit-und-soziales.html>.

¹²⁵⁶ Förderbekanntmachung des Bundesministeriums für Arbeit und Soziales, Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales (Berlin) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Presse/Meldungen/2018/foerderbekanntmachung-des-bundesministeriums-fuer-arbeit-und-soziales.html>.

¹²⁵⁷ Fachkräftestrategie vom Kabinett beschlossen, Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales (Berlin) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/2018/fachkraefteeinwanderungsgesetz.html>.

¹²⁵⁸ Minister Altmaier: More growth, prosperity and jobs due to the Skilled Immigration Act, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20181219-altmaier-more-growth-prosperity-and-jobs-due-to-the-skilled-immigration-act.html>.

¹²⁵⁹ Mit MINT in die Zukunft!, Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (Berlin) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.bmbf.de/de/mit-mint-in-die-zukunft-7880.html>.

¹²⁶⁰ Altmaier launches regional conferences in his “GO!” start-up campaign, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190211-altmaier-launches-regional-conferences-in-his-go-start-up-campaign.html>.

¹²⁶¹ Höhere Zuschüsse für Auszubildende, Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales (Berlin) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/2019/hoehere-zuschuesse-fuer-auszubildende.html>.

On 1 April 2019, the federal government launched the first of a total of six regional conferences on Inclusive Social Space to increase accessibility and engagement into community among people with disabilities.¹²⁶²

On 10 April 2019, the federal government launched an initiative to encourage employers to hire people with disabilities.¹²⁶³ Six employment agencies are participating in this initiative to send cover letters for people with disabilities to companies in Germany.¹²⁶⁴

On 16 May 2019, the State Secretary Dr. Rolf Schmachtenberg signed the German-Bulgarian Work Programme with the Bulgarian Deputy Minister of Labor and Social Policy Zornitsa Rousinova on the future cooperation between two governments.¹²⁶⁵ They agreed on behalf of their governments to integrate unemployed individuals, people with disabilities, and migrant and immigrant workers into the work program.¹²⁶⁶

On 21 May 2019, the Federal Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs re-launched a website containing information on funding opportunities, vocational rehabilitation, technical aids, and financial services for people with disabilities.¹²⁶⁷

Germany is providing financial support to allow long-term unemployed individuals and those in certain sectors to have the skills necessary to prosper in the new world of work. Germany is also passing legislation to allow foreign workers and vocational training students to gain work experience in Germany under a selection process without bias. Germany is providing funding for skill training and work experience projects. Therefore, Germany fully complies with the commitment.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Jijun Meng

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to ensure all workers have access to skills and education necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies.

On 23 July 2018, Sant'Anna School Biorobotics Institute researchers have announced their involvement with two projects, funded by Regional Operational Program of the European Regional

¹²⁶² Konferenzreihe "Inklusiver Sozialraum" gestartet, Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales (Berlin) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/2019/1-regionalkonferenz-mobilitaet-in-einem-inklusive-sozialraum.html>.

¹²⁶³ Start der Initiative "Einstellung zählt - Arbeitgeber gewinnen", Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales (Berlin) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/2019/start-initiative-einstellung-zaehlt-arbeitgeber-gewinnen.html>.

¹²⁶⁴ Start der Initiative "Einstellung zählt - Arbeitgeber gewinnen", Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales (Berlin) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/2019/start-initiative-einstellung-zaehlt-arbeitgeber-gewinnen.html>.

¹²⁶⁵ State Secretary Schmachtenberg meets with Deputy Minister Rousinova, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (Berlin) 21 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.bmas.de/EN/Services/Press/recent-publications/2019/german-bulgarian-work-programme-signed.html>.

¹²⁶⁶ State Secretary Schmachtenberg meets with Deputy Minister Rousinova, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (Berlin) 21 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.bmas.de/EN/Services/Press/recent-publications/2019/german-bulgarian-work-programme-signed.html>.

¹²⁶⁷ Griese: "Bessere digitale Informationsangebote für Menschen mit Behinderungen", Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales (Berlin) 21 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/2019/umfassender-relaunch-von-www-einfach-teilhabende.html>.

Development Fund 2020.¹²⁶⁸ The projects will aim to enhance productivity in the healthcare system through digital technology development and automation research.¹²⁶⁹ The projects Congelamento Robotico Sicuro di sacche di plasma and Central Automated Process for Sterilization Units in a Lean Activity will take place at Sant'Anna School's Competence Centre. Competence centres are also part of the larger national strategy of Industria 4.0.¹²⁷⁰

On 1 August 2018, Luigi Di Maio, Italy's Minister of Economic Development met with Bruno Le Maire, France's Minister of Economy, to discuss the industrial cooperation between two countries as well as the strategy of economic development at the bilateral level.¹²⁷¹ Two leaders agreed that a more ambitious European industrial policy is required to generate more jobs and increase competitiveness in the international field.¹²⁷² They discussed the need for French and Italian industries to implement technologies of the future and bring them to the forefront of innovation.¹²⁷³ In the meeting, Italy and France highlighted that they will be working together on key projects such as innovative textile, microelectronics as well as artificial intelligence.¹²⁷⁴ Additionally, different financial models for investment have been discussed in order to support the growth of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)s.¹²⁷⁵ On 24 September 2018, two ministers met again at the Friends of Industry Conference in Paris and further discussed the objectives mentioned above.¹²⁷⁶

¹²⁶⁸ Italian National Plan for Industry 4.0, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies (Rome) 2 June 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.santannapisa.it/en/news/italian-national-plan-industry-40-santanna-school-launches-artes-40-competence-centre-focused>.

¹²⁶⁹ Italian National Plan for Industry 4.0, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies (Rome) 2 June 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.santannapisa.it/en/news/italian-national-plan-industry-40-santanna-school-launches-artes-40-competence-centre-focused>.

¹²⁷⁰ Italian National Plan for Industry 4.0, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies (Rome) 2 June 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.santannapisa.it/en/news/italian-national-plan-industry-40-santanna-school-launches-artes-40-competence-centre-focused>.

¹²⁷¹ Italy and France, bilateral meeting on economic development and industrial cooperation, Italy Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <http://www.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/index.php/en/202-news-english/2038466-italy-and-france-bilateral-meeting-on-economic-development-and-industrial-cooperation>.

¹²⁷² Italy and France, bilateral meeting on economic development and industrial cooperation, Italy Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <http://www.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/index.php/en/202-news-english/2038466-italy-and-france-bilateral-meeting-on-economic-development-and-industrial-cooperation>.

¹²⁷³ Italy and France, bilateral meeting on economic development and industrial cooperation, Italy Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <http://www.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/index.php/en/202-news-english/2038466-italy-and-france-bilateral-meeting-on-economic-development-and-industrial-cooperation>.

¹²⁷⁴ Italy and France, bilateral meeting on economic development and industrial cooperation, Italy Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <http://www.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/index.php/en/202-news-english/2038466-italy-and-france-bilateral-meeting-on-economic-development-and-industrial-cooperation>.

¹²⁷⁵ Italy and France, bilateral meeting on economic development and industrial cooperation, Italy Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <http://www.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/index.php/en/202-news-english/2038466-italy-and-france-bilateral-meeting-on-economic-development-and-industrial-cooperation>.

¹²⁷⁶ Italy and France, bilateral meeting on economic development and industrial cooperation, Italy Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <http://www.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/index.php/en/202-news-english/2038466-italy-and-france-bilateral-meeting-on-economic-development-and-industrial-cooperation>.

On 14 September 2018, Italy's Ministry of Economic Development launched a call for applicants to set up a group of experts for the drafting of a national strategy on artificial intelligence (AI).¹²⁷⁷ Luigi Di Maio, the Minister of Economic Development, has announced that the group will be composed by; ten representing enterprises operating in the field of AI; ten representing research centres, academics, think-tanks; ten representing the labour market, the professions, the third sector, the consumers and in general the civil society; as well as the Minister's representatives.¹²⁷⁸ The National Strategy plan will address policies and tools in order to coordinate and strengthen the research in the AI field, attract talents and develop business as well as promote public and private investments in AI.¹²⁷⁹ Once drafted, the package will be submitted to public consultation.¹²⁸⁰

On 20 September 2018, Italy organized the 26th annual Pontignano Conference, in collaboration with the British Council at the British Embassy in Italy.¹²⁸¹ The topic of the two-day event was "Bridging the Gaps" and the implications of the technological changes in education, innovation, and business were discussed.¹²⁸² Special Commissioner for the Implementation of the Italian Government Digital Agenda, Diego Piacentini, was a distinguished speaker along with many experts from various fields.¹²⁸³ Senior representatives of the London and Rome governments, including the British Deputy Prime Minister David Lidington and the Undersecretary of State at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers Giancarlo Giorgetti were also present at the event. The conference included many workshops, panels, and debates regarding the effects of AI on the economy, definition, and creation of the future of work, ways to bridge together education and workers' skills, as well as innovation investments.¹²⁸⁴

On 4 October 2018, an award ceremony for the best digital projects developed by high schools in the provinces of Biella and Vercelli was held.¹²⁸⁵ The event was organized by the Institute Eugenio Bona and was part the larger Digital National School Plan.¹²⁸⁶ The reward was a voucher for EUR1500 to spend on school's digital equipment and a voucher of EUR1000 that can be spent on a variety of projects linked to robotics or coding.¹²⁸⁷ The Ministry of Education has launched the plan, to achieve

¹²⁷⁷ Artificial intelligence (AI): call for experts, Italy Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 14 September 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <http://www.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/index.php/en/202-news-english/2038605-artificial-intelligence-ai-call-for-experts>.

¹²⁷⁸ Artificial intelligence (AI): call for experts, Italy Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 14 September 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <http://www.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/index.php/en/202-news-english/2038605-artificial-intelligence-ai-call-for-experts>.

¹²⁷⁹ Artificial intelligence (AI): call for experts, Italy Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 14 September 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <http://www.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/index.php/en/202-news-english/2038605-artificial-intelligence-ai-call-for-experts>.

¹²⁸⁰ Artificial intelligence (AI): call for experts, Italy Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 14 September 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <http://www.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/index.php/en/202-news-english/2038605-artificial-intelligence-ai-call-for-experts>.

¹²⁸¹ 26th Pontignano Conference: "Bridging the Gaps", British Embassy (Rome) 19 September 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/26th-pontignano-conference-bridging-the-gaps>.

¹²⁸² 26th Pontignano Conference: "Bridging the Gaps", British Embassy (Rome) 19 September 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/26th-pontignano-conference-bridging-the-gaps>.

¹²⁸³ 26th Pontignano Conference: "Bridging the Gaps", British Embassy (Rome) 19 September 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/26th-pontignano-conference-bridging-the-gaps>.

¹²⁸⁴ 26th Pontignano Conference: "Bridging the Gaps", British Embassy (Rome) 19 September 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/26th-pontignano-conference-bridging-the-gaps>.

¹²⁸⁵ Digital school, awarded at the Bona schools of Biella and Vercelli, Biella (Rome) 4 October 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://biella.diariodelweb.it/biella/articolo/?nid=20181004-529513>.

¹²⁸⁶ Digital school, awarded at the Bona schools of Biella and Vercelli, Biella (Rome) 4 October 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://biella.diariodelweb.it/biella/articolo/?nid=20181004-529513>.

¹²⁸⁷ Digital school, awarded at the Bona schools of Biella and Vercelli, Biella (Rome) 4 October 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://biella.diariodelweb.it/biella/articolo/?nid=20181004-529513>.

a comprehensive innovation strategy across the country's school system, adopting into the digital age. This plan is one of the pillars of "La Buona Scuola" reform, that was created in 2015, with a vision of increasing the digital education opportunities.¹²⁸⁸ La Buona Scuola reforms are part of the National Business Plan 4.0, also known as the "Industria 4.0."¹²⁸⁹ This is Italy's national strategy for digitizing the economy.¹²⁹⁰ It boosts innovation-driven economic growth through a wide range of policy measures to spur both domestic and international investment.¹²⁹¹ The cornerstones of the plan include tax incentives for innovative start-ups, research and development expenditures, and patenting procedures as well as super and hyper depreciation policies for investments in selected industrial equipment (such as machinery that can convert information through the Internet of Things).¹²⁹²

On 16 October 2018, the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Economic Development, Claudio Cominardi, stated, "the Employment Centers will again play a key role for citizens and businesses, as is the case in European countries."¹²⁹³ In his speech, he also commented, "today is officially the start of a strategic reform for employment and active policies of the country."¹²⁹⁴ Employment Centre plans aim to strengthen the training of workers, the adaptation of facilities and IT equipment, and accelerate the use of new technologies to streamline the processes.¹²⁹⁵

On 30 November 2018, the National Award for Innovation-PNI was held.¹²⁹⁶ This event is organized by the Association of University Incubators-PNICube, in partnership with Chamber of Commerce, and qualifies as Italy's most famous and widespread business plan competition.¹²⁹⁷ This year's theme was "Destination Impresa 4.0," referring to the concepts of innovation, digitalization and most specifically, the Ministry of Economic Development's National Industry 4.0 Plan.¹²⁹⁸ The

¹²⁸⁸ Digital school, awarded at the Bona schools of Biella and Vercelli, Biella (Rome) 4 October 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://biella.diariodelweb.it/biella/articolo/?nid=20181004-529513>.

¹²⁸⁹ Incentives to investors: Italy's Industria 4.0, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome). Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://investorvisa.mise.gov.it/index.php/en/home-en/incentives-to-investors-italy-s-industria-4-0-plan>.

¹²⁹⁰ Incentives to investors: Italy's Industria 4.0, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome). Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://investorvisa.mise.gov.it/index.php/en/home-en/incentives-to-investors-italy-s-industria-4-0-plan>.

¹²⁹¹ Incentives to investors: Italy's Industria 4.0, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome). Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://investorvisa.mise.gov.it/index.php/en/home-en/incentives-to-investors-italy-s-industria-4-0-plan>.

¹²⁹² Incentives to investors: Italy's Industria 4.0, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome). Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://investorvisa.mise.gov.it/index.php/en/home-en/incentives-to-investors-italy-s-industria-4-0-plan>.

¹²⁹³ Employment Centers will once again play a key role for citizens and businesses, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome), 16 October 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/stampa-e-media/Comunicati/Pagine/l-centri-per-l-impiego-torneranno-ad-avere-un-ruolo-chiave-per-i-cittadini-e-per-le-impresе.aspx>.

¹²⁹⁴ Employment Centers will once again play a key role for citizens and businesses, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome), 16 October 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/stampa-e-media/Comunicati/Pagine/l-centri-per-l-impiego-torneranno-ad-avere-un-ruolo-chiave-per-i-cittadini-e-per-le-impresе.aspx>.

¹²⁹⁵ Employment Centers will once again play a key role for citizens and businesses, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome), 16 October 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/stampa-e-media/Comunicati/Pagine/l-centri-per-l-impiego-torneranno-ad-avere-un-ruolo-chiave-per-i-cittadini-e-per-le-impresе.aspx>.

¹²⁹⁶ National Innovation Award 2018, 16th edition now underway, Research Italy (Rome) 25 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.researchitaly.it/en/news/national-innovation-award-2018-16th-edition-now-underway/>.

¹²⁹⁷ National Innovation Award 2018, 16th edition now underway, Research Italy (Rome) 25 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.researchitaly.it/en/news/national-innovation-award-2018-16th-edition-now-underway/>.

¹²⁹⁸ National Award for innovation: Moi wins, startup for Industry 4.0, Economy Up Digital360 (Rome) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018, https://www.economyup.it/startup/premio-nazionale-innovazione-startupcup/#Premio_Nazionale_per_lInnovazione_tutti_i_premi.

prize for the first place was over EUR1 million and it was awarded to a start-up named MOI.¹²⁹⁹ MOI developed an additive manufacturing technology capable of producing high-performance products in composite material.¹³⁰⁰ Overall, this competition aimed to bring the labour market closer to the world of innovative start-ups, spin-offs, universities, and potential careers paths to implement the skills acquired.¹³⁰¹

On 3 December 2018, Italy enriched its Telematic Deposit of contracts with a new feature.¹³⁰² The information technology application will allow corporations to deposit their collective agreements in a few clicks to access the tax credit for training 4.0.¹³⁰³ This is part of the wider “National Business Plan 4.0” and is under the 2018 Budget Law; it is planned to promote the technological and digital innovation process of the private sector, focused on human capital.¹³⁰⁴ The tax credit is created to cover expenses incurred in 2018 for workers engaged in training, related to “emerging technologies.”¹³⁰⁵

On 7 December 2018, a multi-stakeholder G7 Conference on Artificial Intelligence was held in Montreal, promoted as part of the work of the G7 Summit in Charlevoix.¹³⁰⁶ Italian delegation included the Ministry of Economic Development and a group of experts, academics and representatives of the business world and of the Italian startups operating in the sector.¹³⁰⁷ Italy presented a report on the subject “the future of work — skills for the modern economy” during the conference.¹³⁰⁸ Topics discussed in the event consisted of the potential of human and technological

¹²⁹⁹ National Innovation Award 2018, 16th edition now underway, Research Italy (Rome) 25 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.researchitaly.it/en/news/national-innovation-award-2018-16th-edition-now-underway/>.

¹³⁰⁰ National Innovation Award 2018, 16th edition now underway, Research Italy (Rome) 25 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.researchitaly.it/en/news/national-innovation-award-2018-16th-edition-now-underway/>.

¹³⁰¹ National Award for innovation: Moi wins, startup for Industry 4.0, Economy Up Digital360 (Rome) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018, https://www.economyup.it/startup/premio-nazionale-innovazione-startupcup/#Premio_Nazionale_per_Innovazione_tutti_i_premi.

¹³⁰² Tax credit for training 4.0: indications on the deposit of contracts, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/pagine/credito-d-imposta-per-la-formazione-4-0-indicazioni-sul-deposito-dei-contratti.aspx/>.

¹³⁰³ Tax credit for training 4.0: indications on the deposit of contracts, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/pagine/credito-d-imposta-per-la-formazione-4-0-indicazioni-sul-deposito-dei-contratti.aspx/>.

¹³⁰⁴ Tax credit for training 4.0: indications on the deposit of contracts, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/pagine/credito-d-imposta-per-la-formazione-4-0-indicazioni-sul-deposito-dei-contratti.aspx/>.

¹³⁰⁵ Tax credit for training 4.0: indications on the deposit of contracts, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/pagine/credito-d-imposta-per-la-formazione-4-0-indicazioni-sul-deposito-dei-contratti.aspx/>.

¹³⁰⁶ G7 Canada on Artificial Intelligence, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/it/198-notizie-stampa/2038908-g7-canada-su-intelligenza-artificiale>.

¹³⁰⁷ G7 Canada on Artificial Intelligence, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/it/198-notizie-stampa/2038908-g7-canada-su-intelligenza-artificiale>.

¹³⁰⁸ G7 Canada on Artificial Intelligence, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/it/198-notizie-stampa/2038908-g7-canada-su-intelligenza-artificiale>.

development related to artificial intelligence and employment opportunities created by new technologies.¹³⁰⁹

On 27 December 2018, the Ministry of Economic Development elaborated on its national strategy on artificial intelligence and blockchain-related technologies; it completed its selection of high-level experts on the topics.¹³¹⁰ Minister Luigi Di Maio stated that it is a “fundamental priority for (Italy) to know, deepen and address the issue of artificial intelligence and technologies based on distributed registers and blockchains, as well as increasing public and private investments in this direction.”¹³¹¹

On 21 January 2019, the first meetings for Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain expert groups were held at the Ministry of Economic Development.¹³¹² Both Working Groups outlined their agendas.¹³¹³ Their plans included enhancing research, bringing the technologies from the laboratory to the market, attracting and favouring qualified investments as well as adjusting education and skills for the labour market.¹³¹⁴ The next meeting of the expert groups was held on February 8th.¹³¹⁵

On 31 January 2019, Italy presented the initiative on artificial intelligence in the United Kingdom.¹³¹⁶ The Italian delegation, under the leadership of Minister Luigi Di Maio, conducted a series of bilateral meetings with governmental and research organizations operating in the area of artificial intelligence.¹³¹⁷

On 8 February 2019, the second meeting of the groups of experts on Blockchain and Artificial Intelligence was held.¹³¹⁸ Issues discussed included the first technical analysis of the emerging

¹³⁰⁹ G7 Canada on Artificial Intelligence, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/it/198-notizie-stampa/2038908-g7-canada-su-intelligenza-artificiale>.

¹³¹⁰ Artificial intelligence and blockchain: experts selected, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 27 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039027-intelligenza-artificiale-e-blockchain-selezionati-gli-esperti>.

¹³¹¹ Artificial intelligence and blockchain: experts selected, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 27 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039027-intelligenza-artificiale-e-blockchain-selezionati-gli-esperti>.

¹³¹² At the MiSE the groups on Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain took office, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039109-al-mise-insediati-i-gruppi-su-intelligenza-artificiale-e-blockchain>.

¹³¹³ At the MiSE the groups on Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain took office, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039109-al-mise-insediati-i-gruppi-su-intelligenza-artificiale-e-blockchain>.

¹³¹⁴ At the MiSE the groups on Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain took office, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039109-al-mise-insediati-i-gruppi-su-intelligenza-artificiale-e-blockchain>.

¹³¹⁵ At the MiSE the groups on Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain took office, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039109-al-mise-insediati-i-gruppi-su-intelligenza-artificiale-e-blockchain>.

¹³¹⁶ Italy presents the initiative on artificial intelligence in the United Kingdom, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039157-l-italia-presenta-l-iniziativa-sull-intelligenza-artificiale-nel-regno-unito>.

¹³¹⁷ Italy presents the initiative on artificial intelligence in the United Kingdom, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039157-l-italia-presenta-l-iniziativa-sull-intelligenza-artificiale-nel-regno-unito>.

¹³¹⁸ Second meeting of AI and blockchain expert groups, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039210-seconda-riunione-dei-gruppi-di-esperti-su-ai-e-blockchain>.

technologies' potentials, as well as their applications, impacts and threats.¹³¹⁹ The working groups were then divided into five subgroups.¹³²⁰ The groups established are as listed below:

SG1 - Research, technology transfer and investments

SG2 - Education, competence and lifelong learning

SG3 - Use and exploitation of data

SG4 - Regulatory framework and ethical impacts

SG5 - Strengthening of public administration services¹³²¹

On 18 February 2019, Minister Di Maio, along with the Prime Minister, announced the launch of the "investment program for the aeronautics sector" at the "Leonardo" factories in Pomigliano.¹³²² This program is set to bring over EUR1 billion of investment for the upcoming years; and according to Maio, digitization of processes, enhancement of skills and use of artificial intelligence, will be some of the cornerstones of the industry.¹³²³ As part of the plan, a training centre will also be launched in the Pomigliano site, which will allow young professionals and researchers to design and build their ideas.¹³²⁴ EUR9 million will be dedicated to building this campus and it is expected to bring together the engineers of Leonardo, the researchers of the academic world and also the entrepreneurs of the industry.¹³²⁵

On 4 March 2019, The Minister of Labour and Economic Development, Luigi Di Maio, presented the National Innovation Fund, which is expected to be an important initiative for venture capitalists.¹³²⁶ The fund will have a starting budget of EURO1 billion and will support innovative

¹³¹⁹ Second meeting of AI and blockchain expert groups, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039210-seconda-riunione-dei-gruppi-di-esperti-su-ai-e-blockchain>.

¹³²⁰ Second meeting of AI and blockchain expert groups, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039210-seconda-riunione-dei-gruppi-di-esperti-su-ai-e-blockchain>.

¹³²¹ Second meeting of AI and blockchain expert groups, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039210-seconda-riunione-dei-gruppi-di-esperti-su-ai-e-blockchain>.

¹³²² Minister Di Maio: "Over a billion Euros for the aeronautics sector", Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Rome) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/priorita/Pagine/Il-Ministro-Di-Maio-Oltre-un-miliardo-di-euro-per-il-settore-aeronautico.aspx>.

¹³²³ Minister Di Maio: "Over a billion Euros for the aeronautics sector", Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Rome) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/priorita/Pagine/Il-Ministro-Di-Maio-Oltre-un-miliardo-di-euro-per-il-settore-aeronautico.aspx>.

¹³²⁴ Minister Di Maio: "Over a billion Euros for the aeronautics sector", Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Rome) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/priorita/Pagine/Il-Ministro-Di-Maio-Oltre-un-miliardo-di-euro-per-il-settore-aeronautico.aspx>.

¹³²⁵ Minister Di Maio: "Over a billion Euros for the aeronautics sector", Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Rome) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/priorita/Pagine/Il-Ministro-Di-Maio-Oltre-un-miliardo-di-euro-per-il-settore-aeronautico.aspx>.

¹³²⁶ The National Innovation Fund Unveiled, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/en/news/en/202-news-english/2039363-the-national-innovation-fund-unveiled>.

SMEs in order to prevent their sale off and dispersion of intellectual property, skills and other considered assets.¹³²⁷

On 12 March 2019, Minister Di Maio, announced the government's new project, "incentive.gov.it."¹³²⁸ This project is planned to be a centralized tool for entrepreneurs across the country to help them optimize their incentives for their employees, considering their business needs, sectorial norms and growth potentials. The government-recommended incentives will concern start-up, scale-up and technology investments activities.

On 31 May 2019, the International Labour Organization's centenary was celebrated in Rome.¹³²⁹ The celebrations opened with a debate on the "Future of Work" and the main themes were transformations of work, technological innovations and demographic changes.¹³³⁰ The Italian Undersecretary for Labour and Social Policies, Claudio Cominardi, provided his considerations at the event.¹³³¹ He recalled the steps already taken by the Ministry, in terms of investing in human capital through a variety of social policies. In his speech, he also added; "The progress linked to the diffusion of technologies must not result in a step backwards in terms of dignity, rights and the protection of citizens and workers."¹³³²

Italy has ensured all workers have access to the skills and education necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Asli Ersozoglu

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to ensure that all workers have access to the skills and education necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies.

¹³²⁷ The National Innovation Fund Unveiled, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/en/news/en/202-news-english/2039363-the-national-innovation-fund-unveiled>.

¹³²⁸ Imprese, Di Maio presents the new site Incentivi.gov, Italian Government Presidency of the Council Ministers (Rome) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <http://www.governo.it/it/articolo/impresa-di-maio-presenta-il-nuovo-sito-incentivigov/11106>.

¹³²⁹ The President of the Council closes the ceremony for the hundred years of the International Labour Organization, Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Rome) 31 May 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/stampa-e-media/comunicati/pagine/il-presidente-del-consiglio-chiude-la-cerimonia-per-i-cento-anni-dellorganizzazione-internazionale-del-lavoro-oil.aspx/>.

¹³³⁰ The President of the Council closes the ceremony for the hundred years of the International Labour Organization, Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Rome) 31 May 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/stampa-e-media/comunicati/pagine/il-presidente-del-consiglio-chiude-la-cerimonia-per-i-cento-anni-dellorganizzazione-internazionale-del-lavoro-oil.aspx/>.

¹³³¹ The President of the Council closes the ceremony for the hundred years of the International Labour Organization, Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Rome) 31 May 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/stampa-e-media/comunicati/pagine/il-presidente-del-consiglio-chiude-la-cerimonia-per-i-cento-anni-dellorganizzazione-internazionale-del-lavoro-oil.aspx/>.

¹³³² The President of the Council closes the ceremony for the hundred years of the International Labour Organization, Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Rome) 31 May 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/stampa-e-media/comunicati/pagine/il-presidente-del-consiglio-chiude-la-cerimonia-per-i-cento-anni-dellorganizzazione-internazionale-del-lavoro-oil.aspx/>.

On 13 June 2018, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's cabinet published a new plan aiming to expand recurrent education by increasing government spending on specialized training schools.¹³³³ Benefit rates for courses entitled to the general educational training benefits such as information technology skills will increase from 20 percent to 40 percent.¹³³⁴ Education programmes specializing in high technology such as biotechnology, robotics, and fine chemicals will receive special funding and minimum lecture time will be shortened.¹³³⁵ These changes aim to improve the quality of education and allow a bigger population to have convenient access to education.¹³³⁶

On 15 June 2018, the cabinet creates Basic Policy on Economic and Fiscal Management and Reform to instigate a new wave of "human resources development revolution."¹³³⁷ The policies include the implementation of free higher education, a drastic expansion of recurrent education, and university reform.¹³³⁸ These policies aim to equip the population with the necessary skills to adapt to the emerging job market based on high technology.¹³³⁹

On 9 October 2018, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology announced Doctoral Programme for Data-related Innovation Expert, a new programme aiming to provide financial assistance to competent personnel in the field of high technology, especially data science. Funding for relevant education reaches JPY252 million, an increase from JPY213 million in 2017.¹³⁴⁰ The programme aims to help highly skilled workers prosper at relevant work fields and conduct better research.¹³⁴¹

¹³³³ 「人づくり革命 基本構想」 (A Revolution in Human Resources Development Basic Guidelines), Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo) 13 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/content/000023186.pdf>.

¹³³⁴ 「人づくり革命 基本構想」 (A Revolution in Human Resources Development Basic Guidelines), Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo) 13 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/content/000023186.pdf>.

¹³³⁵ 「人づくり革命 基本構想」 (A Revolution in Human Resources Development Basic Guidelines), Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo) 13 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/content/000023186.pdf>.

¹³³⁶ 「人づくり革命 基本構想」 (A Revolution in Human Resources Development Basic Guidelines), Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo) 13 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/content/000023186.pdf>.

¹³³⁷ 「経済財政運営と改革の基本方針 2018」 (Basic Policy on Economic and Fiscal Management and Reform 2018), Cabinet Office (Tokyo) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <http://www5.cao.go.jp/keizai-shimon/kaigi/cabinet/2018/decision0615.html>.

¹³³⁸ 「経済財政運営と改革の基本方針 2018」 (Basic Policy on Economic and Fiscal Management and Reform 2018), Cabinet Office (Tokyo) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <http://www5.cao.go.jp/keizai-shimon/kaigi/cabinet/2018/decision0615.html>.

¹³³⁹ 「経済財政運営と改革の基本方針 2018」 (Basic Policy on Economic and Fiscal Management and Reform 2018), Cabinet Office (Tokyo) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <http://www5.cao.go.jp/keizai-shimon/kaigi/cabinet/2018/decision0615.html>.

¹³⁴⁰ 「平成 30 年度科学技術人材育成費補助事業」 (2018 Scientific Technology Personal Growth Assistance Programme), Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Tokyo) 9 October 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/jinzai/data/__icsFiles/afieldfile/2018/10/09/1410001_001.pdf.

¹³⁴¹ 「経済財政運営と改革の基本方針 2018」 (Basic Policy on Economic and Fiscal Management and Reform 2018), Cabinet Office (Tokyo) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <http://www5.cao.go.jp/keizai-shimon/kaigi/cabinet/2018/decision0615.html>.

On 22 November 2018, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology held a press conference¹³⁴² answering questions regarding their plan to reduce the cost of higher education announced on 11 September 2017.¹³⁴³ The conference aims to clarify confusion about the programme and share with the public about adjustments made before its actual implementation in April 2020.¹³⁴⁴

On 26 November 2018, the Central Council of Education published Grand Design for Higher Education toward 2040 discussing future improvements in the country's higher education system.¹³⁴⁵ The overall plan takes a series of measures such as increasing investment in higher education as well as diversifying student body, instructors, education management, and both private and public educational institutions.¹³⁴⁶ The plan aims to transform Japanese higher education to a “learners-orientated education” and equip students with “universal knowledge and understanding as well as versatile skills in both humanities and sciences,” and the “capability to think critically” so that students are “capable of surviving the age of unpredictability.”¹³⁴⁷

On 28 December 2018, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology passed General Guidelines for the Realisation of the System of Free High Education.¹³⁴⁸ The bill aims to tackle the problem of Japan's shrinking labour in a new world of work by reducing tuition fees and

¹³⁴² 「高等教育段階の教育費負担新制度に係る質問と回答」(New System of Reducing the Cost and Burden of Higher Education), Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Tokyo) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018.

http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/koutou/hutankeigen/_icsFiles/afieldfile/2018/11/22/1411319_1.pdf

¹³⁴³ 「高等教育の負担軽減の具体的方策について」(Concrete Policies of Reducing the Cost and Burden of Higher Education), Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Tokyo) 11 September 2017. Access Date: 4 December 2018.

http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/koutou/hutankeigen/_icsFiles/afieldfile/2018/11/22/1411267_1.pdf

¹³⁴⁴ 「高等教育段階の教育費負担新制度に係る質問と回答」(New System of Reducing the Cost and Burden of Higher Education), Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Tokyo) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018.

http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/koutou/hutankeigen/_icsFiles/afieldfile/2018/11/22/1411319_1.pdf

¹³⁴⁵ 「2040年に向けた高等教育のク `ラント `テ `サ `イン」(Grand Design for Higher Education toward 2040), Central Council for Education (Tokyo) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018.

http://www.mext.go.jp/component/b_menu/shingi/toushin/_icsFiles/afieldfile/2018/11/26/1411360_2_1.pdf

¹³⁴⁶ 「2040年に向けた高等教育のク `ラント `テ `サ `イン」(Grand Design for Higher Education toward 2040), Central Council for Education (Tokyo) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018.

http://www.mext.go.jp/component/b_menu/shingi/toushin/_icsFiles/afieldfile/2018/11/26/1411360_2_1.pdf

¹³⁴⁷ 「2040年に向けた高等教育のク `ラント `テ `サ `イン」(Grand Design for Higher Education toward 2040), Central Council for Education (Tokyo) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018.

http://www.mext.go.jp/component/b_menu/shingi/toushin/_icsFiles/afieldfile/2018/11/26/1411360_2_1.pdf

¹³⁴⁸ 「高等教育無償化の制度の具体化に向けた方針の概要」(General Guidelines for the Realisation of the System of Free High Education), Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Tokyo) 28 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2018.

http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/koutou/hutankeigen/detail/_icsFiles/afieldfile/2018/12/28/1412286_001.pdf

offering scholarships to students in universities, short-term universities, and vocational schools.¹³⁴⁹ The bill will come into effect in April 2020.¹³⁵⁰

On 29 March 2019, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's cabinet announced "AI Strategy."¹³⁵¹ This is a strategy corresponding to the concept of Society 5.0, designed to realize a society where artificial intelligence becomes an integral part of the society by contributing to every aspect of human lives.¹³⁵² The strategy also laid out the specific work assigned to each sector of the government and establish moral principles upon which a AI society should function.¹³⁵³ In the overview of the strategy, the government pointed out current obstacles to the full realization of AI Society, notably the scarcity of both highly skilled and skilled AI workers, which fell short of the required number of 50,000 and 300,000 respectively.¹³⁵⁴ The overview also set up a goal for national AI education, which demanded an extra 20,000-30,000 highly skilled and 150,000 skilled AI workers to finish training every year to compensate the labour shortage.¹³⁵⁵ Further strategies include inserting basic AI courses into the current curriculums of primary-secondary education, improving the qualities of STEM courses in undergraduate education, and creating stimulus for citizens to study AI by providing greater scholarship.¹³⁵⁶

On 14 April 2019, Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Masahiko Shibayama held a press conference where he announced that the specific education goal corresponding to the AI Strategy included providing basic AI knowledge courses to over 1 million children and students in primary-secondary education every year by 2025.¹³⁵⁷

Japan has demonstrated a high level of care to furthering both access and education for its labour market with a view towards modern technological developments. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's

¹³⁴⁹ 「高等教育無償化の制度の具体化に向けた方針の概要」(General Guidelines for the Realisation of the System of Free High Education), Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Tokyo) 28 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2018.

http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/koutou/hutankeigen/detail/__icsFiles/afieldfile/2018/12/28/1412286_001.pdf.

¹³⁵⁰ 「高等教育無償化の制度の具体化に向けた方針の概要」(General Guidelines for the Realisation of the System of Free High Education), Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Tokyo) 28 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2018.

http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/koutou/hutankeigen/detail/__icsFiles/afieldfile/2018/12/28/1412286_001.pdf.

¹³⁵¹ 「AI戦略(有識者提案)及び人間中心のAI社会原則(案)について」(AI Strategy and Guidelines for an Human-Centred AI Society), Cabinet Office (Tokyo) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019.

<https://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/singi/tougou-innovation/dai4/siryoy1-1.pdf>.

¹³⁵² 「AI戦略(有識者提案)及び人間中心のAI社会原則(案)について」(AI Strategy and Guidelines for an Human-Centred AI Society), Cabinet Office (Tokyo) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019.

<https://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/singi/tougou-innovation/dai4/siryoy1-1.pdf>.

¹³⁵³ 「AI戦略(有識者提案)及び人間中心のAI社会原則(案)について」(AI Strategy and Guidelines for an Human-Centred AI Society), Cabinet Office (Tokyo) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019.

<https://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/singi/tougou-innovation/dai4/siryoy1-1.pdf>.

¹³⁵⁴ 「人工知能(AI)技術戦略」(Artificial Intelligence(AI) Technology Strategy), Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (Tokyo) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019.

<https://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/tyousakai/juyoukadai/14kai/siryoy6.pdf>.

¹³⁵⁵ 「人工知能(AI)技術戦略」(Artificial Intelligence(AI) Technology Strategy), Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (Tokyo) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019.

<https://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/tyousakai/juyoukadai/14kai/siryoy6.pdf>.

¹³⁵⁶ 「人工知能(AI)技術戦略」(Artificial Intelligence(AI) Technology Strategy), Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (Tokyo) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019.

<https://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/tyousakai/juyoukadai/14kai/siryoy6.pdf>.

¹³⁵⁷ 「柴山昌彦文部科学大臣記者会見録」(Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Masahiko Shibayama's Press Conference) Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Tokyo) 19 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://www.mext.go.jp/b_menu/daijin/detail/1415973.htm.

cabinet has taken a series of measures to improve both the quality and access to higher education for the people. The cabinet has also been continuously adjusting many of the plans and policies before actual implementations.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Hiromitsu Higashi

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to ensure that all workers have access to the skills and education necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies.

On 13 June 2018, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport announced the world's first artificial intelligence (AI) talent scheme as major multinational corporations join the government's collaborative program.¹³⁵⁸ Part of the initiative includes the creation of Digital Skills Areas where local businesses partner with leaders in the digital technology field to provide skills training.¹³⁵⁹ Other parts of the plan also include the development of a start-up visa for entrepreneurs with an especial focus on recent graduates.¹³⁶⁰ The government has also invested in a new industrial Masters program to help develop UK's AI future.¹³⁶¹

On 26 June 2018, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport together with the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy appointed the world-renowned artificial intelligence expert, Dr. Demis Hassabis, as an adviser to the new Office for Artificial Intelligence.¹³⁶² The Digital Secretary, Matt Hancock, also appointed a new chair of the AI Council, a new industry body tasked with increasing growth in the AI sector and promoting its adoption in other sectors.¹³⁶³ Commenting on these developments, Mr. Hancock expressed "cutting-edge technology is the basis of the future of

¹³⁵⁸ Huge boost to UK's data capability as big business backs world-first AI talent scheme and chair of data ethics and innovation centre is confirmed, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 13 June 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/huge-boost-to-uks-data-capability-as-big-business-backs-world-first-ai-talent-scheme-and-chair-of-data-ethics-and-innovation-centre-is-confirmed>.

¹³⁵⁹ Huge boost to UK's data capability as big business backs world-first AI talent scheme and chair of data ethics and innovation centre is confirmed, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 13 June 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/huge-boost-to-uks-data-capability-as-big-business-backs-world-first-ai-talent-scheme-and-chair-of-data-ethics-and-innovation-centre-is-confirmed>.

¹³⁶⁰ Huge boost to UK's data capability as big business backs world-first AI talent scheme and chair of data ethics and innovation centre is confirmed, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 13 June 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/huge-boost-to-uks-data-capability-as-big-business-backs-world-first-ai-talent-scheme-and-chair-of-data-ethics-and-innovation-centre-is-confirmed>.

¹³⁶¹ Huge boost to UK's data capability as big business backs world-first AI talent scheme and chair of data ethics and innovation centre is confirmed, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 13 June 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/huge-boost-to-uks-data-capability-as-big-business-backs-world-first-ai-talent-scheme-and-chair-of-data-ethics-and-innovation-centre-is-confirmed>.

¹³⁶² World-leading expert Demis Hassabis to advise new Government Office for Artificial Intelligence, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 26 June 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-leading-expert-demis-hassabis-to-advise-new-government-office-for-artificial-intelligence>.

¹³⁶³ World-leading expert Demis Hassabis to advise new Government Office for Artificial Intelligence, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 26 June 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-leading-expert-demis-hassabis-to-advise-new-government-office-for-artificial-intelligence>.

our economy.¹³⁶⁴ Under this Government, investment in the tech sector doubled in the last year, is growing at three times the pace of the rest of the economy, unemployment is at a 40-year low, inequality is falling, and we are seeing the first sustained fall in debt in a generation. We must build on these strengths ... We want to harness the best possible AI leadership to help us seize this opportunity. Demis Hassabis, Tabitha Goldstaub, and Wendy Hall have the expertise and vision to help us make sure the huge benefits of this powerful new technology are available to everyone.”¹³⁶⁵

On 18 July 2018, the Education Secretary announced a new deal with the West Midlands Combined Authority to boost skills across the West Midlands region.¹³⁶⁶ The deal includes a multi-million investment in local colleges that aims to both improve access to modern equipment and to promote teaching digital skills.¹³⁶⁷ Part of the investment focuses on adult learners while at the same time developing new apprenticeships in priority areas within the digital sector.¹³⁶⁸

On 30 July 2018, the Department for Transport introduced new plans for the Centre for Connected and Autonomous Vehicles’ Future of Mobility Grand Challenge.¹³⁶⁹ The Challenge aims to reshape the use of transportation in the United Kingdom by providing economic opportunities for British companies and employees.¹³⁷⁰

On 7 August 2018, Prime Minister Theresa May discussed her plans for developing the labour and technology markets of Scotland while on a visit to Edinburgh.¹³⁷¹ She announced the opening of the

¹³⁶⁴ World-leading expert Demis Hassabis to advise new Government Office for Artificial Intelligence, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 26 June 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-leading-expert-demis-hassabis-to-advise-new-government-office-for-artificial-intelligence>.

¹³⁶⁵ World-leading expert Demis Hassabis to advise new Government Office for Artificial Intelligence, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 26 June 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-leading-expert-demis-hassabis-to-advise-new-government-office-for-artificial-intelligence>.

¹³⁶⁶ New multi-million pound deal to boost skills across West Midlands, Department for Education (London) 18 July 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-multi-million-pound-deal-to-boost-skills-across-west-midlands>.

¹³⁶⁷ New multi-million pound deal to boost skills across West Midlands, Department for Education (London) 18 July 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-multi-million-pound-deal-to-boost-skills-across-west-midlands>.

¹³⁶⁸ New multi-million pound deal to boost skills across West Midlands, Department for Education (London) 18 July 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-multi-million-pound-deal-to-boost-skills-across-west-midlands>.

¹³⁶⁹ Government kick-starts work on Future of Mobility Grand Challenge, Department for Transport, Centre for Connected and Autonomous Vehicles (London) 30 July 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-kick-starts-work-on-future-of-mobility-grand-challenge>.

¹³⁷⁰ Government kick-starts work on Future of Mobility Grand Challenge, Department for Transport, Centre for Connected and Autonomous, Department for Transport, Centre for Connected and Autonomous (London) 30 July 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-kick-starts-work-on-future-of-mobility-grand-challenge>.

¹³⁷¹ PM remarks at the signing of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Deal: 7 August 2018, Prime Minister’s Office, 10 Downing Street (London) 7 August 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-remarks-at-the-signing-of-the-edinburgh-and-south-east-scotland-city-deal-7-august-2018>.

Bayes Centre made possible with a new injection of UK Government investment.¹³⁷² The centre will provide shared working spaces for applied data science and artificial intelligence research teams.¹³⁷³

On 7 August, the Department of Education reinforced their commitment to education technology.¹³⁷⁴ While the Department notes the lack of industry participation, they are working with the Chartered College of Teaching, the British Educational Suppliers Association and other partner groups to develop online training packages for teachers on embracing technology.¹³⁷⁵ They are also developing an online portal to provide free software trials for schools and are coaching teachers on their use through a series of regional demonstrator roadshows.¹³⁷⁶

On 22 August 2018, Her Majesty's Ambassador to Norway, Richard Wood, unveiled new education programs for artificial intelligence while at the Tech City Executive Accelerator Conference.¹³⁷⁷ The Government committed to investing GBP17 million to the development of AI technologies in universities.¹³⁷⁸

On 27 August 2018, the Department for Digital, culture, Media & Sport announced that over GBP1 million in new funds will be available for initiatives which will help boost the digital skills of underrepresented groups and disabled people.¹³⁷⁹ The program is particularly hoping to provide skills training in digital roles such as data analysts, programmers, cybersecurity specialists, software developers, and marketers.¹³⁸⁰ At the announcement, Minister for Digital Margot James said “[i]t is crucial everyone is able to take advantage of digital technology, whether it is to learn how to use the internet or develop the skills to work in a tech role.”¹³⁸¹

¹³⁷² PM remarks at the signing of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Deal: 7 August 2018, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street (London) 7 August 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-remarks-at-the-signing-of-the-edinburgh-and-south-east-scotland-city-deal-7-august-2018>.

¹³⁷³ PM remarks at the signing of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Deal: 7 August 2018, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street (London) 7 August 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-remarks-at-the-signing-of-the-edinburgh-and-south-east-scotland-city-deal-7-august-2018>.

¹³⁷⁴ New technology to spearhead classroom revolution, Department for Education (London) 7 August 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-technology-to-spearhead-classroom-revolution>.

¹³⁷⁵ New technology to spearhead classroom revolution, Department for Education (London) 7 August 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-technology-to-spearhead-classroom-revolution>.

¹³⁷⁶ New technology to spearhead classroom revolution, Department for Education (London) 7 August 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-technology-to-spearhead-classroom-revolution>.

¹³⁷⁷ Artificial Intelligence — a collaboration, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 22 August 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/artificial-intelligence-a-collaboration>.

¹³⁷⁸ Artificial Intelligence — a collaboration, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 22 August 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/artificial-intelligence-a-collaboration>.

¹³⁷⁹ New funds to boost diversity of people working in digital and tech jobs, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 27 August 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funds-to-boost-diversity-of-people-working-in-digital-and-tech-jobs>.

¹³⁸⁰ New funds to boost diversity of people working in digital and tech jobs, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 27 August 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funds-to-boost-diversity-of-people-working-in-digital-and-tech-jobs>.

¹³⁸¹ New funds to boost diversity of people working in digital and tech jobs, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 27 August 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funds-to-boost-diversity-of-people-working-in-digital-and-tech-jobs>.

On 10 September 2018, Innovate UK and UK Research and Innovation introduced the Knowledge Quarter (KQ) Labs programme to provide access to the latest innovations and support to biomedical start-ups.¹³⁸² KQ Labs will offer a 16-week intensive accelerator programme to provide the start-ups with the skills and understanding needed to develop their biomedical proposals and help them move towards commercial launch.¹³⁸³

On 25 September 2018, the Government launched a new strategy to promote innovation and industry-led development of zero-emission vehicles in the UK.¹³⁸⁴ The Office for Low Emission Vehicles will partner with Innovate UK to deliver up to GBP22 million in funding for the program.¹³⁸⁵ The funding will be distributed across 3 different stages of research and development.¹³⁸⁶ The program will largely focus on collaborative projects to foster participation between small UK businesses and other research organizations or third-sector organizations.¹³⁸⁷

On 1 October 2018, Her Majesty's Land Registry announced a partnership with software company Methods.¹³⁸⁸ The partnership marks the next stage of HM Land Registry's research and development project, Digital Street. The aim of the project is to work with the industry to further public understanding of the use of smart contracts, blockchain, and distributed ledgers in the context of land registration and property buying/selling.¹³⁸⁹

On 2 October 2018, the Department of Education presented their plan to ensure that technical education will include digital skills training.¹³⁹⁰ GBP38 million in funding have been allocated towards T Levels providers to teach digital skills courses for the first time in 2020.¹³⁹¹

On 5 October 2018, the Business Secretary, Greg Clark, awarded GBP10 million to UK regulators to help drive forward innovation in the public sector.¹³⁹² This funding will go towards supporting 15

¹³⁸² New support for biomedical start ups, Innovate UK, UK Research and Innovation (London) 10 September 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-support-for-biomedical-start-ups>.

¹³⁸³ New support for biomedical start ups, Innovate UK, UK Research and Innovation (London) 10 September 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-support-for-biomedical-start-ups>.

¹³⁸⁴ Zero emission vehicles: funding to drive development and adoption, UK Research and Innovation (London) 25 September 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/zero-emission-vehicles-funding-to-drive-development-and-adoption>.

¹³⁸⁵ Zero emission vehicles: funding to drive development and adoption, UK Research and Innovation (London) 25 September 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/zero-emission-vehicles-funding-to-drive-development-and-adoption>.

¹³⁸⁶ Zero emission vehicles: funding to drive development and adoption, UK Research and Innovation (London) 25 September 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/zero-emission-vehicles-funding-to-drive-development-and-adoption>.

¹³⁸⁷ Zero emission vehicles: funding to drive development and adoption, UK Research and Innovation (London) 25 September 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/zero-emission-vehicles-funding-to-drive-development-and-adoption>.

¹³⁸⁸ HM Land Registry to explore the benefits of blockchain, HM Land Registry (London) 1 October 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/hm-land-registry-to-explore-the-benefits-of-blockchain>.

¹³⁸⁹ HM Land Registry to explore the benefits of blockchain, HM Land Registry (London) 1 October 2018. Access Date: October 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/hm-land-registry-to-explore-the-benefits-of-blockchain>.

¹³⁹⁰ New education and skills measures announced, Department for Education (London) 2 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-education-and-skills-measures-announced--2>.

¹³⁹¹ New education and skills measures announced, Department for Education (London) 2 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-education-and-skills-measures-announced--2>.

different projects aimed at improving access to technology within the British modern economic sector.¹³⁹³ For instance, GBP700,000 will go to the Solicitors Regulation Authority to enable them to provide support to businesses that will use artificial intelligence (with an especial focus on improving access for small businesses).¹³⁹⁴ There is also an initiative with the Civil Aviation Authority which has received GBP1 million towards bringing people from across the industry to “unlock legislative and regulatory barriers to innovations.”¹³⁹⁵ The Information Commissioner’s Office also received funding for their Regulators’ Business Privacy Innovation Hub which aims to pool experts in the field of regulation to support businesses in the field of information privacy and data protection.¹³⁹⁶

On 5 October 2018, the Business Secretary Greg Clark awarded GBP10 million to UK regulators to help drive forward innovation in the public sector.¹³⁹⁷ This funding will go towards supporting 15 different projects aimed at improving access to technology within the British modern economic sector.¹³⁹⁸ For instance, GBP700 hundred thousand will go to the Solicitors Regulation Authority to enable them to provide support to businesses that will use artificial intelligence (with an especial focus on improving access for small businesses).¹³⁹⁹ There is also an initiative with the Civil Aviation Authority which has received GBP1 million towards bringing people from across the industry to “unlock legislative and regulatory barriers to innovations.”¹⁴⁰⁰ The Information Commissioner’s Office also received funding for their Regulators’ Business Privacy Innovation Hub which aims to

¹³⁹² Corporate Report: Department for Work and Pensions single departmental plan, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 10 October 2019. Access Date: October 10 October 2018.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/department-for-work-and-pensions-single-departmental-plan/department-for-work-and-pensions-single-departmental-plan-2018>.

¹³⁹³ Corporate Report: Department for Work and Pensions single departmental plan, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 10 October 2019. Access Date: October 10 October 2018.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/department-for-work-and-pensions-single-departmental-plan/department-for-work-and-pensions-single-departmental-plan-2018>.

¹³⁹⁴ Corporate Report: Department for Work and Pensions single departmental plan, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 10 October 2019. Access Date: October 10 October 2018.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/department-for-work-and-pensions-single-departmental-plan/department-for-work-and-pensions-single-departmental-plan-2018>.

¹³⁹⁵ Corporate Report: Department for Work and Pensions single departmental plan, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 10 October 2019. Access Date: October 10 October 2018.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/department-for-work-and-pensions-single-departmental-plan/department-for-work-and-pensions-single-departmental-plan-2018>.

¹³⁹⁶ Corporate Report: Department for Work and Pensions single departmental plan, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 10 October 2019. Access Date: October 10 October 2018.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/department-for-work-and-pensions-single-departmental-plan/department-for-work-and-pensions-single-departmental-plan-2018>.

¹³⁹⁷ Corporate Report: Department for Work and Pensions single departmental plan, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/department-for-work-and-pensions-single-departmental-plan/department-for-work-and-pensions-single-departmental-plan-2018>.

¹³⁹⁸ Corporate Report: Department for Work and Pensions single departmental plan, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/department-for-work-and-pensions-single-departmental-plan/department-for-work-and-pensions-single-departmental-plan-2018>.

¹³⁹⁹ Corporate Report: Department for Work and Pensions single departmental plan, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/department-for-work-and-pensions-single-departmental-plan/department-for-work-and-pensions-single-departmental-plan-2018>.

¹⁴⁰⁰ Corporate Report: Department for Work and Pensions single departmental plan, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/department-for-work-and-pensions-single-departmental-plan/department-for-work-and-pensions-single-departmental-plan-2018>.

pool experts in the field of regulation to support businesses in the field of information privacy and data protection.¹⁴⁰¹

On 6 November 2018, the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, in conjunction with UK Research and Innovation and Innovate UK, announced the launch of five new technology centers that will provide training to healthcare professionals to utilize artificial intelligence advances in the medical field and further grow the UK biotechnology industry.¹⁴⁰² The program also welcomes support from leading medical companies who will be providing their technical expertise to the project.¹⁴⁰³

On 7 November 2018, the Department of Education committed GBP84 million to the development of a National Centre for Computing Education.¹⁴⁰⁴ The centre will focus both on improving teachers' ability to teach computing as well as on improving participation in computer science to prepare students for jobs in emerging computing-related areas.¹⁴⁰⁵

On 16 November 2018, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport created a digital training fund aiming at the charitable sector.¹⁴⁰⁶ The fund will be used to train workers in the charitable sector on improving their digital skills and using new technologies to achieve their goals.¹⁴⁰⁷

On 18 November 2018, the Business Secretary Greg Clark announced the creation of nine creative clusters around the UK.¹⁴⁰⁸ The programme is led by the Arts and Humanities Research Council which has contributed GBP80 million and will operate in conjunction with 13 local universities and several large corporations.¹⁴⁰⁹ As the Culture Secretary Jeremy Wright said, “[t]hese partnerships

¹⁴⁰¹ Corporate Report: Department for Work and Pensions single departmental plan, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/department-for-work-and-pensions-single-departmental-plan/department-for-work-and-pensions-single-departmental-plan-2018>.

¹⁴⁰² Artificial Intelligence to help save lives at five new technology centres, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 6 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/artificial-intelligence-to-help-save-lives-at-five-new-technology-centres>.

¹⁴⁰³ Artificial Intelligence to help save lives at five new technology centres, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 6 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/artificial-intelligence-to-help-save-lives-at-five-new-technology-centres>.

¹⁴⁰⁴ Tech experts to provide National Centre for Computing, Department of Education (London) 7 November 2018. Access date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/tech-experts-to-provide-national-centre-for-computing-education>.

¹⁴⁰⁵ Tech experts to provide National Centre for Computing, Department of Education (London) 7 November 2018. Access date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/tech-experts-to-provide-national-centre-for-computing-education>.

¹⁴⁰⁶ Government supports charities to go digital, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport, 16 November 2018. Access date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-supports-charities-to-go-digital>.

¹⁴⁰⁷ Government supports charities to go digital, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport, 16 November 2018. Access date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-supports-charities-to-go-digital>.

¹⁴⁰⁸ Major new research investment set to provide boost for UK's Creative Industries, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/major-new-research-investment-set-to-provide-boost-for-uks-creative-industries>.

¹⁴⁰⁹ Major new research investment set to provide boost for UK's Creative Industries, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/major-new-research-investment-set-to-provide-boost-for-uks-creative-industries>.

between business, academia and industry will encourage the use of future technology to develop new products and experiences, and boost employment opportunities across the breadth of the UK.”¹⁴¹⁰

On 30 November 2018, the Lord Chancellor helped launch TheCityUK annual report which included the announcement of GBP3 million of funding for three new research projects to provide greater access to technology to workers in the legal sector.¹⁴¹¹ One of the projects benefitting from this funding is the University of Oxford’s Unlocking the Potential of AI for English Law which aims to develop the legal sector’s understand of the use of artificial intelligence and strengthen the United Kingdom’s reputation as an economic centre for workers in new and emerging technologies.¹⁴¹²

On 30 January 2019, Innovate UK and UK Research & Innovation announced a fund of GBP2 million for the purpose of encouraging small businesses to implement new technology and practices.¹⁴¹³ Funding will be available for initiatives such as supporting greater digitisation or use of artificial intelligence.¹⁴¹⁴

On February 21 2019, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport announced up to 200 industry-funded AI Masters in a joint initiative between UK universities and technology companies such as DeepMind, QuantumBlack and Cisco, specifically to address the skills gap in this area.¹⁴¹⁵ A further 1000 students will have the opportunity to enhance their artificial intelligence skills with new PhD programs at 16 dedicated UK Research and Innovation AI Centres for Doctoral Training.¹⁴¹⁶

On 28 February 2019, the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy unveiled a GBP10 million fund for the launch of up to 10 new University Enterprise Zones (UEZs) in England.¹⁴¹⁷ The UEZs will act as an incubator for small businesses where they can access the university’s expertise and resources to equip them with training and new technology.¹⁴¹⁸

¹⁴¹⁰ Major new research investment set to provide boost for UK’s Creative Industries, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/major-new-research-investment-set-to-provide-boost-for-uks-creative-industries>.

¹⁴¹¹ Launch of TheCityUK legal services 2018 report: David Gauke speech, Ministry of Justice (London) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/launch-of-thecityuk-legal-services-2018-report-david-gauke-speech>.

¹⁴¹² Launch of TheCityUK legal services 2018 report: David Gauke speech, Ministry of Justice (London) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/launch-of-thecityuk-legal-services-2018-report-david-gauke-speech>.

¹⁴¹³ £2 million investment to help small businesses to grow, Innovate UK (London) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/2-million-investment-to-help-small-businesses-to-grow>.

¹⁴¹⁴ £2 million investment to help small businesses to grow, Innovate UK (London) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/2-million-investment-to-help-small-businesses-to-grow>.

¹⁴¹⁵ Next generation of artificial intelligence talent to be trained at UK universities, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/next-generation-of-artificial-intelligence-talent-to-be-trained-at-uk-universities>.

¹⁴¹⁶ Next generation of artificial intelligence talent to be trained at UK universities, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/next-generation-of-artificial-intelligence-talent-to-be-trained-at-uk-universities>.

¹⁴¹⁷ New university-business partnerships to boost jobs and local economies, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nhsx-new-joint-organisation-for-digital-data-and-technology>.

¹⁴¹⁸ New university-business partnerships to boost jobs and local economies, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nhsx-new-joint-organisation-for-digital-data-and-technology>.

On 3 April 2019, a coalition of technology companies in conjunction with the Department for Education announced the new “EdTech Strategy” aimed at using technology to boost accessibility in the classroom, improve digital literacy and stimulate industry innovation.¹⁴¹⁹

On 3 June 2019, the Department for Education announced the investment of GBP4.6 million into their EdTech Strategy.¹⁴²⁰ A part of the strategy will also involve giving grants of up to GBP100 000 to EdTech organisations to improve the reach of digital tools in the education sector.¹⁴²¹

On 10 June 2019, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport announced a cash injection of 18.5 million into different government run projects to retrain adults in artificial intelligence and data science.¹⁴²² At the announcement, Business Secretary Greg Clark said that the “new retraining opportunities and scholarships will ensure people from all backgrounds have the opportunity to move into new and exciting careers.”¹⁴²³

The United Kingdom has demonstrated a strong willingness to meet their commitment with numerous initiatives.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ioana Burtea

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to ensure that all workers have access to the skills and education necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies.

On 10 July 2018, U.S. Department of Labor announced a USD47.6 million award of 163 Homeless Veterans’ Reintegration Program, which provides occupation skills training, apprenticeship opportunities and other on job training and assistance. This fund has supported more than 18,000 homeless veterans.¹⁴²⁴

¹⁴¹⁹ EdTech Strategy marks 'new era' for schools, Department for Education (London) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/edtech-strategy-marks-new-era-for-schools>.

¹⁴²⁰ Expert Group launched with £4.6 million investment in EdTech, Department for Education (London) 3 June 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/expert-group-launched-with-46-million-investment-in-edtech>.

¹⁴²¹ Expert Group launched with £4.6 million investment in EdTech, Department for Education (London) 3 June 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/expert-group-launched-with-46-million-investment-in-edtech>.

¹⁴²² £18.5 million to boost diversity in AI tech roles and innovation in online training for adults , Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 10 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/185-million-to-boost-diversity-in-ai-tech-roles-and-innovation-in-online-training-for-adults>.

¹⁴²³ £18.5 million to boost diversity in AI tech roles and innovation in online training for adults , Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 10 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/185-million-to-boost-diversity-in-ai-tech-roles-and-innovation-in-online-training-for-adults>.

¹⁴²⁴ US. Department of Labor Announces Awards of \$47,600,000 in Training Grants to Help Hopeless Veterans Re-enter the Workforce, United States Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 10 July 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/vets/vets20180710>.

On 17 July 2018, U.S. Department of Labor announced the Apprenticeship and Nontraditional Occupation (WANTO) will fund grants to help expand job opportunities for women.¹⁴²⁵ The U.S. Secretary of Women also indicated that it is important for women to get into the apprentice program and maximizing job opportunities in different industries.¹⁴²⁶ According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports, women have a lower rate in participating in several industry sectors: manufacturing (29 percent), agriculture (25 percent), transportation and utilities (24 percent), mining (13 percent), and construction (9 percent).¹⁴²⁷ The WANTO programs will be providing opportunities in these areas regarding pre-apprenticeship, apprenticeship, nontraditional skills training, ongoing orientation, support groups and facilitating networks.¹⁴²⁸

On 19 July 2018, President Donald J. Trumps established the President's National Council for American Worker to provide a forum for the development of a national strategy which could address urgent workforce issues including developing a national campaign; creating a plan for recognizing companies demonstrate excellence in education, training, and workforce investment; expand the number of apprenticeships.¹⁴²⁹

On 27 July 2018, U.S. Department of Labor announced the creation of the high-quality industry-recognized apprenticeship program as part of the Trump administration's plan in equipping Americans with necessary skills for family-sustaining jobs.¹⁴³⁰ Expanding the apprenticeship model through industry-recognized programs, while retaining the existing Registered Apprenticeship program, will help Americans develop the skills they need for the jobs of today and tomorrow while meeting job creators' needs for skilled labor.¹⁴³¹ The Training and Employment Notice (TEN) issued by the Department of Labor is a follow-up upon the President's Executive Order Expanding Apprenticeships in America.¹⁴³² The TEN provides information that certifiers will be expected to have in place to establish standards, establish certification intervals determined by industries, evaluate and certify programs focused on outcomes and process, report results, and maintain records. Organizations will be able to seek a determination from the Department that their apprenticeship

¹⁴²⁵ US. Department of Labor Announces Grants to Help Woman Enter Apprenticeship, Expand Job opportunities, United States Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 17 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/wb/wb20180717>.

¹⁴²⁶ US. Department of Labor Announces Grants to Help Woman Enter Apprenticeship, Expand Job opportunities, United States Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 17 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/wb/wb20180717>.

¹⁴²⁷ US. Department of Labor Announces Grants to Help Woman Enter Apprenticeship, Expand Job opportunities, United States Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 17 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/wb/wb20180717>.

¹⁴²⁸ US. Department of Labor Announces Grants to Help Woman Enter Apprenticeship, Expand Job opportunities, United States Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 17 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/wb/wb20180717>.

¹⁴²⁹ President Donald J. Trump's Administration Is Taking Action to Equip American Students and Workers with the Skills They Need to Succeed, White house (Washington D.C.) 19 July 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trumps-administration-taking-action-equip-american-students-workers-skills-need-succeed/>.

¹⁴³⁰ US. Department of labor Announces an Initial Training and Employment Notice to Expand High-Quality Apprenticeship, United States Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 27 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20180727>.

¹⁴³¹ US. Department of labor Announces an Initial Training and Employment Notice to Expand High-Quality Apprenticeship, United States Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 27 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20180727>.

¹⁴³² US. Department of Labor Announces an Initial Training and Employment Notice to Expand High-Quality Apprenticeship, United States Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 27 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20180727>.

certification practices meet these criteria and ensure that certified programs provide apprentices with a pathway to a family-sustaining career.¹⁴³³

On 30 August 2018, the US Department of Labor announced the launch of a new digital platform, Apprenticeship.gov.¹⁴³⁴ This web portal features an Apprenticeship Finder tool that offers career seekers a platform to search for apprenticeships by city, state, and occupation, as well as connects job seekers to high-skilled, high-paying careers.¹⁴³⁵ The Apprenticeship Finder, a no-cost tool to employers or career seekers, is addressing a need shared by employers who are looking to promote their apprenticeship opportunities and career seekers searching to access them.¹⁴³⁶ The new Apprenticeship Finder tool will not only make it easier for career seekers to find apprenticeship opportunities, but it will also help employers promote apprenticeships across new or non-traditional industries where apprenticeships may be less common.¹⁴³⁷ Additionally, this effort supports President Trump’s Executive Order “Expanding Apprenticeships in America” by improving access to apprenticeship opportunities that enable more Americans to obtain relevant skills and high-paying jobs.¹⁴³⁸ Alexander Acosta, U.S. Secretary of Labor, said: “President Trump’s Administration is working to ensure the American workforce has the skills to succeed and the opportunities to secure family-sustaining careers.”¹⁴³⁹

On 11 October 2018, the US. Department of Labor’s Office of Disability Employment Policy announced the award of a USD1.9 million contract to develop pilot projects focused on apprenticeship opportunities for youth and adults with disabilities in high-growth industries.¹⁴⁴⁰ It awarded a two-year contract to Social Policy Research Associates Inc. (SPRA) of Oakland, California, to research, develop, test, and evaluate innovative strategies in existing apprenticeship programs that provide skills training to people with disabilities.¹⁴⁴¹ Efforts will specifically focus on quality pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship pilots in high-growth industries such as information technology, healthcare, and emerging sectors.¹⁴⁴² Furthermore, SPRA will document and share best practices so

¹⁴³³ US. Department of Labor Announces an Initial Training and Employment Notice to Expand High-Quality Apprenticeship, United States Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 27 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20180727>.

¹⁴³⁴ US. Department of Labor Announces Apprenticeship.gov, United States Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20180830-0>.

¹⁴³⁵ US. Department of Labor Announces Apprenticeship.gov, United States Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20180830-0>.

¹⁴³⁶ US. Department of Labor Announces Apprenticeship.gov, United States Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20180830-0>.

¹⁴³⁷ US. Department of Labor Announces Apprenticeship.gov, United States Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20180830-0>.

¹⁴³⁸ US. Department of Labor Announces Apprenticeship.gov, United States Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20180830-0>.

¹⁴³⁹ US. Department of Labor Announces Apprenticeship.gov, United States Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20180830-0>.

¹⁴⁴⁰ US. Department of Labor Awards \$ 1.9 Million to Improve Apprenticeship Opportunities for Youth and Adults with Disabilities, Office of Disability Employment Policy (Washington, D.C) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20181011>.

¹⁴⁴¹ US. Department of Labor Awards \$ 1.9 Million to Improve Apprenticeship Opportunities for Youth and Adults with Disabilities, Office of Disability Employment Policy (Washington, D.C) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20181011>.

¹⁴⁴² US. Department of Labor Awards \$ 1.9 Million to Improve Apprenticeship Opportunities for Youth and Adults with Disabilities, Office of Disability Employment Policy (Washington, D.C) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20181011>.

that other apprenticeship efforts may replicate promising approaches.¹⁴⁴³ “Apprenticeships are a proven strategy for connecting job creators with motivated, highly skilled workers, yet people with disabilities are disproportionately underrepresented in apprenticeship programs and in the workforce at large,” said Jennifer Sheehy, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Disability Employment Policy.¹⁴⁴⁴ “This project will help us determine ways to ensure people with disabilities acquire the skills and credentials needed to obtain an in-demand position in a high-growth business or industry, where jobs pay family-sustaining wages.”¹⁴⁴⁵

On 12 November 2018, U.S. Secretary of Labor Acosta, Alexander Acosta, announced the start of National Apprenticeship Week.¹⁴⁴⁶ This year’s theme — “Apprenticeships: Creating Tomorrow” — celebrates the impact apprenticeship programs have in helping Americans learn skills for jobs in growing industries.¹⁴⁴⁷ “President Trump’s Administration is committed to expanding apprenticeships and workforce investment across all industries. Apprenticeship is a proven way to help Americans learn the skills they need for good, safe, family-sustaining jobs,” said Secretary Acosta.¹⁴⁴⁸ “National Apprenticeship Week provides an opportunity to showcase how businesses, labor, educational institutions, trade and industry groups, and public officials across the nation are expanding apprenticeships to develop a skilled, dedicated workforce.”¹⁴⁴⁹

On 4 December 2018, the White House announced that President Donald J. Trump is releasing a plan to strengthen education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).¹⁴⁵⁰ According to the White House, the President’s plan seeks to ensure all Americans have access to quality STEM education and safeguard America’s place as the global leader in STEM innovation and employment.¹⁴⁵¹ The Administration’s goals include building a strong foundation of STEM literacy, increasing diversity in STEM careers, and preparing the STEM workforce of the future.¹⁴⁵² The plan

¹⁴⁴³ US. Department of Labor Awards \$ 1.9 Million to Improve Apprenticeship Opportunities for Youth and Adults with Disabilities, Office of Disability Employment Policy (Washington, D.C) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20181011>.

¹⁴⁴⁴ US. Department of Labor Awards \$ 1.9 Million to Improve Apprenticeship Opportunities for Youth and Adults with Disabilities, Office of Disability Employment Policy (Washington, D.C) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20181011>.

¹⁴⁴⁵ US. Department of Labor Awards \$ 1.9 Million to Improve Apprenticeship Opportunities for Youth and Adults with Disabilities, Office of Disability Employment Policy (Washington, D.C) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20181011>.

¹⁴⁴⁶ U.S. Secretary of labor Acosta Announces Start of National Apprenticeship Week, U.S Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 12 November 2018. Access Date: 30 November 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20181112>.

¹⁴⁴⁷ U.S. Secretary of labor Acosta Announces Start of National Apprenticeship Week, U.S Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 12 November 2018. Access Date: 30 November 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20181112>.

¹⁴⁴⁸ U.S. Secretary of labor Acosta Announces Start of National Apprenticeship Week, U.S Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 12 November 2018. Access Date: 30 November 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20181112>.

¹⁴⁴⁹ U.S. Secretary of labor Acosta Announces Start of National Apprenticeship Week, U.S Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 12 November 2018. Access Date: 30 November 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20181112>.

¹⁴⁵⁰ President Donald J. Trump is Working to Ensure All Americans have Access to STEM Education (Washington, D.C) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trump-is-working-to-ensure-all-americans-have-access-to-stem-education/>.

¹⁴⁵¹ President Donald J. Trump is Working to Ensure All Americans have Access to STEM Education (Washington, D.C) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trump-is-working-to-ensure-all-americans-have-access-to-stem-education/>.

¹⁴⁵² President Donald J. Trump is Working to Ensure All Americans have Access to STEM Education (Washington, D.C) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trump-is-working-to-ensure-all-americans-have-access-to-stem-education/>.

laid out key pathways to achieve the goals of “developing and enriching strategic STEM partnerships”; “engaging students where disciplines converge”; and “advancing computational thinking as a critical skill for America’s future workforce.”¹⁴⁵³

On 21 December 2018, U.S. Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta and Idaho Governor C. L. “Butch” Otter announced the Job Corps Demonstration Project that assumes operational control of a Job Corps center and the responsibility for providing skills instruction to Job Corps students.¹⁴⁵⁴ The Idaho JOBCorps model will effectively be leveraging existing resources and programs to better serve Idaho youth in getting the education and training they need in high-demand fields.¹⁴⁵⁵

On 11 February 2019, the White House announced the Executive Order on Maintaining American Leadership in Artificial Intelligence.¹⁴⁵⁶ The executive order demonstrated that the United States must train current and future generations of American workers with the skills to develop and apply AI technologies to prepare them for today’s economy and jobs of the future.¹⁴⁵⁷ The objective also included training the next generation of American AI researchers and users through apprenticeships; skills programs; and education in STEM, with an emphasis on computer science, to ensure that American workers, including Federal workers, are capable of taking full advantage of the opportunities of AI.¹⁴⁵⁸

On 13 February 2019, Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross and President Donald Trump’s daughter and adviser Ivanka Trump announced the creation of the American Workforce Policy Advisory Board.¹⁴⁵⁹ The board aims to “ensure inclusive growth” and provides all Americans with “the skills and opportunity to secure good paying jobs and successfully navigate technological disruptions and the rapidly changing nature of work.”¹⁴⁶⁰ The White House said 200 companies and associations have signed the administration’s Pledge to America’s Workers, promising to create more than 6.5 million education, training and skill-building opportunities over the next five years.¹⁴⁶¹ The board will be asked to help the council develop a national campaign to promote education and training,

¹⁴⁵³ President Donald J. Trump is Working to Ensure All Americans have Access to STEM Education (Washington, D.C) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trump-is-working-to-ensure-all-americans-have-access-to-stem-education/>.

¹⁴⁵⁴ U.S. Department of Labour Provides Idaho Flexibility to Better Serve Job Corps Student, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 30 December 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20181221-1>

¹⁴⁵⁵ U.S. Department of Labour Provides Idaho Flexibility to Better Serve Job Corps Student, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 30 December 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20181221-1>.

¹⁴⁵⁶ Executive Order on Maintaining American Leadership in Artificial Intelligence, The White House (Washington, D.C) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-maintaining-american-leadership-artificial-intelligence/>

¹⁴⁵⁷ Executive Order on Maintaining American Leadership in Artificial Intelligence, The White House (Washington, D.C) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-maintaining-american-leadership-artificial-intelligence/>.

¹⁴⁵⁸ Executive Order on Maintaining American Leadership in Artificial Intelligence, The White House (Washington, D.C) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-maintaining-american-leadership-artificial-intelligence/>.

¹⁴⁵⁹ Bloomberg: “Wilbur Ross, Ivanka Trump Introduce Workforce Advisory Board”, The White House (Washington, D.C) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/icymi-bloomberg-wilbur-ross-ivanka-trump-introduce-workforce-advisory-board/>.

¹⁴⁶⁰ Bloomberg: “Wilbur Ross, Ivanka Trump Introduce Workforce Advisory Board”, The White House (Washington, D.C) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/icymi-bloomberg-wilbur-ross-ivanka-trump-introduce-workforce-advisory-board/>.

¹⁴⁶¹ Bloomberg: “Wilbur Ross, Ivanka Trump Introduce Workforce Advisory Board”, The White House (Washington, D.C) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/icymi-bloomberg-wilbur-ross-ivanka-trump-introduce-workforce-advisory-board/>.

recommend ways to improve labor market data, increase private sector investments in job learning and better identify companies' needs in hiring.¹⁴⁶²

On 21 February 2019, the Trump administration announced pro-growth economic agenda is creating more economic prosperity and opportunity for all Americans.¹⁴⁶³ Through deregulation, tax reform, and job training, President Trump is creating a better climate for minority-owned businesses and workers.¹⁴⁶⁴ The Administration's Pledge to America's Workers has secured private sector commitments to provide 6.5 million training and education opportunities for American workers.¹⁴⁶⁵

On 25 February 2019, the U.S. Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta and Hubertus Heil, the Minister of Labor and Social Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, signed a Joint Declaration of Intent underlining the value of cooperation in various areas of international labor policy and practice between the two countries.¹⁴⁶⁶ The declaration will facilitate cooperation in supporting international initiatives and sharing of lessons related to apprenticeships, youth employment, and the future of work; relevant global initiatives; and furthering efforts to advance women's economic empowerment, in line with the United States' new Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative.¹⁴⁶⁷

On 11 March 2019, the U.S. Department of Labor released the President's Budget.¹⁴⁶⁸ The highlight of the labor budget includes developing a skilled workforce by investing \$160 million in apprenticeships to fill family-sustaining careers and creating new opportunities in industries where apprenticeship is underutilized.¹⁴⁶⁹ The Department also seeks to continue modernizing programs such as Job Corps to better serve Americans.¹⁴⁷⁰

On 27 March 2019, the U.S. Department of Labor's Veterans' Employment and Training Service announced the availability of approximately \$13.5 million in Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP) grants.¹⁴⁷¹ HVRP provide services to support homeless veterans in reintegrating

¹⁴⁶² Bloomberg: "Wilbur Ross, Ivanka Trump Introduce Workforce Advisory Board", The White House (Washington, D.C) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/icymi-bloomberg-wilbur-ross-ivanka-trump-introduce-workforce-advisory-board/>.

¹⁴⁶³ President Donald J. Trump is Working to Expand Opportunity and Prosperity for African Americans, The White House (Washington, D.C) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trump-working-expand-opportunity-prosperity-african-americans/>.

¹⁴⁶⁴ President Donald J. Trump is Working to Expand Opportunity and Prosperity for African Americans, The White House (Washington, D.C) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trump-working-expand-opportunity-prosperity-african-americans/>.

¹⁴⁶⁵ President Donald J. Trump is Working to Expand Opportunity and Prosperity for African Americans, The White House (Washington, D.C) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trump-working-expand-opportunity-prosperity-african-americans/>.

¹⁴⁶⁶ United States, German Sign Joint Declaration of Joint on Labor Cooperation, The White House (Washington, D.C) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20190225>.

¹⁴⁶⁷ United States, German Sign Joint Declaration of Joint on Labor Cooperation, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20190225>.

¹⁴⁶⁸ President's 2020 Budget expands opportunities for America's workforce, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 03 June 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20190311>.

¹⁴⁶⁹ President's 2020 Budget expands opportunities for America's workforce, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 03 June 2019, <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20190311>.

¹⁴⁷⁰ President's 2020 Budget expands opportunities for America's workforce, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 03 June 2019, <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20190311>.

¹⁴⁷¹ U.S. Department of Labour announces the availability of \$ 13.5 million in grants to help homeless veterans re-enter workforce, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 03 June 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/vets/vets20190327>.

into labor force with meaningful employments.¹⁴⁷² The program provides job training, counseling, and placement services, including job readiness, literacy, and skills training, to aid in the reintegration of homeless veterans into the labor force.¹⁴⁷³

On 28 March 2019, the U.S. Department of Labor's office announces four apprenticeship inclusion model sites to expand career pathways for people with disabilities.¹⁴⁷⁴ The four organizations participating in the AIM initiative pilot are Amazon, Microsoft, the Healthcare Career Advancement Program, and the Industrial Manufacturing Technician Apprenticeship program.¹⁴⁷⁵ During a two-year period, these organizations will pilot inclusive apprenticeship programs to provide access to apprenticeship opportunities for youth and adults with disabilities.¹⁴⁷⁶

On 22 April 2019, the U.S. Department of Labor announced the availability of approximately \$2 million in funds for the first year of a cooperative agreement for an employer-focused disability policy development and technical assistance centre.¹⁴⁷⁷ The new centre will conduct research, engage with business community; identify effective policies and practices; and provide resources, technical assistance and training.¹⁴⁷⁸

On 1 May 2019, the U.S. Department of Labor announced a new Job Corps demonstration project which is committed to helping young individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds receive high-quality vocational and academic instruction opportunities.¹⁴⁷⁹ The program will provide skills instruction and career pathway, and allow eligible students to earn academic credits at eligible colleges and universities.¹⁴⁸⁰ Grantees will use the grant funds to pay for the tuition of the Job Corps Scholars, hire personal and career counselors, and hire employment counselors.¹⁴⁸¹

On 24 May 2019, the U.S. Department of Labor accepted a letter from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) stating the USDA's Forest service will withdraw from operating Job Corps

¹⁴⁷² U.S. Department of Labour announces the availability of \$ 13.5 million in grants to help homeless veterans re-enter workforce, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 03 June 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/vets/vets20190327>.

¹⁴⁷³ U.S. Department of Labour announces the availability of \$ 13.5 million in grants to help homeless veterans re-enter workforce, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 03 June 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/vets/vets20190327>.

¹⁴⁷⁴ U.S Department of Labor announces four apprenticeship inclusion model sites to expand career pathways for people with disabilities, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 03 June 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20190328>.

¹⁴⁷⁵ U.S Department of Labor announces four apprenticeship inclusion model sites to expand career pathways for people with disabilities, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 03 June 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20190328>.

¹⁴⁷⁶ U.S Department of Labor announces four apprenticeship inclusion model sites to expand career pathways for people with disabilities, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 03 June 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20190328>.

¹⁴⁷⁷ U.S Department of Labor announces four apprenticeship inclusion model sites to expand career pathways for people with disabilities, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 03 June 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20190328>.

¹⁴⁷⁸ U.S Department of Labor announces four apprenticeship inclusion model sites to expand career pathways for people with disabilities, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 03 June 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20190328>.

¹⁴⁷⁹ U.S. Department of Labor announces job corps scholars grant program, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 1 May 2019. Access Date: 03 June 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20190501>.

¹⁴⁸⁰ U.S. Department of Labor announces job corps scholars grant program, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 1 May 2019. Access Date: 03 June 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20190501>.

¹⁴⁸¹ U.S. Department of Labor announces job corps scholars grant program, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 1 May 2019. Access Date: 03 June 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20190501>.

conservation Center.¹⁴⁸² This action creates an opportunity to serve a greater number of students at a higher performing centres.¹⁴⁸³ The department promises that they will increase student access to job corps centre with highest sustained student performance outcomes.¹⁴⁸⁴

The United States has established funds for different groups, e.g., veterans, women and the disabled, to ensure that all workers have access to resources that would help them adapt in the new world. Industry-recognized apprenticeship programmes, as well as tools that help workers find apprenticeships, have been developed to ensure all workers will have family-sustaining career, and thus prosper in the new economy.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ruohan Mu

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to ensure all workers have access to skills and education necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies.

On 13 June 2018, the European Commission updated its program for addressing and developing the skills of migrants.¹⁴⁸⁵ Its upgraded online tool allows third-country nationals to access online courses designed to develop both language and digital fluency, with the objective of supporting their integration into the skilled labour market.¹⁴⁸⁶

On 7 July 2018, the European Commission published its Employment and Social Developments review, which calls on member countries to prevent early school leaving and promote skill-intensive education programs in order to reduce unemployment and prepare youth for the new world of work.¹⁴⁸⁷

On 16 July 2018, the European Parliament Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL) published the results of a study into the potential use of the European Fund for Strategic Investment to finance skill development programs.¹⁴⁸⁸ The report outlines that the programs EMPL intends to create will encourage lifelong learning, including both academic and vocational training for all

¹⁴⁸² U.S. Department of Labour job corps announcement, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 24 May 2019. Access Date: 03 June 2019, <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20190524>

¹⁴⁸³ U.S. Department of Labour job corps announcement, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 24 May 2019. Access Date: 03 June 2019, <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20190524>

¹⁴⁸⁴ U.S. Department of Labour job corps announcement, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington, D.C) 24 May 2019. Access Date: 03 June 2019, <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20190524>

¹⁴⁸⁵ EU Skills Profile Tool for Third Country Nationals gets Another Upgrade. European Commission (Brussels) 13 June 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018.

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=1146&newsId=9125&furtherNews=yes>.

¹⁴⁸⁶ EU Skills Profile Tool for Third Country Nationals gets Another Upgrade. European Commission (Brussels) 13 June 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018.

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=1146&newsId=9125&furtherNews=yes>.

¹⁴⁸⁷ Employment and Social Developments in Europe 2018. European Commission (Brussels) 7 July 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=738&langId=en&pubId=8110>.

¹⁴⁸⁸ Skills Development: The Potential of the European Fund for Strategic Investments. Policy Department for Economic, Scientific and Quality of Life Policies (Brussels) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018.

[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2018/626053/IPOL_STU\(2018\)626053_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2018/626053/IPOL_STU(2018)626053_EN.pdf).

ages.¹⁴⁸⁹ It highlights the success of member nations such as Finland at utilizing government funds to implement successful academic and vocational training programs.¹⁴⁹⁰

On 6 August 2018, the European Commission published its findings on a study about adult skills and learning.¹⁴⁹¹ It calls for European workplaces to establish skill-building programs for adults with existing medium level skills to improve their digital literacy to higher levels in an attempt to protect them from potential job replacement led by artificial intelligence and automation.¹⁴⁹²

On 10 October 2018, the EMPL approved new rules for emerging employment types such as short-term, intermittent and on-demand.¹⁴⁹³ With the rise of new “unpredictable” jobs such as ride-sharing, these rules ensure that workers of any kind share the same basic rights, including mandatory job training that should be provided free of charge by the employer during working hours.¹⁴⁹⁴

On 11 October 2018, the European Commission published an evaluation of its online classification system European Skills Competencies, Qualifications, and Occupations (ESCO).¹⁴⁹⁵ It found that in 2018, ESCO was successful in matching skill levels to jobs, thus preventing the issue of over-qualification, as well as providing training opportunities to increase skill levels in order to match people to more jobs.¹⁴⁹⁶

On 30 October 2018, the European Commission published the October 2018 issue of its quarterly magazine “The Social Agenda.”¹⁴⁹⁷ The issue of the publication focuses on the future of work and addresses growing automation by calling upon all member states to provide investments that will allow women, minorities, and low-income households to have equal access to advanced educational opportunities to prepare them for a digitalized world of work.¹⁴⁹⁸

¹⁴⁸⁹Skills Development: The Potential of the European Fund for Strategic Investments. Policy Department for Economic, Scientific and Quality of Life Policies (Brussels) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018.

[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2018/626053/IPOL_STU\(2018\)626053_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2018/626053/IPOL_STU(2018)626053_EN.pdf).

¹⁴⁹⁰Skills Development: The Potential of the European Fund for Strategic Investments. Policy Department for Economic, Scientific and Quality of Life Policies (Brussels) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018.

[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2018/626053/IPOL_STU\(2018\)626053_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2018/626053/IPOL_STU(2018)626053_EN.pdf).

¹⁴⁹¹Promoting Adult Learning in the Workplace. European Commission (Brussels) 6 August 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=1146&newsId=9169&furtherNews=yes>.

¹⁴⁹²Promoting Adult Learning in the Workplace. European Commission (Brussels) 6 August 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=1146&newsId=9169&furtherNews=yes>.

¹⁴⁹³Gig Economy: Employment Committee MEPs Want to Boost Workers’ Rights. European Parliament Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (Brussels) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018.

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20181017IPR16398/gig-economy-employment-committee-meps-want-to-boost-workers-rights>.

¹⁴⁹⁴Gig Economy: Employment Committee MEPs Want to Boost Workers’ Rights. European Parliament Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (Brussels) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018.

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20181017IPR16398/gig-economy-employment-committee-meps-want-to-boost-workers-rights>.

¹⁴⁹⁵ESCO One Year On: Major Uptake by Public and Private Organisations Shows its Added Value. European Commission (Brussels) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018.

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=1146&newsId=9212&furtherNews=yes>.

¹⁴⁹⁶ESCO One Year On: Major Uptake by Public and Private Organisations Shows its Added Value. European Commission (Brussels) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018.

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=1146&newsId=9212&furtherNews=yes>.

¹⁴⁹⁷Social Agenda 53 — The future of work. European Commission (Brussels) 30 October 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=737&langId=en&pubId=8150&furtherPubs=yes>.

¹⁴⁹⁸Social Agenda 53 — The future of work. European Commission (Brussels) 30 October 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=737&langId=en&pubId=8150&furtherPubs=yes>.

On 5 November 2018, the European Commission and the Austrian Presidency organized over one thousand events which took place in various locations across Europe to allow youth, education providers, businesses, trade unions, and the public to participate in vocational skills training programs.¹⁴⁹⁹

On 20 November 2018, the European Investment Bank and Spanish bank Bankia drafted a EUR50 million plan to encourage small and medium businesses to hire unemployed Spanish youth.¹⁵⁰⁰ The plan will also assist youth in developing valuable skills for a new world of work and will include assets for future extension to businesses outside of Spain.¹⁵⁰¹

On 26 November 2018, the EMPL revised its draft report for the European Globalization Adjustment Fund (EGF) for the period of 2021-2027.¹⁵⁰² EGF, set by the European Union in 2006, is designed to give support to workers made redundant by new technologies and the changing world of work, including those affected by job outsourcing as a result of globalization.¹⁵⁰³ The revision of EGF aims to provide more effective interventions and financially support displaced workers and local economies affected by global changes in labour and employment.¹⁵⁰⁴

On 6 December 2018, the EMPL reviewed the proposal for the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+), a long-term EU budget 2021-2027 presented by the European Commission in May 2018.¹⁵⁰⁵ ESF+ will allow the EU and its Member States to provide more integrated and targeted support in response to the social and labour market challenges that people in Europe face today.¹⁵⁰⁶ The amendment of the ESF+ proposal included a 19 percent increase in funding aimed to directly benefit youth and long-term unemployed workers through education and training programs that encourage lifelong learning.¹⁵⁰⁷

On 19 December 2019, the European Commission released two reports on the ways in which skills development through continued education and traineeships can promote youth entry into new and

¹⁴⁹⁹ Vocational Education and Training at the heart of Europe: Launch of third European Vocational Skills Week. European Commission (Brussels) 5 November 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018.

<https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=9230&furtherNews=yes>.

¹⁵⁰⁰ Juncker Plan: €50 million to support youth employment in Spain. European Commission (Brussels) 20 November 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018.

<https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=89&langId=en&newsId=9249&furtherNews=yes>.

¹⁵⁰¹ Juncker Plan: €50 million to support youth employment in Spain. European Commission (Brussels) 20 November 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018.

<https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=89&langId=en&newsId=9249&furtherNews=yes>.

¹⁵⁰² Committee vote: European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF). European Parliament Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (Brussels) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018.

[http://www.emeeeting.europarl.europa.eu/committees/agenda/201811/EMPL/EMPL\(2018\)1127_1P/sitt-8840604](http://www.emeeeting.europarl.europa.eu/committees/agenda/201811/EMPL/EMPL(2018)1127_1P/sitt-8840604).

¹⁵⁰³ Committee vote: European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF). European Parliament Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (Brussels) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018.

[http://www.emeeeting.europarl.europa.eu/committees/agenda/201811/EMPL/EMPL\(2018\)1127_1P/sitt-8840604](http://www.emeeeting.europarl.europa.eu/committees/agenda/201811/EMPL/EMPL(2018)1127_1P/sitt-8840604).

¹⁵⁰⁴ Committee vote: European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF). European Parliament Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (Brussels) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018.

[http://www.emeeeting.europarl.europa.eu/committees/agenda/201811/EMPL/EMPL\(2018\)1127_1P/sitt-8840604](http://www.emeeeting.europarl.europa.eu/committees/agenda/201811/EMPL/EMPL(2018)1127_1P/sitt-8840604).

¹⁵⁰⁵ Committee vote: European Social Fund +. European Parliament Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (Brussels) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018.

[http://www.emeeeting.europarl.europa.eu/committees/agenda/201812/EMPL/EMPL\(2018\)1203_1/sitt-9168934](http://www.emeeeting.europarl.europa.eu/committees/agenda/201812/EMPL/EMPL(2018)1203_1/sitt-9168934).

¹⁵⁰⁶ EU budget: a new European Social Fund Plus. European Commission (Brussels) 30 May 2018. Access Date: 15 February 2019.

¹⁵⁰⁷ Committee vote: European Social Fund +. European Parliament Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (Brussels) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018.

[http://www.emeeeting.europarl.europa.eu/committees/agenda/201812/EMPL/EMPL\(2018\)1203_1/sitt-9168934](http://www.emeeeting.europarl.europa.eu/committees/agenda/201812/EMPL/EMPL(2018)1203_1/sitt-9168934).

changing forms of employment.¹⁵⁰⁸ The reports recommend the prevention of early leaving from education and training, and the provision of more meaningful and well-structured traineeships to increase the likelihood of successful integration into a new world of work.¹⁵⁰⁹

On 16 January 2019, the European Parliament voted in favour of updating the EGF.¹⁵¹⁰ The update will broaden the fund's scope to offer assistance in case of major job restructuring events linked to digitalization, automation and the transition to a low-carbon economy, lower the threshold for minimum job losses from 500 to 200, and speed up the application procedure.¹⁵¹¹

On 31 January 2019, members of the European Parliament voted in favour of a new process for registering .eu Internet domains.¹⁵¹² Acknowledging the changing needs of businesses in a digitalized world, the goal of the new regulation is to relax the current eligibility criteria for registration of the .eu domain so that the benefits reach as many people as possible, especially young people, small and medium-sized enterprises and non-governmental organizations¹⁵¹³.

On 4 February 2019, the European Commission launched four new partnerships under the Blueprint for Sectoral Cooperation project.¹⁵¹⁴ The new partnerships will mobilize over 90 partners from 14 countries in emerging sectors or sectors, which are experiencing significant restructuring, to analyze skill mismatches and trends.¹⁵¹⁵ Building on the skills intelligence, the projects will develop comprehensive sectoral skills strategies and transnational vocational and training solutions.¹⁵¹⁶

On 7 February 2019, the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council reached an agreement on a proposal to create more transparent and predictable working conditions for 200 million workers, especially those in non-standard forms of employment.¹⁵¹⁷ Under the agreement, 3

¹⁵⁰⁸ Youth Guarantee reports on continued education and traineeships to promote labour market inclusion for young people released. European Commission (Brussels). 19 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019.

<https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=9272&furtherNews=yes>

¹⁵⁰⁹ Youth Guarantee reports on continued education and traineeships to promote labour market inclusion for young people released (Brussels). 19 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019.

<https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=9272&furtherNews=yes>

¹⁵¹⁰ European Globalisation Adjustment Fund: helping redundant workers. European Parliament (Brussels) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019.

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/society/20181211STO21522/european-globalisation-adjustment-fund-helping-redundant-workers>.

¹⁵¹¹ European Globalisation Adjustment Fund: helping redundant workers. European Parliament (Brussels) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019.

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/society/20181211STO21522/european-globalisation-adjustment-fund-helping-redundant-workers>.

¹⁵¹² New rules to make it easier to register .eu domain. European Parliament (Brussels) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/economy/20190123STO24110/new-rules-to-make-it-easier-to-register-eu-domain>.

¹⁵¹³ New rules to make it easier to register .eu domain European Parliament (Brussels) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/economy/20190123STO24110/new-rules-to-make-it-easier-to-register-eu-domain>.

¹⁵¹⁴ The second wave of Blueprint projects kicked off. European Commission (Brussels) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=9294&furtherNews=yes>.

¹⁵¹⁵ The second wave of Blueprint projects kicked off. European Commission (Brussels) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=9294&furtherNews=yes>.

¹⁵¹⁶ The second wave of Blueprint projects kicked off. European Commission (Brussels) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=9294&furtherNews=yes>.

¹⁵¹⁷ Transparent and predictable working conditions: Commission welcomes provisional agreement. European Parliament Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (Brussels) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019.

<https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=9297&furtherNews=yes>.

million previously uncovered workers in new forms of work such as zero-hour contracts will now be covered.¹⁵¹⁸

On 26 February 2019, the European Parliament Committee on Culture and Education voted in favour of a new and revised education and training program for 2021-2027.¹⁵¹⁹ Members voted to triple the budget of the existing program to create centres of vocational excellence, e-learning opportunities and international centres, which help provide quality vocational training to ensure Europeans can develop skills useful for new and changing sectors as a result of new technologies.¹⁵²⁰

On 19 March 2019, the EMPL reached an agreement with the European Commission on social rights and benefits for mobile workers.¹⁵²¹ The new benefits will apply universally to cross-border workers as well as workers who have recently moved between member countries regardless of nationality, ensuring fair access to unemployment insurance and other forms of social security¹⁵²².

On 21 March 2019, the European Union, together with the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), presented a list of policy directions for European countries in response to the changing world of work.¹⁵²³ Specifically, the OECD released its Policy Responses to New Forms of Work report, which presents a snapshot of policy directions taken by European countries in response to growing diversity in forms of employment. The report encourages European countries to ensure better working conditions, social protection coverage and more opportunities for collective bargaining in forms of work which diverge from standard employment contracts.¹⁵²⁴

On 26 March 2019, the European Commission published its first quarterly 2019 Employment and Social Development Review.¹⁵²⁵ It found that in January 2019, the number of people employed exceeded 240 million, giving the European Union its highest employment rate since 2008.¹⁵²⁶ It also

¹⁵¹⁸ Transparent and predictable working conditions: Commission welcomes provisional agreement. European Parliament Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (Brussels) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=9297&furtherNews=yes>.

¹⁵¹⁹ The future of Erasmus+: more opportunities. European Parliament (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/society/20190222STO28402/the-future-of-erasmus-more-opportunities>.

¹⁵²⁰ The future of Erasmus+: more opportunities. European Parliament (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/society/20190222STO28402/the-future-of-erasmus-more-opportunities>.

¹⁵²¹ Fairer and clearer rules on social benefits for EU mobile workers agreed. European Parliament Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (Brussels) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20190312IPR31161/fairer-and-clearer-rules-on-social-benefits-for-eu-mobile-workers-agreed>

¹⁵²² Fairer and clearer rules on social benefits for EU mobile workers agreed. European Parliament Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (Brussels) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20190312IPR31161/fairer-and-clearer-rules-on-social-benefits-for-eu-mobile-workers-agreed>

¹⁵²³ Future of work: New OECD report presents recent policy responses to new forms of work. European Commission (Brussels) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=9325&furtherNews=yes>

¹⁵²⁴ Future of work: New OECD report presents recent policy responses to new forms of work. European Commission (Brussels) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=9325&furtherNews=yes>

¹⁵²⁵ Employment and social developments in Europe: Record number of people in employment, but more investment in skills needed. European Commission (Brussels) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=791&furtherNews=yes&newsId=9330>.

¹⁵²⁶ Employment and social developments in Europe: Record number of people in employment, but more investment in skills needed. European Commission (Brussels) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=791&furtherNews=yes&newsId=9330>.

determined that permanent work is on the rise, resulting in improving financial situations in European households. The European Commission suggests investment in skills training should be furthered to encourage continued future economic growth and employment.¹⁵²⁷

On 4 April 2019, the European Parliament adopted measures to support new forms of flexible work for parents and carers.¹⁵²⁸ The new rules will allow working parents and carers to request adjustments to their working patterns, including remote or flexible schedules where feasible, allowing more Europeans to join and participate in the workforce as well as maintain and upgrade their skills.¹⁵²⁹

On 12 April 2019, the European Commission announced a commitment to work with Turkey and the Balkan countries on issues relating to labour and employment to ensure their successful accession to the European Union.¹⁵³⁰ The commission will provide recommendations and aid to address structural weaknesses in the education system, ensuring that youth enter the new and changing world of work with the appropriate skills and training.¹⁵³¹

On 14 April 2019, the European Commission approved a EUR9.2 billion investment in digital skills and infrastructure to ensure European workers have the skills necessary to combat the challenges of a digital and changing world of work.¹⁵³² The investment will ensure widespread access to digital technologies and create training programs for artificial intelligence, supercomputing, and cyber security.¹⁵³³

On 24 May 2019, the European Parliament Committee on Employment and Social Affairs completed its research into the state of adult learning and vocational training in the European Union.¹⁵³⁴ The final report calls for partnership between member states with well-established and successful training programs and those needing improvement to ensure all Europeans have equal opportunities to pursue lifelong learning and skill-building.¹⁵³⁵

¹⁵²⁷ Employment and social developments in Europe: Record number of people in employment, but more investment in skills needed. European Commission (Brussels) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019.

<https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=791&furtherNews=yes&newsId=9330>.

¹⁵²⁸ MEPs adopted measures to reconcile work and family life. European Parliament Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (Brussels) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20190402IPR34670/meps-adopted-measures-to-reconcile-work-and-family-life>.

¹⁵²⁹ MEPs adopted measures to reconcile work and family life. European Parliament Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (Brussels) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20190402IPR34670/meps-adopted-measures-to-reconcile-work-and-family-life>.

¹⁵³⁰ Commission works with the Western Balkans and Turkey to boost competitiveness, long-term growth and job creation. European Commission (Brussels) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019.

<https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=9350&furtherNews=yes>.

¹⁵³¹ Commission works with the Western Balkans and Turkey to boost competitiveness, long-term growth and job creation. European Commission (Brussels) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019.

<https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=9350&furtherNews=yes>.

¹⁵³² EU plans to invest €9.2 billion in key digital technologies. European Parliament (Brussels) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/economy/20190410STO36624/eu-plans-to-invest-EU9-2-billion-in-key-digital-technologies>.

¹⁵³³ EU plans to invest €9.2 billion in key digital technologies. European Parliament (Brussels) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/economy/20190410STO36624/eu-plans-to-invest-EU9-2-billion-in-key-digital-technologies>.

¹⁵³⁴ Adult Learning policy and provision in the Member States of the EU. European Parliament Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (Brussels) 24 May 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019.

<https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=738&langId=en&pubId=8215&furtherPubs=yes>.

¹⁵³⁵ Adult Learning policy and provision in the Member States of the EU. European Parliament Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (Brussels) 24 May 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019.

<https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=738&langId=en&pubId=8215&furtherPubs=yes>.

The European Union has ensured all workers have access to the skills and education necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kathryn Mullins

6. Health: Mental Health

“To support growth and equal participation that benefits everyone, and ensure our citizens lead healthy and productive lives, we commit to bringing greater attention to mental health.”

Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France		0	
Germany		0	
Italy			+1
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average		+0.50	

Background

In recent years, mental health has experienced a significant rise in research and global attention. For decades, mental well-being was an understudied field that rarely attracted proper resources from the international community. One reason for this is the stigma attached to psychological disorders.¹⁵³⁶ Mental illness is often associated with a negative connotation or embarrassment and deemed less important than physical conditions like cancer, infectious diseases, or HIV/AIDS.¹⁵³⁷ This stigma has lessened, albeit not entirely, and new research methods have led to an enhanced understanding of mental health and its global impact.¹⁵³⁸

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines mental health as “a state of well-being in which every individual realizes his or her own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to her or his community.”¹⁵³⁹ According to the American Psychiatric Association, mental illness is a collective term that encompasses all diagnosable mental disorders that cause shifts in thinking, emotion, and/or behaviour.¹⁵⁴⁰ Some of these disorders include depression, bipolar affective disorder, schizophrenia and other psychoses, dementia, intellectual disabilities and developmental disorders including autism.¹⁵⁴¹

¹⁵³⁶ Mental health is global health, University of Washington Institute for Public Health (St. Louis) 29 November 2016. Access Date: 26 August 2018. <https://publichealth.wustl.edu/mental-health-global-health/>.

¹⁵³⁷ Mental health is global health, University of Washington Institute for Public Health (St. Louis) 29 November 2016. Access Date: 26 August 2018. <https://publichealth.wustl.edu/mental-health-global-health/>.

¹⁵³⁸ Mental health is global health, University of Washington Institute for Public Health (St. Louis) 29 November 2016. Access Date: 26 August 2018. <https://publichealth.wustl.edu/mental-health-global-health/>.

¹⁵³⁹ Mental health: a state of well-being, WHO (Geneva) August 2014. Access Date: 26 August 2018. http://www.who.int/features/factfiles/mental_health/en/.

¹⁵⁴⁰ What is mental illness?, American Psychiatric Association (Washington, D.C.) November 2015. Access Date: 26 August 2018. <https://www.psychiatry.org/patients-families/what-is-mental-illness>.

¹⁵⁴¹ Mental disorders, WHO (Geneva) 9 April 2018. Access Date: 26 August 2018. <http://www.who.int/en/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/mental-disorders>.

According to WHO, mental disorders account for 10 percent of the global disease burden and 30 percent of the non-fatal disease burden.¹⁵⁴² In 2013, approximately 120 million people worldwide suffered from depression, 50 million from epilepsy, 37 million from Alzheimer’s disease, 24 million from schizophrenia, and 1 million people committed suicide in addition to an estimated 20 million unsuccessful attempts.¹⁵⁴³ Beyond its health impact, mental illness carries a global economic cost due to decreased productivity and income caused by disability or death.

In 2010, this financial burden was approximately USD2.5 trillion and is expected to rise to an estimated USD6 trillion by 2030.¹⁵⁴⁴ This increase corresponds to the WHO prediction that depression will be the leading cause of the global burden of disease by 2030.¹⁵⁴⁵ Given this evidence, efforts have been made to change the marginalized perception of mental health and recognize it as a global health issue.

In 2013, the World Health Assembly unveiled the Mental Health Action Plan 2013-2020 in which countries across the world agreed to common mental health objectives.¹⁵⁴⁶ Additionally, in April 2016, doctors, aid groups, and government officials met at the Global Mental Health Event organized by the World Bank Group and the WHO to discuss the future of mental health and its place in the international development agenda.¹⁵⁴⁷

The G7 has likewise recognized the importance of mental health and its impact on the global population. In 2013, the World Dementia Council was created during the G8 Dementia Summit as part of the United Kingdom’s 2013 G8 presidency.¹⁵⁴⁸

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 member states first included mental health within their declarations, acknowledging the need for proper mental health policies to promote healthy and active aging.¹⁵⁴⁹ Here the G7 also committed to “promoting women’s, children’s, and adolescents’ mental and physical health, ensuring sexual and reproductive health and rights without discrimination of any kind.”¹⁵⁵⁰

This commitment was reaffirmed and expanded upon in the 2017 G7 Milan Health Ministers’ Communiqué in which leaders agreed to protect women’s, children’s and adolescent’s mental health in addition to improving the access of migrants, refugees, and crisis-affected populations to physical

¹⁵⁴² Making Mental Health a Global Priority, Cerebrum: the Dana Forum on Brain Science (New York) 1 July 2016. Access Date: 26 August 2018. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5198754/>.

¹⁵⁴³ Untreated Mental Health Issues a Global Reality, Movement for Global Mental Health (South Africa) 14 June 2013. Access Date: 26 August 2018. <http://www.globalmentalhealth.org/untreated-mental-health-issues-global-reality>.

¹⁵⁴⁴ Making Mental Health a Global Priority, Cerebrum: the Dana Forum on Brain Science (New York) 1 July 2016. Access Date: 26 August 2018. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5198754/>.

¹⁵⁴⁵ Global burden of mental disorders and the need for a comprehensive, coordinated response from health and social sectors at the country level, WHO (Geneva) 1 December 2011. Access Date: 26 August 2018. http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB130/B130_9-en.pdf.

¹⁵⁴⁶ WHO’s Mental Health Action Plan 2013-2020: what can psychiatrists do to facilitate its implementation?, The World Psychiatric Association (Geneva) 2 June 2014. Access Date: 26 August 2018. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4102273/>.

¹⁵⁴⁷ Making Mental Health a Global Priority, Cerebrum: the Dana Forum on Brain Science (New York) 1 July 2016. Access Date: 26 August 2018. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5198754/>.

¹⁵⁴⁸ Progress Report, Global Action against Dementia (Geneva) 16 March 2015. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/OlderPersons/Dementia/GAADReport.pdf>.

¹⁵⁴⁹ G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health, G8 Information Center (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 26 August 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html#health>.

¹⁵⁵⁰ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Ise-Shima) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 26 August 2018. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000160266.pdf>.

and mental health services.¹⁵⁵¹ Yet, the 2017 G7 Taormina Final Compliance Report by the G7 Research Group found that the G7's mental health commitment achieved the lowest compliance score with a mere 25 percent. This is significantly lower than the G7's overall compliance average with all assessed health commitments at 77 percent.¹⁵⁵²

During the Canadian 2018 G7 presidency, health was excluded from the five-priority agenda of the 8-9 June Charlevoix Summit. Despite this, the Youth 7 and the Gender Equality Advisory Council still advocated for mental health representation.¹⁵⁵³ Specifically, the Council recommended that G7 members “promote access to [mental] health services for men” in addition to women.¹⁵⁵⁴ The communiqué acknowledged the importance of psychological well-being within the context of the theme “Investing in Growth that Works for Everyone.”¹⁵⁵⁵ Leaders agreed to bring “greater attention to mental health” while establishing affordable health systems that ensure equal participation and healthy living.¹⁵⁵⁶

Commitment Features

G7 members agreed “to support growth and equal participation that benefits everyone and ensure [their] citizens lead healthy and productive lives, [G7 leaders] commit to bringing greater attention to mental health.”¹⁵⁵⁷

“Support” is understood to mean “the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity.”¹⁵⁵⁸ “Equal participation” refers to the opportunity for an individual to participate in a state’s society regardless of one’s gender identity, sexual orientation, race, religion, ethnicity, disability, etc.¹⁵⁵⁹ As per WHO’s definition of “health,” “healthy” is considered to be a “state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.”¹⁵⁶⁰ “Greater attention” implies renewed effort to further certain objectives and initiatives. To bring greater attention is to expand the notice of the issue especially consideration to take action. In order for the member to increased attention, they should have either updated, renewed or extended an already existing initiative, objective or action OR have made a new initiative, objective or action was yet to be noticed previously. Finally, mental health is “a state of well-being in which every

¹⁵⁵¹ G7 Milan Health Ministers’ Communiqué, G7 2017 Italia (Milan) 6 November 2017. Access Date: 26 August 2018. http://www.g7italy.it/sites/default/files/documents/FINAL_G7_Health_Communiqùè_Milan_2017_0.pdf.

¹⁵⁵² 2017 Taormina G7 Final Compliance Report, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 4 June 2018. Access Date: 26 August 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2017compliance-final/15-2017-G7-final-compliance-mentalhealth.pdf>.

¹⁵⁵³ Recommendations from the Gender Equality Advisory Council for Canada’s G7 Presidency, G7 (Charlevoix) 4 June 2018. Access Date: 26 August 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/g7-presidency/gender-equality-advisory-council/recommendations/>.

¹⁵⁵⁴ Recommendations from the Gender Equality Advisory Council for Canada’s G7 Presidency, G7 (Charlevoix) 4 June 2018. Access Date: 26 August 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/g7-presidency/gender-equality-advisory-council/recommendations/>.

¹⁵⁵⁵ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 26 August 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/official-documents/charlevoix-g7-summit-communiqué/>.

¹⁵⁵⁶ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 26 August 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/official-documents/charlevoix-g7-summit-communiqué/>.

¹⁵⁵⁷ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 26 August 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/official-documents/charlevoix-g7-summit-communiqué/>.

¹⁵⁵⁸ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at Trinity College (Toronto) 2 May 2016. Access Date: 26 August 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>.

¹⁵⁵⁹ Equality and Non-discrimination, UN Rule of Law (New York). Access Date: 26 August 2018. <https://www.un.org/ruleoflaw/thematic-areas/human-rights/equality-and-non-discrimination/>.

¹⁵⁶⁰ About WHO, WHO (Geneva) 22 July 1946. Access Date: 26 August 2018. <http://www.who.int/about/mission/en/>.

individual realizes his or her own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to her or his community.”¹⁵⁶¹

This commitment can be separated into two components. First, G7 members will uphold mental health initiatives “to support growth and equal participation that benefits everyone.” The scope of this component lies in the term “everyone,” in which G7 members agree to establish mental health policies that affect the global population.

Second, G7 members will enhance mental health action to “ensure our citizens lead healthy and productive lives.” For this component, the scope is determined by “our citizens,” implying a domestic responsibility to further mental health policies within a state’s borders.

Some possible actions eligible for compliance to support their citizens are outlined in the 2013 WHO Mental Health Action Plan 2013-2020. The Action Plan was supported by all G7 members and remains the most comprehensive framework that specifically outlines sufficient mental health actions. This is not a binding nor an exhaustive list of possible actions for compliance.

International Mental Health Actions

1. Supporting relevant international and regional human rights instruments that protect people with mental disorders from experiencing discrimination, including:
 - a. The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
 - b. The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
 - c. The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,
 - d. The Convention on the Rights of the Child¹⁵⁶²
2. Working jointly with other countries and organizations to achieve the following Global Targets:
 - a. 80 percent of countries will have developed or updated their policy/plan for mental health in line with international and regional human rights instruments (by 2020)
 - b. 50 percent of countries will have developed or updated their law for mental health in line with international and regional human rights instruments (by 2020)
 - c. Service coverage for severe mental disorders will have increased by 20 percent (by 2020).
 - d. 80 percent of countries will have at least two functioning national, multisectoral mental health promotion and prevention programmes (by 2020)
 - e. The rate of suicide in countries will be reduced by 10 percent (by 2020)
 - f. 80 percent of countries will be routinely collecting and reporting at least a core set of mental health indicators every two years through their national health and social information systems (by 2020)¹⁵⁶³

National Mental Health Actions

1. Strengthen effective leadership and governance for mental health through, among other actions:
 - a. Policy and law: Develop, strengthen, keep up to date and implement national policies, strategies, programmes, laws, and regulations relating to mental health

¹⁵⁶¹ Mental health: a state of well-being, WHO (Geneva) August 2014. Access Date: 26 August 2018. http://www.who.int/features/factfiles/mental_health/en/.

¹⁵⁶² Mental Health Action Plan 2013-2020, WHO (Geneva) May 2013. Access Date: 26 August 2018. http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/89966/9789241506021_eng.pdf?sequence=1.

¹⁵⁶³ Mental Health Action Plan 2013-2020, WHO (Geneva) May 2013. Access Date: 26 August 2018. http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/89966/9789241506021_eng.pdf?sequence=1.

- b. Resource planning: Plan according to measured need and allocate a budget to implement agreed-upon evidence-based mental health plans and actions
 - c. Stakeholder collaboration: Motivate and engage stakeholders from all relevant sectors in the development and implementation of policies, laws, and services relating to mental health
 - d. Strengthening and empowerment of people with mental disorders and psychosocial disabilities and their organizations
2. Provide comprehensive, integrated and responsive mental health and social care services in community-based settings through, among other actions:
 - a. Service reorganization and expanded coverage
 - b. Integrate and coordinate holistic prevention, promotion, rehabilitation, care and support
 - c. Mental health in humanitarian emergencies: Work with national emergency committees and mental health providers in order to include mental health and psychosocial support needs in emergency preparedness and enable access to safe and supportive services, including services that address psychological trauma
 - d. Human resource development: Build the knowledge and skills of general and specialized health workers to deliver evidence-based, culturally appropriate and human rights-oriented mental health and social care services, for children and adolescents
 3. Implement strategies for promotion and prevention in mental health through, among other actions:
 - a. Mental health promotion and prevention
 - b. Suicide prevention (with special attention to groups identified as at increased risk of suicide, including lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, youth and other vulnerable groups of all ages based on local context)
 4. Strengthen information systems, evidence and research for mental health through, among other actions:
 - a. Information systems: Integrate mental health into the routine health information system to improve mental health service delivery, promotion, and prevention strategies and to provide data for the Global Mental Health Observatory (as a part of WHO's Global Health Observatory)
 - b. Evidence and research: Improve research capacity and academic collaboration on national priorities for research in mental health¹⁵⁶⁴

Full compliance thus requires the G7 member to support the specified international AND national actions (see above) regarding mental health.

To achieve partial compliance, the G7 member must support either international OR national actions and to achieve no compliance, the G7 member does not support any specified actions.

¹⁵⁶⁴ Mental Health Action Plan 2013-2020, WHO (Geneva) May 2013. Access Date: 26 August 2018.
http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/89966/9789241506021_eng.pdf?sequence=1.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	Member does not bring greater attention to mental health to 1) support growth and equal participation that benefits everyone (globally) NOR 2) ensure citizens lead healthy and productive lives (nationally).
0	Member brings greater attention to mental health to 1) support growth and equal participation that benefits everyone (globally) OR 2) ensure citizens lead healthy and productive lives (nationally).
+1	Member brings greater attention to mental health to 1) support growth and equal participation that benefits everyone (globally) AND 2) ensure citizens lead healthy and productive lives (nationally).

*Lead Analyst: Kareem Shabin
Compliance Director: Harrison Myles*

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to support growth and equal participation that benefits everyone and ensure its citizens lead healthy and productive lives by bringing greater attention to mental health.

On 25 July 2018, the Government of Canada announced over CAD30 million in federal support of health care services in the Yukon.¹⁵⁶⁵ Minister of Health Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Yukon Member of Parliament Larry Bagnell, and Yukon Minister of Health and Social Services Pauline Frost outlined how Yukon plans to invest the funding into improving access to home and community care and mental health and addiction services in the territory.¹⁵⁶⁶

On 12 September 2018, the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) announced the launch of its mental health literacy training program with the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP).¹⁵⁶⁷ Over 6,000 OPP personnel will undergo Mental Health First Aid training within the next two to three years.¹⁵⁶⁸

On 25 September 2018, the Canadian government launched the Promoting Health Equity: Mental Health of Black Canadians initiative.¹⁵⁶⁹ The initiative focuses on factors such as anti-black racism, promoting cultural diversity and well-being, and “taking into account other significant challenges in order to support culturally appropriate, effective and accessible mental health programs.”¹⁵⁷⁰ Minister

¹⁵⁶⁵ Government of Canada Invests \$30 Million to Support Health Care Services in Yukon, Health Canada (Whitehorse) 25 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2018/07/government-of-canada-invests-30-million-to-support-health-care-services-in-yukon.html>.

¹⁵⁶⁶ Government of Canada Invests \$30 Million to Support Health Care Services in Yukon, Health Canada (Whitehorse) 25 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2018/07/government-of-canada-invests-30-million-to-support-health-care-services-in-yukon.html>.

¹⁵⁶⁷ Mental Health First Aid Police Launched with OPP, MHCC (Ottawa) 12 September 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://www.mentalhealthcommission.ca/English/news-article/13543/mental-health-first-aid-police-launched-opp>.

¹⁵⁶⁸ Mental Health First Aid Police Launched with OPP, MHCC (Ottawa) 12 September 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://www.mentalhealthcommission.ca/English/news-article/13543/mental-health-first-aid-police-launched-opp>.

¹⁵⁶⁹ New initiative Announced to Support the Mental Health of Black Canadians, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 25 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2018/09/new-initiative-announced-to-support-the-mental-health-of-black-canadians.html>.

¹⁵⁷⁰ New initiative Announced to Support the Mental Health of Black Canadians, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 25 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2018/09/new-initiative-announced-to-support-the-mental-health-of-black-canadians.html>.

of Health Ginette Petitpas Taylor claims the new initiative will improve mental health support for black youth, families, and communities.¹⁵⁷¹

On 22 October 2018, the Canadian government awarded CAD3 million to 21 organizations via the Veteran and Family Well-Being Fund to support innovative services and projects that help veterans make a smoother transition into life after service.¹⁵⁷² Many of the chosen initiatives focus on mental health assistance.¹⁵⁷³

On 23 October 2018, the MHCC and the College of Family Physicians of Canada launched the Best Advice Guide: Recovery-Oriented Mental Health and Addiction Care in the Patient's Medical Home at the Canadian Mental Health Association's 3rd annual conference.¹⁵⁷⁴ It was developed in consultation with mental health experts and physicians. This report offers practical strategies for health care providers, who provide almost two-thirds of mental health services in Canada, and includes important mental health conversation points and addiction issues.¹⁵⁷⁵

On 13 November 2018, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Ralph Goodale announced CAD1.1 million in funding over three years in support of the National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Mentoring Project spearheaded by the Saskatchewan Prevention Institute.¹⁵⁷⁶ The program will provide information and awareness sessions to off-reserve Indigenous families across Canada.¹⁵⁷⁷ FASD can cause life-long mental, physical, behavioural and learning disabilities.¹⁵⁷⁸

On 20 November 2018, the Canadian government announced a partnership between Farm Credit Canada (FCC) and 4-H Canada to support farmer mental and physical health.¹⁵⁷⁹ FCC will contribute

¹⁵⁷¹ New initiative Announced to Support the Mental Health of Black Canadians, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 25 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2018/09/new-initiative-announced-to-support-the-mental-health-of-black-canadians.html>.

¹⁵⁷² Veteran and Family Well-Being Fund, Veterans Affairs Canada (Montreal) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 22 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/veterans-affairs-canada/news/2018/10/veteran-and-family-well-being-fund.html>.

¹⁵⁷³ Veteran and Family Well-Being Fund, Veterans Affairs Canada (Montreal) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 22 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/veterans-affairs-canada/news/2018/10/veteran-and-family-well-being-fund.html>.

¹⁵⁷⁴ A new resource to help family physicians support individuals with mental health and substance use problems, MHCC (Ottawa) 23 October 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. <https://www.mentalhealthcommission.ca/English/news-article/13585/new-resource-help-family-physicians-support-individuals-mental-health-and>.

¹⁵⁷⁵ A new resource to help family physicians support individuals with mental health and substance use problems, MHCC (Ottawa) 23 October 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. <https://www.mentalhealthcommission.ca/English/news-article/13585/new-resource-help-family-physicians-support-individuals-mental-health-and>.

¹⁵⁷⁶ Government of Canada supports national fetal alcohol spectrum disorder mentoring project for Indigenous peoples living off reserve, Cision (Chicago) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-supports-national-fetal-alcohol-spectrum-disorder-mentoring-project-for-indigenous-peoples-living-off-reserve-700399461.html>.

¹⁵⁷⁷ Government of Canada supports national fetal alcohol spectrum disorder mentoring project for Indigenous peoples living off reserve, Cision (Chicago) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-supports-national-fetal-alcohol-spectrum-disorder-mentoring-project-for-indigenous-peoples-living-off-reserve-700399461.html>.

¹⁵⁷⁸ Government of Canada supports national fetal alcohol spectrum disorder mentoring project for Indigenous peoples living off reserve, Cision (Chicago) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-supports-national-fetal-alcohol-spectrum-disorder-mentoring-project-for-indigenous-peoples-living-off-reserve-700399461.html>.

¹⁵⁷⁹ New program aims to help farmers with mental health issues, CTVNews (Toronto) 20 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/new-program-aims-to-help-farmers-with-mental-health-issues-1.4185513>.

CAD50,000 to the National 4-H Healthy Living Initiative and assist more than 7,700 volunteer leaders and 25,000 4-H members across the country.¹⁵⁸⁰ The FCC is also working with mental health experts to create Rooted in Strength, a stress and anxiety management resource for farmers.¹⁵⁸¹

On 7 December 2018, the Canadian government gave the Mood Disorders Society of Canada CAD741,620 in funding over three years through the Veteran and Family Well-Being Fund.¹⁵⁸² The reward will support Project Trauma Support and address mental illness and post-traumatic stress disorder in veterans, first responders, and correctional officers.

On 21 December 2018, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) announced an extension of its long-standing collaboration with the European Commission, supporting an additional eight joint projects for 2019.¹⁵⁸³ This collaboration will allow Canadian researchers to participate in multinational research projects in the fields of personalized medicine, rare diseases, cardiovascular diseases, ageing well, neurodegenerative diseases, and mental health.¹⁵⁸⁴

On 23 January 2019, the Governments of Canada and Ontario signed the Canada-Ontario bilateral agreement on Shared Health Priorities.¹⁵⁸⁵ The federal government will invest approximately CAD1.9 billion over the next five years to expand home and community care and mental health services in Ontario.¹⁵⁸⁶ In addition, an investment of CAD51.1 million will go towards addressing treatment strategies for individuals afflicted with substance abuse disorders.¹⁵⁸⁷

On 8 February 2019, the Canadian government announced it will provide approximately CAD11 million towards researching and understanding post-traumatic stress injuries in public safety personnel.¹⁵⁸⁸ The CIHR will provide 22 one-year research grants of up to CAD150,000 totaling

¹⁵⁸⁰ New program aims to help farmers with mental health issues, CTVNews (Toronto) 20 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/new-program-aims-to-help-farmers-with-mental-health-issues-1.4185513>.

¹⁵⁸¹ New program aims to help farmers with mental health issues, CTVNews (Toronto) 20 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/new-program-aims-to-help-farmers-with-mental-health-issues-1.4185513>.

¹⁵⁸² Feds give funding for PTSD, The Intelligencer (Belleville) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://www.intelligencer.ca/news/local-news/feds-give-funding-for-ptsd>.

¹⁵⁸³ CIHR partners with the European Union to advance research in key areas, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Ottawa) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/51280.html>.

¹⁵⁸⁴ CIHR partners with the European Union to advance research in key areas, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Ottawa) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/51280.html>

¹⁵⁸⁵ Governments of Canada and Ontario Sign Agreements to Improve Health Care and Services for Substance Abuse Disorder, Health Canada (Ottawa) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2019/01/governments-of-canada-and-ontario-sign-agreements-to-improve-health-care-and-services-for-substance-use-disorder.html>.

¹⁵⁸⁶ Governments of Canada and Ontario Sign Agreements to Improve Health Care and Services for Substance Abuse Disorder, Health Canada (Ottawa) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2019/01/governments-of-canada-and-ontario-sign-agreements-to-improve-health-care-and-services-for-substance-use-disorder.html>.

¹⁵⁸⁷ Governments of Canada and Ontario Sign Agreements to Improve Health Care and Services for Substance Abuse Disorder, Health Canada (Ottawa) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2019/01/governments-of-canada-and-ontario-sign-agreements-to-improve-health-care-and-services-for-substance-use-disorder.html>.

¹⁵⁸⁸ Government of Canada invests more than \$11 million in research into post-traumatic stress injuries in public safety personnel, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Ottawa) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/institutes-health-research/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-invests-more-than-11-million-in-research-into-post-traumatic-stress-injuries-in-public-safety-personnel.html>.

CAD2.95 million and CAD8.4 million will be rewarded to support four-year research projects to address the impacts of post-traumatic stress injuries.¹⁵⁸⁹

On 15 February 2019, the Canadian government announced a bilateral agreement with the Government of Prince Edward Island.¹⁵⁹⁰ The Canadian government will provide CAD518,506 in funding to improve access and expand treatment options to individuals with opioid-related substance abuse.¹⁵⁹¹

On 19 March 2019, the Canadian government announced funding for several mental health initiatives in Budget 2019.¹⁵⁹² The government committed to introducing a National Dementia Strategy, expanding mental health services to veterans, and to invest CAD25 million over five years to support a nationwide suicide prevention service.¹⁵⁹³

On 16 April 2019, the Canadian government announced a bilateral agreement with the province of Manitoba to improve health care services.¹⁵⁹⁴ The province of Manitoba will receive approximately CAD182 million over five years towards enhancing mental health and addiction services and improving peer support for individuals with mental health issues.¹⁵⁹⁵

Canada has demonstrated efforts to comply with its mental health commitment at the national level to ensure its citizens lead healthy and productive lives. Additionally, it has taken sufficient steps towards implementing actions at the international level to support growth and participation that benefits everyone through CIHR collaboration with the European Commission.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Faiyad Nafis

France: 0

France has partially complied with its commitment to support growth and equal participation that benefits everyone and ensure its citizens lead healthy and productive lives by bringing greater attention to mental health.

¹⁵⁸⁹ Government of Canada invests more than \$11 million in research into post-traumatic stress injuries in public safety personnel, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Ottawa) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/institutes-health-research/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-invests-more-than-11-million-in-research-into-post-traumatic-stress-injuries-in-public-safety-personnel.html>.

¹⁵⁹⁰ The governments of Canada and Prince Edward Island increase access to treatment options for people with substance abuse disorders, Health Canada (Ottawa) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2019/02/the-governments-of-canada-and-prince-edward-island-increase-access-to-treatment-options-for-people-with-substance-use-disorders.html>.

¹⁵⁹¹ The governments of Canada and Prince Edward Island increase access to treatment options for people with substance abuse disorders, Health Canada (Ottawa) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2019/02/the-governments-of-canada-and-prince-edward-island-increase-access-to-treatment-options-for-people-with-substance-use-disorders.html>.

¹⁵⁹² Budget 2019, Chapter 4: Delivering Real Change, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 17 June 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/chap-04-en.html>.

¹⁵⁹³ Budget 2019, Chapter 4: Delivering Real Change, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 17 June 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/chap-04-en.html>.

¹⁵⁹⁴ Governments of Canada and Manitoba Sign Agreement to Improve Health Care Services, Health Canada (Ottawa) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 17 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2019/04/governments-of-canada-and-manitoba-sign-agreement-to-improve-health-care-services.html>.

¹⁵⁹⁵ Governments of Canada and Manitoba Sign Agreement to Improve Health Care Services, Health Canada (Ottawa) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 17 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2019/04/governments-of-canada-and-manitoba-sign-agreement-to-improve-health-care-services.html>.

On 22 June 2018, Minister for Defence People and Veterans Tobias Ellwood hosted the first ever European conference on veteran's mental health, featuring delegations from Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, and the Netherlands.¹⁵⁹⁶ At the conference, countries shared best practices on veterans' issues and discussed improving mental health assistance for former service personnel.¹⁵⁹⁷

On 28 June 2018, Minister of Solidarity and Health Agnès Buzyn spoke at the first meeting of the Strategic Committee for Mental Health and presented the Roadmap for Mental Health and Psychiatry, an action plan with the primary goal to change the way people perceive mental illness.¹⁵⁹⁸ The roadmap has three objectives: promote early identification of mental illnesses and prevent suicide; provide accessible, diversified, and quality mental health care; and improve the living conditions and social inclusion for citizens living with mental disabilities.¹⁵⁹⁹

On 18 September 2018, President Emmanuel Macron announced the "Ma Santé 2022" healthcare strategy.¹⁶⁰⁰ The proposed strategy will allocate additional funding to France's healthcare system and reform the system in order to increase the efficiency and quality of care.¹⁶⁰¹ The strategy will increase the number of mental health resources available to healthcare professionals, improve patient access to psychiatric care, and mobilize resources in order to combat mental health stigma by educating the general public.¹⁶⁰²

On 25 October 2018, Secretary of State in charge of People with Disabilities Sophie Cluzel announced that 310,000 disabled people who have been made wards of the court will be guaranteed the right to get married and the right to vote in the 2020 municipal elections.¹⁶⁰³ Many of these people have mental illnesses and previously could be banned by a judge from voting.¹⁶⁰⁴ According to

¹⁵⁹⁶ Britain leads first ever European conference on veterans mental health, Ministry of Defense (London) 22 June 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/britain-leads-first-ever-european-conference-on-veterans-mental-health>.

¹⁵⁹⁷ Britain leads first ever European conference on veterans mental health, Ministry of Defense (London) 22 June 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/britain-leads-first-ever-european-conference-on-veterans-mental-health>.

¹⁵⁹⁸ Discours d'Agnès Buzyn, Comité Stratégique Santé Mentale, Jeudi 28 Juin 2018, Ministère des Solidarités et de la Santé (Paris) 2 July 2018. Access Date: 13 October 2018. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/discours/article/discours-d-agnes-buzyn-comite-strategique-sante-mentale-jeudi-28-juin-2018>.

¹⁵⁹⁹ Discours d'Agnès Buzyn, Comité Stratégique Santé Mentale, Jeudi 28 Juin 2018, Ministère des Solidarités et de la Santé (Paris) 2 July 2018. Access Date: 13 October 2018. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/discours/article/discours-d-agnes-buzyn-comite-strategique-sante-mentale-jeudi-28-juin-2018>.

¹⁶⁰⁰ Transcription du discours sur la transformation du système de santé "Prendre soin de chacun" due Président du la République, Emmanuel Macron, Présidence de la République (Paris) 18 September 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. <http://www.elysee.fr/declarations/article/transcription-du-discours-sur-la-transformation-du-systeme-de-sante-prendre-soin-de-chacun-du-president-de-la-republique-emmanuel-macron/>.

¹⁶⁰¹ Transcription du discours sur la transformation du système de santé "Prendre soin de chacun" due Président du la République, Emmanuel Macron, Présidence de la République (Paris) 18 September 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. <http://www.elysee.fr/declarations/article/transcription-du-discours-sur-la-transformation-du-systeme-de-sante-prendre-soin-de-chacun-du-president-de-la-republique-emmanuel-macron/>.

¹⁶⁰² Ma Santé 2022: Un Engagement Collectif, Ministère des Solidarités et de la Santé (Paris) 18 September 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/dossiers-de-presse/article/ma-sante-2022-un-engagement-collectif>.

¹⁶⁰³ Mentally disabled win right to vote and freely marry in France, The Local (Stockholm) 25 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.thelocal.fr/20181025/disabled-people-win-right-to-vote-and-freely-marry-in-france>.

¹⁶⁰⁴ Mentally disabled win right to vote and freely marry in France, The Local (Stockholm) 25 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.thelocal.fr/20181025/disabled-people-win-right-to-vote-and-freely-marry-in-france>.

Cluzel, this new decision “will give disabled people back their citizenship” and ensure equal participation in society.¹⁶⁰⁵

On 9 November 2018, the Interministerial Delegation to Combat Racism, Anti-Semitism and Anti-LGBT Hate announced it will contribute EUR1million to Facebook’s Fund for Civility.¹⁶⁰⁶ The objectives of the initiative are to combat cyberbullying and hate speech and to develop critical thinking.¹⁶⁰⁷ Cyberbullying has been shown to negatively impact young people and lead to psychological suffering.¹⁶⁰⁸

On 24 January 2019, French Minister of Health Agnès Buzyn announced an additional EUR40million to finance the government’s plan to improve national psychiatric and mental health care.¹⁶⁰⁹ The funding will work towards offering accommodations for people with mental health problems and to help them find work.¹⁶¹⁰ Buzyn also pledged to name a Ministerial Representative for Psychiatry and Mental Health and to launch medical-psychological centres.¹⁶¹¹

On 29 April 2019, the French government announced the creation of suicide prevention units intended to support French police.¹⁶¹² The suicide prevention units will provide direct access to mental health resources in order to tackle rising suicide rates amongst officers.¹⁶¹³

France has demonstrated efforts to comply with its commitment by implementing mental health initiatives at the national level concerning equal participation and support systems. However, it has not made an effort to promote mental health initiatives abroad.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Lilin Tong

¹⁶⁰⁵ Mentally disabled win right to vote and freely marry in France, The Local (Stockholm) 25 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.thelocal.fr/20181025/disabled-people-win-right-to-vote-and-freely-marry-in-france>.

¹⁶⁰⁶ Combating bullying: the Government joins forces with Facebook’s “Fund for Civility,” Gouvernement de la République Française (Paris) 9 November 2018. Access Date: 25 November 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/combating-bullying-the-government-joins-forces-with-facebook-s-fund-for-civility>.

¹⁶⁰⁷ Combating bullying: the Government joins forces with Facebook’s “Fund for Civility,” Gouvernement de la République Française (Paris) 9 November 2018. Access Date: 25 November 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/combating-bullying-the-government-joins-forces-with-facebook-s-fund-for-civility>.

¹⁶⁰⁸ Combating bullying: the Government joins forces with Facebook’s “Fund for Civility,” Gouvernement de la République Française (Paris) 9 November 2018. Access Date: 25 November 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/combating-bullying-the-government-joins-forces-with-facebook-s-fund-for-civility>.

¹⁶⁰⁹ Psychiatrie : Agnès Buzyn promet 40 million d’euros pour financer son plan, Le Monde (Paris) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 2 March 2019. https://www.lemonde.fr/sante/article/2019/01/24/psychiatrie-agnes-buzyn-promet-40-millions-d-euros-pour-financer-son-plan_5414065_1651302.html?xtmc=sante_mentale&xtr=25.

¹⁶¹⁰ Psychiatrie : Agnès Buzyn promet 40 million d’euros pour financer son plan, Le Monde (Paris) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 2 March 2019. https://www.lemonde.fr/sante/article/2019/01/24/psychiatrie-agnes-buzyn-promet-40-millions-d-euros-pour-financer-son-plan_5414065_1651302.html?xtmc=sante_mentale&xtr=25.

¹⁶¹¹ Psychiatrie : Agnès Buzyn promet 40 million d’euros pour financer son plan, Le Monde (Paris) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 2 March 2019. https://www.lemonde.fr/sante/article/2019/01/24/psychiatrie-agnes-buzyn-promet-40-millions-d-euros-pour-financer-son-plan_5414065_1651302.html?xtmc=sante_mentale&xtr=25.

¹⁶¹² France moves to stem surge in police suicides, France 24 (Paris) 29 April 2019. Access Date: 17 June 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190429-france-moves-stem-surge-police-suicides>.

¹⁶¹³ France moves to stem surge in police suicides, France 24 (Paris) 29 April 2019. Access Date: 17 June 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190429-france-moves-stem-surge-police-suicides>.

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to support growth and equal participation that benefits everyone and ensure its citizens lead healthy and productive lives by bringing greater attention to mental health.

On 22 June 2018, Minister for Defence People and Veterans Tobias Ellwood hosted the first ever European conference on veteran's mental health, featuring delegations from Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, and the Netherlands.¹⁶¹⁴ At the conference, countries shared best practices on veterans' issues and discussed improving mental health assistance for former service personnel.¹⁶¹⁵

On 6 February 2019, German Minister of Health Jens Spahn announced that the Federal Ministry of Health will receive EUR5 million from the federal budgetary office to fund a study on the psychological effects of abortions.¹⁶¹⁶

Germany has demonstrated no efforts to comply with its mental health commitments at the national level but has taken sufficient action to implement mental health commitments at the international level through participating in the conference on veteran's mental health.

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Wilson Adore

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to support growth and equal participation that benefits everyone and ensure its citizens lead healthy and productive lives by bringing greater attention to mental health.

On 29 August 2018, the Italian Ministry of Health released two new documents outlining how to support and care for young people with eating disorders.¹⁶¹⁷ These documents sought to provide some homogeneity to the care and treatment of eating disorders both for parents and health professionals.¹⁶¹⁸ The Recommendation for Family Members document informs parents and family members how to identify symptoms of eating disorders and how to provide practical support.¹⁶¹⁹

On 26 September 2018, the Italian government gave a EUR1 million contribution to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to support Palestinian

¹⁶¹⁴ Britain leads first ever European conference on veterans mental health, Ministry of Defense (London) 22 June 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/britain-leads-first-ever-european-conference-on-veterans-mental-health>

¹⁶¹⁵ Britain leads first ever European conference on veterans mental health, Ministry of Defense (London) 22 June 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/britain-leads-first-ever-european-conference-on-veterans-mental-health>.

¹⁶¹⁶ Spahn bekommt fünf Millionen Euro für Studie zu Abtreibungen, Spiegel (Hamburg) 10 February 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019. <http://www.spiegel.de/politik/deutschland/jens-spahn-millionen-fuer-umstrittene-studie-zu-abtreibungen-a-1252518.html>.

¹⁶¹⁷ Eating Disorders, the New Documents Produced by the Ministerial Working Table, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 29 August 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3457.

¹⁶¹⁸ Eating Disorders, the New Documents Produced by the Ministerial Working Table, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 29 August 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3457.

¹⁶¹⁹ Eating Disorders, the New Documents Produced by the Ministerial Working Table, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 29 August 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3457.

refugees in Syria.¹⁶²⁰ The funds provide access to educational services, psychosocial support for minors, and training activities for teachers and parents, including issues related to gender-based violence.¹⁶²¹

On 22 June 2018, Minister for Defence People and Veterans Tobias Ellwood hosted the first ever European conference on veteran's mental health, featuring delegations from Denmark, France, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands.¹⁶²² At the conference, countries shared best practices on veterans' issues and discussed improving mental health assistance for former service personnel.¹⁶²³

On 27 September 2018, representatives of the Italian government participated and committed the state to 13 steps to address non-communicable diseases, including mental health diseases and mental health wellbeing, through World Health Organization.¹⁶²⁴ The program intends to speed up progress in curbing the impact of non-communicable diseases on society.¹⁶²⁵

From 23 to 25 October 2018, Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte and more than 170 mayors and public figures supported a new mental health awareness campaign.¹⁶²⁶ The announcement was made during the XXXV Assembly of the National Association of Italian Municipalities held in Rimini.¹⁶²⁷ The campaign will promote information sharing and social inclusion of people with mental illness.¹⁶²⁸

On 15 March 2019, the Italian Health Ministry introduced the first Fiocchetto Lilla National Day for nutrition and nutrition disorders in Italy, with an emphasis on anorexia, bulimia and other nutrition and diet disorders.¹⁶²⁹ Health Minister Giulia Grillo announced a focus on developing policies for

¹⁶²⁰ Italian Contribution to Support Palestinian Refugees in Syria, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2018/09/contributo-italiano-per-il-sostegno-ai-rifugiati-palestinesi-in-siria.html.

¹⁶²¹ Italian Contribution to Support Palestinian Refugees in Syria, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2018/09/contributo-italiano-per-il-sostegno-ai-rifugiati-palestinesi-in-siria.html.

¹⁶²² Britain leads first ever European conference on veterans mental health, Ministry of Defense (London) 22 June 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/britain-leads-first-ever-european-conference-on-veterans-mental-health>.

¹⁶²³ Britain leads first ever European conference on veterans mental health, Ministry of Defense (London) 22 June 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/britain-leads-first-ever-european-conference-on-veterans-mental-health>.

¹⁶²⁴ Heads of State commit to lead response to beat noncommunicable diseases, promote mental health, WHO (Geneva) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.who.int/news-room/detail/27-09-2018-heads-of-state-commit-to-lead-response-to-beat-noncommunicable-diseases-promote-mental-health>.

¹⁶²⁵ Heads of State commit to lead response to beat noncommunicable diseases, promote mental health, WHO (Geneva) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.who.int/news-room/detail/27-09-2018-heads-of-state-commit-to-lead-response-to-beat-noncommunicable-diseases-promote-mental-health>.

¹⁶²⁶ #NESSUNOènormale. Grazie a Conte e a tutti i sindaci per l'adesione alla campagna di sensibilizzazione sul disagio mentale, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3517.

¹⁶²⁷ #NESSUNOènormale. Grazie a Conte e a tutti i sindaci per l'adesione alla campagna di sensibilizzazione sul disagio mentale, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3517.

¹⁶²⁸ #NESSUNOènormale. Grazie a Conte e a tutti i sindaci per l'adesione alla campagna di sensibilizzazione sul disagio mentale, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3517.

¹⁶²⁹ Eating disorders, National Day of Fiocchetto Lilla 2019, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 31 May 2019. http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3673.

early interventions that are applicable to all ages and improving education around these eating disorders.¹⁶³⁰

Through Italy's implementation of national mental health initiatives regarding eating disorders and general awareness and its international psychological backing for Palestinian refugees, Italy has supported growth that benefits everyone and ensured its citizens lead healthy and productive lives.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Dorota Borovsky

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to support growth and equal participation that benefits everyone and ensure its citizens lead healthy and productive lives by bringing greater attention to mental health.

On 29 June 2018, Japan approved legislation to cap overtime work at 100 hours per month for all employees.¹⁶³¹ The legislation is an attempt to contest *karoshi* or death by overworking (a very common occurrence in Japan) and the mental strain associated with long hours.¹⁶³² Additionally, the law imposes penalties for companies that violate these boundaries.¹⁶³³

Japan has complied with its mental health commitment at the national level by ensuring citizens lead healthy and productive lives, although it has not complied at the international level with insufficient implemented action to support growth and participation that benefits everyone.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Faiyad Nafis

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to support growth and equal participation that benefits everyone and ensure its citizens lead healthy and productive lives by bringing greater attention to mental health.

On 16 June 2018, the British government announced plans to boost the National Health Service (NHS) funds with a GBP20 billion injection per year by 2023-24.¹⁶³⁴ The extra spending will cut cancer deaths, improve mental health services, and hire thousands more medical professionals.¹⁶³⁵

¹⁶³⁰ Eating disorders, National Day of Focchetto Lilla 2019, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 31 May 2019.

http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3673.

¹⁶³¹ Overworked Japan caps overtime at 100 hours a month, The Straits Times (Singapore) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 22 October 2018. <https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/east-asia/overworked-japan-caps-overtime-at-100-hours-a-month>.

¹⁶³² Overworked Japan caps overtime at 100 hours a month, The Straits Times (Singapore) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 22 October 2018. <https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/east-asia/overworked-japan-caps-overtime-at-100-hours-a-month>.

¹⁶³³ Overworked Japan caps overtime at 100 hours a month, The Straits Times (Singapore) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 22 October 2018. <https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/east-asia/overworked-japan-caps-overtime-at-100-hours-a-month>.

¹⁶³⁴ May to unveil £20bn a year boost to NHS spending, The Guardian (London) 16 June 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/jun/16/may-to-unveil-20-billion-pound-a-year-nhs-boost>.

¹⁶³⁵ May to unveil £20bn a year boost to NHS spending, The Guardian (London) 16 June 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/jun/16/may-to-unveil-20-billion-pound-a-year-nhs-boost>

On 22 June 2018, Minister for Defence People and Veterans Tobias Ellwood hosted the first ever European conference on veteran's mental health, featuring delegations from Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, and the Netherlands.¹⁶³⁶ At the conference, countries shared best practices on veterans' issues and discussed improving mental health assistance for former service personnel.¹⁶³⁷

On 9 July 2018, the House of Lords introduced Bill 120, also known as the Mental Health Units (Use of Force) Bill.¹⁶³⁸ The law is intended to provide oversight regarding the use of force for individuals in mental health units (i.e. healthcare practitioners) in order to protect the physical and mental wellbeing of patients.¹⁶³⁹

On 4 September 2018, the Ministry of Defence launched a mental health pocket guide to help the armed forces identify signs of mental illness or distress, offer support, and provide information on where services are available.¹⁶⁴⁰

On 29 October 2018, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury announced plans to spend GBP2 billion on mental health services in the final budget prior to the UK's removal from the European Union.¹⁶⁴¹

On 22 November 2018, the UK government published a new framework to help employers voluntarily report on the disability, mental health, and well-being of their employees.¹⁶⁴² The framework is meant to promote transparency and encourage employee support networks.¹⁶⁴³

On 7 December 2018, the Department of Health and Social Care announced GBP963 million of additional funding for health services across England.¹⁶⁴⁴ The funding will expand existing mental health services and facilities in Newcastle, Gateshead, and Liverpool.¹⁶⁴⁵

On 7 January 2019, the NHS launched the Long Term Plan to improve health outcomes in the UK.¹⁶⁴⁶ The plan illustrates how the government will work over the next 10 years to reduce heart

¹⁶³⁶ Britain leads first ever European conference on veterans mental health, Ministry of Defense (London) 22 June 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/britain-leads-first-ever-european-conference-on-veterans-mental-health>.

¹⁶³⁷ Britain leads first ever European conference on veterans mental health, Ministry of Defense (London) 22 June 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/britain-leads-first-ever-european-conference-on-veterans-mental-health>.

¹⁶³⁸ Mental Health Units (Use of Force) Bill 2017-19, UK Parliament (London) 9 July 2018. Access Date: 22 October 2018. <https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/mentalhealthunitsuseofforce.html>.

¹⁶³⁹ Mental Health Units (Use of Force) Bill 2017-19, UK Parliament (London) 9 July 2018. Access Date: 22 October 2018. <https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/mentalhealthunitsuseofforce.html>.

¹⁶⁴⁰ New pocket guide for troops to access mental health support, Ministry of Defense (London) 4 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-pocket-guide-for-troops-to-access-mental-health-support>.

¹⁶⁴¹ UK Treasury chief to put cash into mental health, Financial Post (Toronto) 29 October 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://business.financialpost.com/pmn/business-pmn/uk-treasury-chief-to-put-cash-into-mental-health>.

¹⁶⁴² Voluntary reporting on disability, mental health and wellbeing, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/voluntary-reporting-on-disability-mental-health-and-wellbeing>.

¹⁶⁴³ Voluntary reporting on disability, mental health and wellbeing, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/voluntary-reporting-on-disability-mental-health-and-wellbeing>.

¹⁶⁴⁴ £1 billion of funding to upgrade NHS services in England, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/1-billion-of-funding-to-upgrade-nhs-services-in-england>.

¹⁶⁴⁵ £1 billion of funding to upgrade NHS services in England, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/1-billion-of-funding-to-upgrade-nhs-services-in-england>.

attacks, strokes, and dementia cases and improve the availability of mental health services to children and adults.¹⁶⁴⁷

On 22 January 2019, the UK government published a cross-government plan to carry out the suicide prevention strategy for England.¹⁶⁴⁸ The plan is led by the Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention and focuses on how social media and other technology “such as predictive analytics and artificial intelligence...can identify those at risk of suicide.”¹⁶⁴⁹

On 4 February 2019, Education Secretary Damian Hinds announced that up to 370 schools across England will participate in trials to evaluate youth mental health support strategies.¹⁶⁵⁰

On 12 February 2019, the UK government launched a new campaign to increase the recruitment of adult social care staff.¹⁶⁵¹ The campaign, entitled “Every Day Is Different,” aims to fill the 110,000 vacancies in the sector; such personnel care for individuals with physical disabilities, autism, dementia or mental health conditions.¹⁶⁵²

On 25 February 2019, Education Secretary Damian Hinds introduced new compulsory health education. Students in all schools will be taught “how to look after their mental wellbeing and recognise when classmates may be struggling” by 2020.¹⁶⁵³ Specifically, there will be a focus on emphasizing the positive link between physical and mental health.¹⁶⁵⁴

On 7 March 2019, Education Secretary Damian Hinds announced a new taskforce to investigate how student mental health can be better supported during the challenges of the first year of university.¹⁶⁵⁵

On 3 May 2019, Communities Secretary James Brokenshire announced GBP25 million in funding for vulnerable people recovering from life on the streets.¹⁶⁵⁶ Initiatives that are covered by this funding

¹⁶⁴⁶ NHS Long Term Plan Launched, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nhs-long-term-plan-launched>.

¹⁶⁴⁷ PM: Launch of the NHS Long Term Plan marks an historic step to secure its future, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street (London) 6 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-launch-of-the-nhs-long-term-plan-marks-an-historic-step-to-secure-its-future>.

¹⁶⁴⁸ Suicide prevention: cross-government plan, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/suicide-prevention-cross-government-plan>.

¹⁶⁴⁹ First ever cross-government suicide prevention plan published, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/first-ever-cross-government-suicide-prevention-plan-published>.

¹⁶⁵⁰ One of the largest mental health trials launches in schools, Department for Education, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 4 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/one-of-the-largest-mental-health-trials-launches-in-schools>.

¹⁶⁵¹ New campaign to recruit thousands more adult social care staff, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-campaign-to-recruit-thousands-more-adult-social-care-staff>.

¹⁶⁵² New campaign to recruit thousands more adult social care staff, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-campaign-to-recruit-thousands-more-adult-social-care-staff>.

¹⁶⁵³ All pupils will be taught about mental and physical wellbeing, Department for Education (London) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/all-pupils-will-be-taught-about-mental-and-physical-wellbeing>.

¹⁶⁵⁴ All pupils will be taught about mental and physical wellbeing, Department for Education (London) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/all-pupils-will-be-taught-about-mental-and-physical-wellbeing>.

¹⁶⁵⁵ Government creates new student mental health taskforce, Department for Education (London) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-creates-new-student-mental-health-taskforce>.

include 20 new “Somewhere Safe to Stay” rough sleeping centres where individuals can access mental health support and over 130 specialist support workers to direct people to mental health services.¹⁶⁵⁷

The United Kingdom has taken some steps in implementing domestic policies which ensure its citizens lead healthy and productive lives, especially veterans, and has supported any international initiatives through the European conference on veteran’s mental health, to bring greater attention to mental health.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ranjana Nagi

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to support growth and equal participation that benefits everyone and ensure its citizens lead healthy and productive lives by bringing greater attention to mental health.

On 14 August 2018, President Donald Trump signed into effect H.R. 2345, the “National Suicide Hotlines Improvements Act of 2018.”¹⁶⁵⁸ The law requires the Federal Communications Commission and Departments of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Veterans Affairs to determine the feasibility of a three-digit dialing code for a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system.¹⁶⁵⁹

On 30 August 2018, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) awarded USD215.2 million over five years to support individuals involved in the justice system with mental health and substance abuse disorders.¹⁶⁶⁰ The programs will provide treatment and recovery services.¹⁶⁶¹

On 21 September 2018, SAMHSA announced it would provide USD61.1 million in grants to suicide prevention programs over several years.¹⁶⁶² The programs featured include the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and Disaster Distress Helpline.¹⁶⁶³

¹⁶⁵⁶ Brokenshire confirms over £25 million to help vulnerable rough sleepers, Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (London) 3 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/brokenshire-confirms-over-25-million-to-help-vulnerable-rough-sleepers>.

¹⁶⁵⁷ Brokenshire confirms over £25 million to help vulnerable rough sleepers, Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (London) 3 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/brokenshire-confirms-over-25-million-to-help-vulnerable-rough-sleepers>.

¹⁶⁵⁸ President Donald J. Trump Signs H.R.2345, H.R. 5554, H.R. 6414, and S. 770 into Law, White House (Washington, D.C.) 14 August 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trump-signs-h-r-2345-h-r-5554-h-r-6414-s-770-law/>.

¹⁶⁵⁹ President Donald J. Trump Signs H.R.2345, H.R. 5554, H.R. 6414, and S. 770 into Law, White House (Washington, D.C.) 14 August 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trump-signs-h-r-2345-h-r-5554-h-r-6414-s-770-law/>.

¹⁶⁶⁰ SAMHSA awards \$215.2 million to support justice-involved individuals who have substance use or co-occurring mental and substance use disorders, SAMHSA (Rockville) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201808301100>.

¹⁶⁶¹ SAMHSA awards \$215.2 million to support justice-involved individuals who have substance use or co-occurring mental and substance use disorders, SAMHSA (Rockville) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201808301100>.

¹⁶⁶² SAMHSA awards \$61.1 million in suicide prevention funding, SAMHSA (Rockville) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201809211000>.

¹⁶⁶³ SAMHSA awards \$61.1 million in suicide prevention funding, SAMHSA (Rockville) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201809211000>.

On 24 September 2018, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced three grants worth USD6.2 million over the next few years to Fairbanks Native Association and Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.¹⁶⁶⁴ The funding aims to develop access to youth mental health and opioid addiction services.¹⁶⁶⁵

On 28 September 2018, President Trump signed into effect H.R. 6157, the “Department of Defense and Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act.”¹⁶⁶⁶ The law “secures USD6.7 billion to address substance use and mental health, including opioid and heroin abuse.”¹⁶⁶⁷

On 24 January 2019, SAMHSA and the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors announced a new initiative to create a registry of crisis intervention beds for people with serious mental illness.¹⁶⁶⁸ The 23 participating states were given USD150,000 to establish and/or expand bed registry programs to reduce wait times.¹⁶⁶⁹

On 12 February 2019, SAMHSA issued a Treatment Improvement Protocol to improve access to scientifically sound and culturally informed substance abuse treatments for the “American Indian” and Alaskan Native populations.¹⁶⁷⁰

On 15 February 2019, representatives from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the HHS announced a partnership to establish “addiction recovery transitional housing in rural communities.”¹⁶⁷¹

On 5 March 2019, President Donald Trump issued an executive order on “a national roadmap to empower veterans and end suicide.”¹⁶⁷² The executive order created the Veteran Wellness, Empowerment, and Suicide Prevention Task Force to research and implement suicide prevention strategies.¹⁶⁷³

¹⁶⁶⁴ HHS announces \$6.2 million in new grants in Fairbanks focusing on opioid and mental health services, Department of Health and Human Services (Washington, D.C.) 24 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2018/09/24/hhs-announces-new-grants-in-fairbanks-focusing-on-opioid-and-mental-health-services.html>.

¹⁶⁶⁵ HHS announces \$6.2 million in new grants in Fairbanks focusing on opioid and mental health services, Department of Health and Human Services (Washington, D.C.) 24 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2018/09/24/hhs-announces-new-grants-in-fairbanks-focusing-on-opioid-and-mental-health-services.html>.

¹⁶⁶⁶ H.R.6157 — Department of Defense and Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act, 2019 and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2019, United States Congress (Washington, D.C.) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/6157>.

¹⁶⁶⁷ Statement from the President on Signing of H.R. 6157, White House (Washington, D.C.) 28 September 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/statement-president-signing-h-r-6157/>.

¹⁶⁶⁸ Crisis Bed Registries to Assist People with Urgent Mental Health Needs, SAMHSA (Rockville) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201901240130>.

¹⁶⁶⁹ Crisis Bed Registries to Assist People with Urgent Mental Health Needs, SAMHSA (Rockville) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201901240130>.

¹⁶⁷⁰ SAMHSA treatment guidance on Native populations highlights cultural considerations, best practices, SAMHSA (Rockville) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201902120930>.

¹⁶⁷¹ USDA and HHS Partner to Create Recovery Housing in Rural Communities, SAMHSA (Rockville) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201902151000>.

¹⁶⁷² Executive Order on a National Roadmap to Empower Veterans and End Suicide, White House (Washington, D.C.) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-national-roadmap-empower-veterans-end-suicide/>.

¹⁶⁷³ Executive Order on a National Roadmap to Empower Veterans and End Suicide, White House (Washington, D.C.) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-national-roadmap-empower-veterans-end-suicide/>.

On 1 May 2019, President Trump proclaimed the month of May 2019 as National Mental Health Awareness Month.¹⁶⁷⁴

On 14 May 2019, the HHS announced their efforts to establish a new interdepartmental committee on substance use disorders.¹⁶⁷⁵ The goal of this committee is “to identify areas for improved coordination related to substance use disorder research, services, supports and prevention activities across all relevant federal agencies.”¹⁶⁷⁶

The United States has demonstrated efforts towards implementing domestic policies that support mental health and suicide prevention programs in order to ensure its citizens lead healthy and productive lives. However, it has not taken steps towards implementing international initiatives which bring greater attention to mental health.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Ranjana Nagi

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to support growth and equal participation that benefits everyone and ensure its citizens lead healthy and productive lives by bringing greater attention to mental health.

On 17 July 2018, the European Commission established the Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases.¹⁶⁷⁷ The Steering Group will act as a formal expert body to reduce premature death from non-communicable diseases, including mental illness, and assist EU members in achieving the health-related Sustainable Development Goals.¹⁶⁷⁸

¹⁶⁷⁴ Presidential Proclamation on National Mental Health Awareness Month, 2019, Whitehouse (Washington, D.C.) 1 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-proclamation-national-mental-health-awareness-month-2019/>.

¹⁶⁷⁵ HHS Establishing Interdepartmental Substance Use Disorders Coordinating Committee, Seeking Member Nominations, Department of Health and Human Services (Washington, D.C.) 14 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/05/14/hhs-establishing-interdepartmental-substance-use-disorders-coordinating-committee-seeking-member.html>.

¹⁶⁷⁶ HHS Establishing Interdepartmental Substance Use Disorders Coordinating Committee, Seeking Member Nominations, Department of Health and Human Services (Washington, D.C.) 14 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/05/14/hhs-establishing-interdepartmental-substance-use-disorders-coordinating-committee-seeking-member.html>.

¹⁶⁷⁷ Commission establishes Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases, EC (Brussels) 17 July 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?archtype=specific&newsletter_service_id=327&newsletter_issue_id=9978&page=1&fullDate=Tue%2017%20Jul%202018&lang=default.

¹⁶⁷⁸ Commission establishes Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases, EC (Brussels) 17 July 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?archtype=specific&newsletter_service_id=327&newsletter_issue_id=9978&page=1&fullDate=Tue%2017%20Jul%202018&lang=default.

On 25 July 2018, the European Commission adopted new regulations on pilot mental health requiring airlines to psychologically assess people prior to hiring and provide support systems.¹⁶⁷⁹ The rules came three years after a Germanwings pilot intentionally flew into a mountain.¹⁶⁸⁰

On 20 September 2018, a new mental health centre funded by the EU was opened in Ankara.¹⁶⁸¹ The center will help Syrian refugees suffering from mental health disorders.¹⁶⁸²

On 10 October 2018, the European Commission Service for Foreign Policy Instruments launched a new campaign alongside World Health Organization, the Palestinian Ministry of Health and the Sharek Youth Forum, to raise awareness about youth mental health in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.¹⁶⁸³ As part of the program, there will be activities in 34 different schools to raise awareness about mental health and counsellors on site to oversee students and their activities.¹⁶⁸⁴

On 21 November 2018, Mental Health Europe (with the support from the European Union Programme for Rights, Equality and Citizenship) and Euro Youth Mental Health launched a digital map which aggregates the available mental health resources of each EU member.¹⁶⁸⁵ Young people can use the map to see what resources, such as helplines or support organizations, are available to them.¹⁶⁸⁶

On 22 November 2018, the European Commission supported the OECD's release of its "Health at a Glance: Europe 2018" report. The report estimates the total costs of mental ill-health to be at more than 4% of GDP, or over EUR600 billion, across the 28 EU countries.¹⁶⁸⁷ The report highlights, inter alia, the importance of mental health in Europe and is expected to urge EU members to make improvements in their own national health initiatives.¹⁶⁸⁸

¹⁶⁷⁹ Europe adopts new pilot mental health rules after Germanwings crash, Reuters (London) 25 July 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-crash-germanwings-eu/europe-adopts-new-pilot-mental-health-rules-after-germanwings-crash-idUSKBN1KF1UA>.

¹⁶⁸⁰ Europe adopts new pilot mental health rules after Germanwings crash, Reuters (London) 25 July 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-crash-germanwings-eu/europe-adopts-new-pilot-mental-health-rules-after-germanwings-crash-idUSKBN1KF1UA>.

¹⁶⁸¹ New mental health center opens its doors to refugees in Ankara, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.dailysabah.com/ankara/2018/09/20/new-mental-health-center-opens-its-doors-to-refugees-in-ankara>.

¹⁶⁸² New mental health center opens its doors to refugees in Ankara, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.dailysabah.com/ankara/2018/09/20/new-mental-health-center-opens-its-doors-to-refugees-in-ankara>.

¹⁶⁸³ How is your Mental Health? Improving Psychosocial and Mental Health in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, EC (Brussels) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/fpi/news/how-your-mental-health-improving-psychosocial-and-mental-health-west-bank-and-gaza-strip_en.

¹⁶⁸⁴ How is your Mental Health? Improving Psychosocial and Mental Health in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, EC (Brussels) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/fpi/news/how-your-mental-health-improving-psychosocial-and-mental-health-west-bank-and-gaza-strip_en.

¹⁶⁸⁵ MHE launches European map of youth helplines and support services, Mental Health Europe (Brussels) 21 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://mhe-sme.org/mhe-response-to-the-lancet-report-gmh-2-2-2-3/>.

¹⁶⁸⁶ MHE launches European map of youth helplines and support services, Mental Health Europe (Brussels) 21 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://mhe-sme.org/mhe-response-to-the-lancet-report-gmh-2-2-2-3/>.

¹⁶⁸⁷ State of Health in the EU: more protection and prevention for longer and healthier lives, EC (Brussels) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6498_en.htm.

¹⁶⁸⁸ State of Health in the EU: more protection and prevention for longer and healthier lives, EC (Brussels) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6498_en.htm.

On 18 December 2018, the European Commission together with WHO launched a technical guidance series on refugee and migrant health.¹⁶⁸⁹ The publications provide tools, case studies, and evidence to inform practices related to children's health, health promotion, healthy ageing, maternal and newborn health, and mental health.¹⁶⁹⁰ The technical guidance provides eight action areas for policymakers to consider when handling the mental health of refugees and migrants with specific focus on anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder.¹⁶⁹¹

On 21 December 2018, the European Commission announced an extension of its partnership with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to support eight joint projects in 2019 in the fields of personalized medicine, rare diseases, cardiovascular diseases, ageing well, neurodegenerative diseases, and mental health.¹⁶⁹²

On 20 February 2019, the European Commission announced an additional EUR30 million in humanitarian assistance to Iraq.¹⁶⁹³ The aid will provide basic needs, mental health support, increase services to survivors of sexual violence, and offer physical therapy and rehabilitation to the wounded.¹⁶⁹⁴

The European Union remains committed to implementing mental health initiatives related to policy formation and specific high-risk careers while also implementing international policies to support growth that benefits Palestinians and Syrian refugees.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Dorota Borowsky

¹⁶⁸⁹ WHO launches technical guidance series on the health of refugees and migrants, World Health Organization (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access Date 11 March 2019. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/health-determinants/migration-and-health/news/news/2018/12/who-launches-technical-guidance-series-on-the-health-of-refugees-and-migrants>.

¹⁶⁹⁰ WHO launches technical guidance series on the health of refugees and migrants, World Health Organization (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access Date 11 March 2019. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/health-determinants/migration-and-health/news/news/2018/12/who-launches-technical-guidance-series-on-the-health-of-refugees-and-migrants>.

¹⁶⁹¹ WHO launches technical guidance series on the health of refugees and migrants, World Health Organization (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access Date 11 March 2019. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/health-determinants/migration-and-health/news/news/2018/12/who-launches-technical-guidance-series-on-the-health-of-refugees-and-migrants>.

¹⁶⁹² CIHR partners with the European Union to advance research in key areas, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Ottawa) 21 December 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/51280.html>.

¹⁶⁹³ Iraq: EU announces additional €50 million in humanitarian aid and development cooperation, EC (Brussels) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1289_en.htm.

¹⁶⁹⁴ Iraq: EU announces additional €50 million in humanitarian aid and development cooperation, EC (Brussels) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1289_en.htm.

7. Development: African Union Agenda 2063

“We reiterate our commitment to work in partnership with the African continent, supporting the African Union Agenda 2063 in order to realize Africa’s potential.”

G7 Charlevoix Summit Communiqué

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+1.00	

Background

In 1963, the Organization of African Unity, later replaced by the African Union (AU) in 2001, was founded upon the principles of decolonization and continental political independence. In 2013, the organization celebrated its 50th anniversary and began the development of a new 50-year agenda. The African Union Commission (AUC), supported by the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD), Planning and Coordinating Agency, the African Development Bank and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa created Agenda 2063, which the AU adopted in 2015.¹⁶⁹⁵

Within the long-term vision of Agenda 2063, the AUC also developed the First Ten Year Implementation Plan of Agenda 2063 (2013-2023). This is the first in a series of five ten-year programs to provide attainable development objectives. Included in the First Ten-Year Plan are 12 Flagship Projects, such as the creation of an Integrated High Speed Train Network, near-term national and Regional Economic Communities, development priorities to ensure the successful completion of long-term development aspirations, and continental frameworks such as the Science Technology Innovation Strategy for Africa, in order to support state development efforts.¹⁶⁹⁶

In 2001, NEPAD, an economic development program, was adopted at the 37th Summit of the Organization of African Unity Lusaka, Zambia. In 2002, the G8 members created the Action Plan for Africa in response to the outcomes of this summit. All G8 members agreed to partner with a NEPAD country to address issue areas such as health care, economic projects, debt relief, water management and more.¹⁶⁹⁷

¹⁶⁹⁵ Agenda 2063: First Ten-Year Implementation Plan 2014-2023, tralac (Stellenbosch) 31 March 2016. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <https://www.tralac.org/news/article/9370-agenda-2063-first-ten-year-implementation-plan-2014-2023.html>.

¹⁶⁹⁶ Agenda 2063: First Ten-Year Implementation Plan 2014-2023, tralac (Stellenbosch) 31 March 2016. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <https://www.tralac.org/news/article/9370-agenda-2063-first-ten-year-implementation-plan-2014-2023.html>.

¹⁶⁹⁷ G8 Summit 2007, The Press and Information Office of the Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 2009. Access Date: 7 September 2018. https://www.g-8.de/nn_92160/Content/EN/Lexikon/G8/N/neue-partnerschaft-f_C3_BCr-afrikas-entwicklung.html.

In 2005, G8 members agreed to increase aid to developing countries by USD 50 billion, in addition to debt cancellation for the 18 poorest states in the African continent.¹⁶⁹⁸

In 2011, at the Deauville Summit, the G8 members agreed to support the economic communities of Africa and the Minimum Integration Programme of the African Union.¹⁶⁹⁹ Four years later, members reiterated this pledge and committed themselves to improve African energy infrastructure.¹⁷⁰⁰

In 2015, the G7 members outlined a partnership with the African continent as a collective commitment, specifying actions in the provision of youth support such as skills transfer, infrastructure, financial resources, and employment opportunities.

In the Charlevoix summit communique, the G7 members reiterated their commitment to realizing Africa's potential through Agenda 2063 and outlined new priorities for security, stability, and sustainable development.

Commitment Features

This commitment refers to a larger set of development goals outlined in the African Union Agenda 2063, and also reflects the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Through Agenda 2063, African leaders pledged to accelerate growth, development, and prosperity across the continent, reinforced by a pan-African vision of self-reliance and socioeconomic enhancement.¹⁷⁰¹

Agenda 2063 has seven key aspirations, including:

1. Sustainable development to modernize infrastructure, preserve the environment, improve education, and eradicate poverty
2. A united continent free from colonialism, oppression, and restrictive border policies
3. A democratic Africa supportive of human rights, the rule of law, justice, and good governance
4. A peaceful Africa
5. Entrenched pan-Africanism promoting the cultural diversity and heritage of the region
6. People-driven development aimed at empowering women and youth
7. A globally influential and self-reliant Africa¹⁷⁰²

This Charlevoix commitment outlines the need for G7 members to work in partnership with the African continent, specifically by supporting the African Union Agenda 2063 in order to realize Africa's potential. This means that G7 members must support the African Union's Agenda directly. This does not mean that G7 members themselves need to implement the provisions set out in Agenda 2063.

¹⁶⁹⁸ G8 leaders agree \$50bn aid boost, BBC News (London) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/4662297.stm>.

¹⁶⁹⁹ Deauville G8 Summit Final Compliance Report, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 18 May 2012. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/2011g8finalcompliance.pdf>.

¹⁷⁰⁰ Brussels G7 Summit Final Compliance Report, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 6 June 2015. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2014compliance/07-2014-g8-compliance-final-20150715.pdf>.

¹⁷⁰¹ Agenda 2063, African Union Foundation (Addis Ababa) Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.africaunionfoundation.org/en/pages/agenda-2063>.

¹⁷⁰² Agenda 2063, African Union Foundation (Addis Ababa) Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.africaunionfoundation.org/en/pages/agenda-2063>.

The first part of the commitment specifies that G7 members commit to working with African countries through partnerships. Such partnerships can be bilateral or multilateral in nature, and they must exemplify a shared undertaking or mutual collaboration between members of the G7 and the African continent.¹⁷⁰³ For instance, unilateral development assistance from a G7 member does not count towards compliance in this component of the commitment.

The second part of this commitment states that G7 members will support the African Union Agenda 2063 in order to realize Africa's potential. This means that G7 action must explicitly reference the AU agenda, and support it through "act[s] of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity."¹⁷⁰⁴ "Realiz[ing] Africa's potential" is defined as the seven pillars of the AU Agenda 2063. Thus, G7 members must align their actions with one or more of the aforementioned seven priorities in their support for Agenda 2063, in order to score compliance in the second portion of this commitment.

To achieve full compliance, G7 members must work in mutually engaged partnerships with African states, in order to support Agenda 2063 in a manner consistent with the seven priorities of this continental blueprint. Examples of actions that factor into this threshold include establishing new bilateral and multilateral partnerships with African states, ambitious financing of infrastructure development through the African Union, engaging in capacity-building or needs assessment and more. Full compliance should be demonstrated by multiple, in-depth, substantive engagements with this commitment. Funding and actions are considered substantial when they directly respond to and effectively facilitate the realisation of the aforementioned seven key aspirations of the Agenda 2063. A few indicators to consider include the G7 member's aid to Africa, or the number of economic or political missions and trips to the continent.

If the G7 member demonstrates some progress with regards to the commitment, a score of 0 is assigned for partial compliance. For example, if a G7 member supports the progress of the African Union Agenda 2063 in a way that does not reflect the partnership with the African continent, unilateral assistance being a notable example, this scenario accounts for partial compliance. Alternatively, if the G7 member works in partnership with the African continent, but only provides minimal support for Agenda 2063 (examples include a verbal reiteration of support or participation at a conference), a score of partial compliance will be assigned.

Non-compliance is assigned to G7 members who fail to comply with the commitment. The G7 member will receive a score of -1 for neither fostering partnerships with African countries nor supporting Agenda 2063 through explicit reference to the agenda's seven core objectives. Non-compliance refers to situations where no progress has been made by the G7 member.

¹⁷⁰³ Partner, Oxford Living Dictionaries (Oxford) Access Date: 25 September 2018. <https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/partner>

¹⁷⁰⁴ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 25 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member does NOT work in partnership with the African continent and makes NO progress to support the African Union Agenda 2063 in order to realize Africa's potential.
0	The G7 member works in partnership with the African continent OR makes SOME progress to support the African Union Agenda 2063 in order to realize Africa's potential.
+1	The G7 member works in partnership with the African continent, supporting the African Union Agenda 2063 in order to realize Africa's potential.

Compliance Director: Adolphus Lau

Lead Analyst: Sonja Dobson

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to work in partnership with the African continent, supporting the African Union Agenda 2063 in order to realize Africa's potential.

On 12 June 2018, the Government of Canada initiated a CAD 2,900,000 nutrition and protection assistance project in Nigeria in partnership with Save the Children Canada.¹⁷⁰⁵ The project will provide the following assistance: malnutrition-related medical treatment to 28,000 children, hygiene improvement programs to more than 102,000 people, skills training to 7060 children aged between 3 and 17, and response services to 9050 people, in response to difficult humanitarian access due to the conflict between Boko Haram and the Nigerian Armed Forces.¹⁷⁰⁶

On 14 August 2018, the Government of Canada initiated a CAD 14,800,000 Sexual Reproduction Health and Nutrition project in partnership with the United Nation Children's Fund (UNICEF) in Ethiopia.¹⁷⁰⁷ The project aims to improve access to quality adolescent-specific reproductive health and nutrition knowledge and services within health systems, schools, and communities in food-insecure districts.¹⁷⁰⁸ It will provide training to health workers, provide reproductive health-related medical supplies to adolescent females, and improve current sanitary infrastructure for young females. The project aims to benefit 4,000,000 adolescents.¹⁷⁰⁹

On 17 August 2018, Canada's Minister of International Development Marie-Claude Bibeau and the President of the African Development Bank Akinwumi Adesina co-instituted a commitment to gender empowerment, renewable energy, agriculture, and innovative financing mechanism.¹⁷¹⁰ The two ministers further discussed cooperation for the Africa Investment Forum, following Minister

¹⁷⁰⁵ Project profile — Nigeria — Nutrition and Protection Assistance — Save the Children Canada 2018-2019, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 June 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018.

<http://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P006096001>

¹⁷⁰⁶ Project profile — Nigeria — Nutrition and Protection Assistance — Save the Children Canada 2018-2019, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 June 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018.

<http://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P006096001>

¹⁷⁰⁷ Project profile — Improving Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights and Nutrition in Ethiopia, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 August 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018.

<http://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D004815001>

¹⁷⁰⁸ Project profile — Improving Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights and Nutrition in Ethiopia, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 August 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018.

<http://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D004815001>

¹⁷⁰⁹ Project profile — Improving Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights and Nutrition in Ethiopia, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 August 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018.

<http://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D004815001>

¹⁷¹⁰ African Development Bank and Canada share commitment to women's empowerment on the continent, African Development Bank Group (Abidjan) 17 August 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/african-development-bank-and-canada-share-commitment-to-womens-empowerment-on-the-continent-18419/>

Bibeau's reinstatement of Canada's commitment to helping African women develop their full potential and pledge to include African women in decision-making processes.¹⁷¹¹

On 7-9 November 2018, Parliamentary Secretary Omar Alghabra led the Canadian delegation at the Africa Investment Forum in Johannesburg, South Africa.¹⁷¹² This forum emphasized the expertise of Canadian companies in supporting Africa's sustainable economic development and the Sustainable Development Goals.¹⁷¹³

On 12-13 November 2018, Canada's Special Envoy to the European Union and Europe Honourable Stéphane Dion reiterated Canada's support for the United Nations Action Plan for Libya. Canada hopes to arrive at a Libya-led solution at the International Conference on Libya in Palermo, Italy.¹⁷¹⁴

On 13 November 2018, Canada's Minister of International Development Marie-Claude Bibeau announced a CAD 104.4 million contribution at the International Conference on Family Planning in Kigali, Rwanda.¹⁷¹⁵ The fund will support family planning projects and access to safe and legal abortions in Rwanda, in order to enhance the capacity of family planning as a part of sexual and reproductive health.¹⁷¹⁶

On 13 November 2018, the Government of Canada announced CAD19.5 million of funding for a Right to Play project and CAD750,000 for a World Food Programme project.¹⁷¹⁷ The Right to Play project operates in Ghana, Mozambique, and Rwanda to improve primary education and eliminate barriers to gender equality.¹⁷¹⁸ The World Food Programme project provides nutrition-related

¹⁷¹¹ African Development Bank and Canada share commitment to women's empowerment on the continent, African Development Bank Group (Abidjan) 17 August 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/african-development-bank-and-canada-share-commitment-to-womens-empowerment-on-the-continent-18419/>

¹⁷¹² Parliamentary Secretary Alghabra to lead Canadian delegation to Africa Investment Forum in Johannesburg, South Africa, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 7 November 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/11/parliamentary-secretaryalghabratolead-canadian-delegationtoafriainvestment-forum-in-johannesburg-south-africa.html>

¹⁷¹³ Parliamentary Secretary Alghabra to lead Canadian delegation to Africa Investment Forum in Johannesburg, South Africa, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 7 November 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/11/parliamentary-secretaryalghabratolead-canadian-delegationtoafriainvestment-forum-in-johannesburg-south-africa.html>

¹⁷¹⁴ Canada to participate in International Conference on Libya, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 1 November 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/11/canada-to-participate-in-international-conference-on-libya.html>

¹⁷¹⁵ Canada delivers on commitment to sexual and reproductive health and rights at the International Conference on Family Planning in Rwanda, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/11/canada-delivers-on-commitment-to-sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-rights-at-the-international-conference-on-family-planning-in-rwanda.html>

¹⁷¹⁶ Canada delivers on commitment to sexual and reproductive health and rights at the International Conference on Family Planning in Rwanda, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/11/canada-delivers-on-commitment-to-sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-rights-at-the-international-conference-on-family-planning-in-rwanda.html>

¹⁷¹⁷ Canada announces funding for projects in Rwanda, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/11/canada-announces-funding-for-projects-in-rwanda.html>

¹⁷¹⁸ Canada announces funding for projects in Rwanda, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/11/canada-announces-funding-for-projects-in-rwanda.html>

humanitarian support for refugees in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Burundi through food distribution programs.¹⁷¹⁹

On 16 November 2018, Canada's Minister of International Development Marie-Claude Bibeau announced CAD 23 million in funding for two initiatives — Innovative Finance for Women Entrepreneurs and Women's Voice and Leadership.¹⁷²⁰ The first initiative aims at enabling 25,000 women entrepreneurs to support families and communities by providing access to technology and financial resources.¹⁷²¹ The second initiative provides support to 48 women's organizations in four regions in Ethiopia who work on female empowerment and gender equality.¹⁷²²

On 11 December 2018, the government of Canada initiated CAD6,500,000 for the Women's Voice and Leadership project in Senegal in partnership with Centre d'étude et de coopération internationale.¹⁷²³ The project focuses on strengthening over 20 women's rights groups in the region and supporting the management and sustainability of their networks. The project is projected to indirectly benefit over 100,000,000 people.¹⁷²⁴

On 24 December 2018, the government of Canada initiated CAD9,000,000 for the Women's Voice and Leadership project in the Democratic Republic of Congo in partnership with the Carter Center.¹⁷²⁵ The project aims to provide Congolese women with the support and skills needed to empower women's organizations. Congolese women will receive mentorship, direct multi-year funding, support for women's networks, and support for advocacy strategies to promote the rights of women in the region.¹⁷²⁶

¹⁷¹⁹ Canada announces funding for projects in Rwanda, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/11/canada-announces-funding-for-projects-in-rwanda.html>

¹⁷²⁰ Minister Bibeau concludes visit to Ethiopia by announcing initiatives to empower women and girls, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/11/minister-bibeau-concludes-visit-to-ethiopia-by-announcing-initiatives-to-empower-women-and-girls.html>

¹⁷²¹ Minister Bibeau concludes visit to Ethiopia by announcing initiatives to empower women and girls, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/11/minister-bibeau-concludes-visit-to-ethiopia-by-announcing-initiatives-to-empower-women-and-girls.html>

¹⁷²² Minister Bibeau concludes visit to Ethiopia by announcing initiatives to empower women and girls, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/11/minister-bibeau-concludes-visit-to-ethiopia-by-announcing-initiatives-to-empower-women-and-girls.html>

¹⁷²³ Project Profile- Womens Voice and Leadership –Senegal, government of Canada (Ottawa) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D004531001>.

¹⁷²⁴ Project Profile- Womens Voice and Leadership –Senegal, government of Canada (Ottawa) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D004531001>.

¹⁷²⁵ Project Profile- Women's Voice and Leadership- Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), government of Canada (Ottawa) 24 December 2018. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D004891001>.

¹⁷²⁶ Project Profile- Women's Voice and Leadership- Democratic Republic of Congo(DRC), government of Canada (Ottawa) 24 December 2018. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D004891001>.

On 9 January 2019, the government of Canada pledged CAD499,998,632 to a sexual and reproductive health project in South Sudan through a partnership with BBC Media ActionHer.¹⁷²⁷ The project aims to empower female decision-making in South Sudan with regards to sexual and reproductive rights.¹⁷²⁸ It will implement a radio station regarding sexual health, including a story-line of sexual health through a radio drama. The project will also train media to provide accurate coverage of women's issues, and train community groups to talk about sexual and reproductive health, in order to decrease gender-based stigma.¹⁷²⁹

On 28 February 2019, in partnership with Université de Montréal Service de L'Admission et de Récrut, the government of Canada initiated CAD967,506 to promote gender equality in the Sahel region.¹⁷³⁰ The purpose of this initiative is to train women from Francophone conflict nations in leadership skills. The initiative will enhance individual participation in the peace-making process and connect possible peace partners.¹⁷³¹

On 11 March 2019, in partnership with Centro de Aprendizagem e Capacitação da Sociedade Civil, the government of Canada initiated CAD8,000,000 to promote the Women's Voices and Leadership program in Mozambique.¹⁷³² The project aims to support regional organisations and networks that promote and advance women's rights and empowerment.¹⁷³³

On 14 March 2019, in partnership with CARE Canada, the government of Canada initiated CAD5,000,000 to promote Women's Voices and Leadership in South Sudan.¹⁷³⁴ The project aims to support women's rights organisations as agents of change. CARE Canada will work directly with approximately 15 women's rights organisations in South Sudan and aid their gender empowerment priorities.¹⁷³⁵

On 20 March 2019, in partnership with Oxfam-Quebec, the government of Canada initiated CAD2,800,000 to promote Women's Voices and Leadership in Benin. The project works alongside

¹⁷²⁷ Project Profile- Amplifying Women's Voices for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, and Peace, government of Canada (Ottawa) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D004760001>

¹⁷²⁸ Project Profile- Amplifying Women's Voices for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, and Peace, government of Canada (Ottawa) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D004760001>

¹⁷²⁹ Project Profile- Amplifying Women's Voices for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, and Peace, government of Canada (Ottawa) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D004760001>

¹⁷³⁰ Project Profile- Enabling Women's Potential in Peach Processes in the Sahel, government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 19 March 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P005384001>.

¹⁷³¹ Project Profile- Enabling Women's Potential in Peach Processes in the Sahel, government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 19 March 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P005384001>.

¹⁷³² Project Profile- Women's Voice and Leadership-Mozambique, government of Canada (Ottawa) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 29 March 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D004305001>.

¹⁷³³ Project Profile- Women's Voice and Leadership-Mozambique, government of Canada (Ottawa) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 29 March 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D004305001>.

¹⁷³⁴ Project Profile- Women's Voice and Leadership-South Sudan, government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 3 June 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D003757001>.

¹⁷³⁵ Project Profile- Women's Voice and Leadership-South Sudan, government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 3 June 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D003757001>.

regional organisations to better maintain institutional and management functions, increase the quality of services available to women and girls, and create effective joint actions that support women and girls in public policy.¹⁷³⁶

On 25 March 2019, in partnership with Plan Canada, the government of Canada initiated CAD7,000,000 to promote the Women's Voices and Leadership project in Ethiopia.¹⁷³⁷ The project will work alongside 48 women's organizations across four different regions of Ethiopia. The project is predicted to indirectly support 148 civil society organisations and allow for support to 72 young feminists. The project will attempt to achieve this through supporting and promoting alliances and networking in women's organisations.¹⁷³⁸

On 25 March 2019, in partnership with Plan Canada, the government of Canada initiated CAD5,000,000 to promote the Women's Voices and Leadership project in Ghana.¹⁷³⁹ The project aims to support 24 small and medium local women's organizations in better advocating for policies that support gender equality. In addition, two national women's rights networks, WiLDAF and NETRIGHT, will be supported to ensure the sustainability of women's rights in Ghana.¹⁷⁴⁰

On 26 March 2019, in partnership with Canadian Crossroads International, the government of Canada dedicated CAD6,416,907 to improving the reproductive and sexual health of adolescents in Senegal.¹⁷⁴¹ This project, along with two regional partners, aims to promote sexual health education and equip adolescents with the tools needed to protect themselves from gender-based sexual violence. It is predicted that this project will benefit 30,000 individuals aged 10-19 in the region of Kédougou.¹⁷⁴²

On 27 March 2019, in partnership with Tostan Inc, the government of Canada initiated CAD4,000,000 towards the When She Leads, Everyone Succeeds project in Senegal.¹⁷⁴³ The project aims to establish links with community organizations and empower women as agents of change in their communities. The project is predicted to directly impact the lives of 50,000 women.¹⁷⁴⁴

Canada has fully complied with its commitment regarding Agenda 2063 through partnerships with African states, international agencies, and non- governmental organizations. It has provided aid for

¹⁷³⁶ Project Profile- Women's Voice and Leadership-Benin, government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 3 June 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P002796002>.

¹⁷³⁷ Project Profile- Women's Voice and Leadership-Ethiopia, government of Canada (Ottawa) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 3 June 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D004811001>.

¹⁷³⁸ Project Profile- Women's Voice and Leadership-Ethiopia, government of Canada (Ottawa) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 3 June 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D004811001>.

¹⁷³⁹ Project Profile- Women's Voice and Leadership-Ghana, government of Canada (Ottawa) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 3 June 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D004559001>.

¹⁷⁴⁰ Project Profile- Women's Voice and Leadership-Ghana, government of Canada (Ottawa) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 3 June 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D004559001>.

¹⁷⁴¹ Project Profile- My Voice, My Health: Improving the Sexual and Reproductive Health of Adolescents in Senegal, government of Canada (Ottawa) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 3 June 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P006341001>

¹⁷⁴² Project Profile- My Voice, My Health: Improving the Sexual and Reproductive Health of Adolescents in Senegal, government of Canada (Ottawa) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 3 June 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P006341001>

¹⁷⁴³ Project Profile- When She Leads, Everyone Succeeds- Senegal, government of Canada (Ottawa) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P006851001>.

¹⁷⁴⁴ Project Profile- When She Leads, Everyone Succeeds- Senegal, government of Canada (Ottawa) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P006851001>.

women and youth empowerment, economic development, and democratic processes in Africa through substantial funding and pledges.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Isabel Davis and Janakan Muthukumar

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to work in partnership with the African continent, supporting the African Union Agenda 2063 in order to realize Africa's potential.

On 4 July 2018, President Emmanuel Macron announced a partnership between the French Development Agency (AFD) and the National Basketball Association to develop basketball infrastructure for youth basketball programs in Cote d'Ivoire, Morocco, Senegal, Nigeria, and other African states.¹⁷⁴⁵ This partnership aims to raise awareness and advocate for social change among African youth on topics including sustainable development and gender equality.¹⁷⁴⁶

On 27 August 2018, President Emmanuel Macron reaffirmed France's commitment to working alongside Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger in the Sahel region to enhance regional security and stability.¹⁷⁴⁷ In addition to this reaffirmation made before French ambassadors, President Macron emphasized the importance of cooperation with Algeria, Cameroon, and Nigeria on issues of regional stabilization.¹⁷⁴⁸

On 1 October 2018, President Emmanuel Macron announced EUR3 million of support for the United Nations Road Safety Trust Fund through the AFD. This fund will finance road safety projects in Africa with the aim of reducing current high mortality rates.¹⁷⁴⁹

On 12 October 2018, French Ambassador to Libya Béatrice Le Fraper du Hellen and the Country Director of the United Nations Development Programme Sultan Hajiyeve signed an agreement to provide an additional EUR650,000 for the UN electoral project "Promoting Elections for the People of Libya."¹⁷⁵⁰ This project will support Libya's democratic processes.¹⁷⁵¹

¹⁷⁴⁵ NBA and Agence Française de Développement to collaborate on youth development in Africa, NBA Communications (Johannesburg, New York and Paris) 4 July 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018.

<http://pr.nba.com/nba-agence-francaise-de-developpement-collaboration-africa>

¹⁷⁴⁶ NBA and Agence Française de Développement to collaborate on youth development in Africa, NBA Communications (Johannesburg, New York and Paris) 4 July 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018.

<http://pr.nba.com/nba-agence-francaise-de-developpement-collaboration-africa>

¹⁷⁴⁷ Emmanuel Macron: "l'Afrique est notre alliée pour inventer les nouveaux équilibres de demain", La Tribune Afrique (Paris) 27 August 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. <https://afrique.latribune.fr/politique/leadership/2018-08-27/emmanuel-macron-l-afrique-est-notre-alliee-pour-inventer-les-nouveaux-equilibres-de-demain-788548.html>

¹⁷⁴⁸ Emmanuel Macron: "l'Afrique est notre alliée pour inventer les nouveaux équilibres de demain", La Tribune Afrique (Paris) 27 August 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. <https://afrique.latribune.fr/politique/leadership/2018-08-27/emmanuel-macron-l-afrique-est-notre-alliee-pour-inventer-les-nouveaux-equilibres-de-demain-788548.html>

¹⁷⁴⁹ FIA welcomes France's contribution to the United Nations Road Safety Trust Fund, Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (Paris) 1 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.fia.com/news/fia-welcomes-frances-contribution-united-nations-road-safety-trust-fund>

¹⁷⁵⁰ French contribution to UN electoral initiative reaches \$US 1 million, United Nations Development Programme in Libya (Tripoli) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018.

<http://www.ly.undp.org/content/libya/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2018/French-contribution-to-UN-electoral-initiative-reaches-USD-1-million.html>

On 16 October 2018, the German Development Bank KfW launched the Clean Oceans Initiative, supported by the AFD, the German Government, and the European Investment Bank.¹⁷⁵² The EUR2 billion initiative will reduce marine pollution by providing support and financial structures to waste management projects and market development for recycling plastics. Its operations will focus on areas in developing regions in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East.¹⁷⁵³

On 18 October 2018, French Minister Le Drian and Ivory Coast's Minister of Defense Hamed Bakayoko launched the International Counter-Terrorism Academy in Abidjan.¹⁷⁵⁴ This Academy aims to increase cooperation between African countries on issues of terrorism by providing a school for officials, training space for relevant units and a research institute.¹⁷⁵⁵

On 6 November 2018, Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian established a new cyber security-focused school in Dakar, Senegal.¹⁷⁵⁶ The academy aims to improve Franco-African collaboration on cyber-security issues in Africa.¹⁷⁵⁷

On 15 November 2018, President Macron and Morocco's King Mohammed VI inaugurated Africa's first high-speed rail line between Tangiers and Casablanca.¹⁷⁵⁸ The train line infrastructure project was partially funded by a EUR625 million loan from France.¹⁷⁵⁹

On 6 December 2018, France pledged an additional EUR220 million in funding for the G5 Sahel's Priority Investment Program.¹⁷⁶⁰ With this additional pledge, France will be contributing a total of

¹⁷⁵¹ French contribution to UN electoral initiative reaches \$US 1 million, United Nations Development Programme in Libya (Tripoli) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://www.ly.undp.org/content/libya/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2018/French-contribution-to-UN-electoral-initiative-reaches-USD-1-million.html>

¹⁷⁵² The world's major climate financiers launch two billion Euro initiative, Germany Information Centre (Berlin) 16 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://germanyinafrica.diplo.de/zadz-en/-/2148850>

¹⁷⁵³ The world's major climate financiers launch two billion Euro initiative, Germany Information Centre (Berlin) 16 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://germanyinafrica.diplo.de/zadz-en/-/2148850>

¹⁷⁵⁴ Africa: Creation of an International Counter-Terrorism Academy (18 October 2018), France Diplomatie (Paris) 18 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/defence-security/events/article/africa-creation-of-an-international-counter-terrorism-academy-18-10-18>

¹⁷⁵⁵ Africa: Creation of an International Counter-Terrorism Academy (18 October 2018), France Diplomatie (Paris) 18 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/defence-security/events/article/africa-creation-of-an-international-counter-terrorism-academy-18-10-18>

¹⁷⁵⁶ Regionally-oriented national school for cyber security opens in Dakar, Senegal, France Diplomatie (Paris) 6 November 2018. Access Date: 24 November 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/defence-security/events/article/regionally-oriented-national-school-for-cyber-security-opens-in-dakar-senegal>

¹⁷⁵⁷ Regionally-oriented national school for cyber security opens in Dakar, Senegal, France Diplomatie (Paris) 6 November 2018. Access Date: 24 November 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/defence-security/events/article/regionally-oriented-national-school-for-cyber-security-opens-in-dakar-senegal>

¹⁷⁵⁸ Morocco gets Africa's first high-speed train, CNN (Atlanta) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 25 November 2018. <https://www.cnn.com/travel/article/morocco-high-speed-tgv-trains/index.html>

¹⁷⁵⁹ Africa's first high speed line inaugurated, Railway Gazette (London) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 25 November 2018. <https://www.railwaygazette.com/news/news/africa/single-view/view/africas-first-high-speed-line-inaugurated.html>

¹⁷⁶⁰ EU, France step up security, development aid for Africa's G5 Sahel, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.dw.com/en/eu-france-step-up-security-development-aid-for-africas-g5-sahel/a-46621975>

EUR500 million to the program.¹⁷⁶¹ It focuses on security and development projects in the Sahel region, which consists of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger.¹⁷⁶²

On 17 December 2018, President Macron agreed to a new military framework with Burkina Faso. He affirmed that France will send trainers, military advisers and extra equipment if necessary, but France will not engage in extra troop involvement.¹⁷⁶³

On 22 February 2019, French Minister Le Drian announced that France will increase its contribution to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to EUR5 million this year, specifically for programs and projects relevant to the education of girls and Africa.¹⁷⁶⁴

On 13 March 2019, President Macron pledged to provide EUR2.5 billion in investment and support for 10,000 African start-ups and small and medium-sized companies by 2022.¹⁷⁶⁵ The Choose Africa initiative will be funded through the AFD and PROPARGO, a private sector-focused branch of the AFD.¹⁷⁶⁶

On 13 March 2019, the AFD, RUBIKA and the Africa Digital Media Institute (ADMI) signed a memorandum of understanding in Nairobi for the implementation of degree programs in video game design and 2D animation.¹⁷⁶⁷ AFD's Director of Africa Rima Le Coguic noted that this initiative is aligned with AFD's strategy to develop Africa's cultural and creative industries.¹⁷⁶⁸

On 13 March 2019, President Macron and Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta announced multiple public-private infrastructure contracts totaling EUR3 billion.¹⁷⁶⁹ These sustainable development deals

¹⁷⁶¹ EU, France step up security, development aid for Africa's G5 Sahel, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.dw.com/en/eu-france-step-up-security-development-aid-for-africas-g5-sahel/a-46621975>

¹⁷⁶² EU, France step up security, development aid for Africa's G5 Sahel, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.dw.com/en/eu-france-step-up-security-development-aid-for-africas-g5-sahel/a-46621975>

¹⁷⁶³ France Vows Aid for Burkina, But No More Troops to Fight Islamists, Reuters (Paris). 17 December 2018. Access Date: 30 December 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-burkina/france-vows-aid-for-burkina-but-no-more-troops-to-fight-islamists-idUSKBN1OG24Y/>.

¹⁷⁶⁴ United Nations – Meeting between Jean-Yves Le Drian and the director-general of UNESCO (22.02.19), France Diplomatie (Paris). 22 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/events/events-2018/article/united-nations-meeting-between-jean-yves-le-drian-and-the-director-general-of/>.

¹⁷⁶⁵ France Pledges \$2.8 Billion African Business Investment by 2022, Bloomberg (New York). 13 March 2019. Access Date: 16 March 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-03-13/france-pledges-2-8-billion-african-business-investment-by-2022/>.

¹⁷⁶⁶ France Pledges \$2.8 Billion African Business Investment by 2022, Bloomberg (New York). 13 March 2019. Access Date: 16 March 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-03-13/france-pledges-2-8-billion-african-business-investment-by-2022/>.

¹⁷⁶⁷ Rubika, l'Africa Digital Media Institute et l'AFD s'associent pour ouvrir une école d'animation et de jeux video au Kenya, Agence Française de Développement (Paris). 13 March 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/rubika-africa-digital-media-institute-afd-ecole-animation-et-jeux-video-kenya/>.

¹⁷⁶⁸ Rubika, l'Africa Digital Media Institute et l'AFD s'associent pour ouvrir une école d'animation et de jeux video au Kenya, Agence Française de Développement (Paris). 13 March 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/rubika-africa-digital-media-institute-afd-ecole-animation-et-jeux-video-kenya/>.

¹⁷⁶⁹ France, Kenya in infrastructure deals worth 3 billion euros, Daily Nation (Nairobi). 14 March 2019. Access Date: 12 May 2019. <https://www.nation.co.ke/news/France-Kenya-in-3bn-euros-deals/1056-5024316-jvisi7/index.html/>.

include building a railway line between Nairobi and Jomo Kenyatta International Airport and improving a highway between Nairobi to Mau.¹⁷⁷⁰

On 18 April 2019, the AFD and Canal France International launched the MediaSahel project. This project aims to enable youth living in the crisis areas of Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger to stay informed and hold a more active role in public debates.¹⁷⁷¹ The MediaSahel project aims to challenge fake news and promote gender equality.¹⁷⁷²

On 28 May 2019, the AFD co-financed an additional EUR35 million with the Global Partnership for Education's (GPE) Multiplier to further strengthen Senegal's education system.¹⁷⁷³ The AFD's additional funding follows the GPE Multiplier's own additional grant of EUR8.7 million in Senegal.¹⁷⁷⁴ The combined financial support from GPE and AFD adds up to EUR72.2 million.¹⁷⁷⁵

On 6 May 2019, President Macron and World Bank Group President David Malpass met to discuss plans to address debt transparency, promote growth, and tackle poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa, particularly in the Sahel region.¹⁷⁷⁶

On 4 June 2019, the AFD and International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) signed a long-term agreement to promote women's soccer in Africa and advocate for gender equality and education in Africa through sports.¹⁷⁷⁷

On 5 June 2019, PROPARGO signed its first operation in Cape Verde with the Banco Caboverdiano de Negócio, enabling increased funding for microenterprises and small to medium-sized enterprises.¹⁷⁷⁸

¹⁷⁷⁰ France, Kenya in infrastructure deals worth 3 billion euros, Daily Nation (Nairobi). 14 March 2019. Access Date: 12 May 2019. <https://www.nation.co.ke/news/France-Kenya-in-3bn-euros-deals/1056-5024316-jvisi7/index.html/>.

¹⁷⁷¹ In The Sahel, a Project to Reconnect Youth with the Media, Agence Française de Développement (Paris). 18 April 2019. Access Date: 12 May 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/sahel-project-reconnect-youth-media/>.

¹⁷⁷² In The Sahel, a Project to Reconnect Youth with the Media, Agence Française de Développement (Paris). 18 April 2019. Access Date: 12 May 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/sahel-project-reconnect-youth-media/>.

¹⁷⁷³ Global Partnership for Education approves more than 37 million euros in new funding to support children's education in Senegal, Global Partnership for Education (Washington DC). 28 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.globalpartnership.org/news-and-media/news/global-partnership-education-approves-more-37-million-euros-new-funding-support-childrens-education-senegal/>.

¹⁷⁷⁴ Global Partnership for Education approves more than 37 million euros in new funding to support children's education in Senegal, Global Partnership for Education (Washington DC). 28 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.globalpartnership.org/news-and-media/news/global-partnership-education-approves-more-37-million-euros-new-funding-support-childrens-education-senegal/>.

¹⁷⁷⁵ Global Partnership for Education approves more than 37 million euros in new funding to support children's education in Senegal, Global Partnership for Education (Washington DC). 28 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.globalpartnership.org/news-and-media/news/global-partnership-education-approves-more-37-million-euros-new-funding-support-childrens-education-senegal/>.

¹⁷⁷⁶ Statement from French President Emmanuel Macron and World Bank Group President David Malpass, The World Bank (Paris). 6 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/statement/2019/05/06/statement-from-french-president-emmanuel-macron-and-world-bank-group-president-david-malpass/>.

¹⁷⁷⁷ FIFA and AFD sign landmark cooperation agreement to promote women's football and develop school football in Africa, Fédération Internationale de Football Association (Zurich). 4 June 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.fifa.com/about-fifa/who-we-are/news/fifa-and-afd-sign-landmark-cooperation-agreement-to-promote-women-s-football-and/>.

¹⁷⁷⁸ PROPARGO signs its first project in Cape Verde to support microenterprises on the archipelago, PROPARGO (Paris). 5 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/proparco-signs-its-first-project-cape-verde-support-microenterprises-archipelago/>.

France has fully complied with its commitment through partnerships with African states. It has also provided support for gender equality, youth empowerment, peacekeeping efforts, infrastructure development, and democratic processes in Africa through initiatives like the Priority Investment Program.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Brandon Yih

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to work in partnership with the African continent, supporting the African Union Agenda 2063 in order to realize Africa's potential.

On 16 July 2018, the German Development Bank established an initiative in partnership with Knauf International GmbH, a private German materials and construction company.¹⁷⁷⁹ The partnership will co-finance a sum of EUR5.1 million in contributions to invest in production plants and construct training centres. The initiative aims to provide training on drywall construction to 12,000 people and create 2,000 jobs within three years.¹⁷⁸⁰

On 1 August 2018, Ambassador to Namibia Christian Schlaga and the Namibian Minister for Economic Planning Obeth Kandjoze signed a Technical Cooperation Agreement and a financial grant.¹⁷⁸¹ The EUR73.5 million agreements will finance projects on environmental management, business advisory, vocational training and public enterprises in Namibia.¹⁷⁸²

On 23 August 2018, Foreign Minister Heiko Maas met with the Angolan Foreign Minister Manuel Augusto to discuss German-Angolan relations and economic issues.¹⁷⁸³ German Chancellor Angela Merkel pledged to increase German cooperation with Angola in providing hydropower to citizens.¹⁷⁸⁴

From 3-4 September 2018, the government of Germany, Nigeria, and Norway partnered with the United Nations to host an international conference on the Lake Chad region in Berlin.¹⁷⁸⁵ German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas announced a German commitment of EUR100 million to humanitarian assistance in the Lake Chad region, and an additional EUR40 million for regional security and the prevention of violence.¹⁷⁸⁶

¹⁷⁷⁹ DEG finances training initiative in Africa, Germany Information Centre (Berlin) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://germanyinafrica.diplo.de/zadz-en/-/2120318>

¹⁷⁸⁰ DEG finances training initiative in Africa, Germany Information Centre (Berlin) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://germanyinafrica.diplo.de/zadz-en/-/2120318>

¹⁷⁸¹ Namibia and Germany sign development cooperation agreements, Germany Information Centre (Berlin) 8 August 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://germanyinafrica.diplo.de/zadz-en/-/2125042>

¹⁷⁸² Namibia and Germany sign development cooperation agreements, Germany Information Centre (Berlin) 8 August 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://germanyinafrica.diplo.de/zadz-en/-/2125042>

¹⁷⁸³ Angola: an important partner in southern Africa, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 23 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/angola-node/angola-important-partner-in-southern-africa/2129940>

¹⁷⁸⁴ Angola: an important partner in southern Africa, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 23 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/angola-node/angola-important-partner-in-southern-africa/2129940>

¹⁷⁸⁵ High Level Conference on the Lake Chad Region in Berlin results in 2.17 billion US dollars in pledges of assistance, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 3 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/themen/humanitaerehilfe/lake-chad-conference/2132000>

¹⁷⁸⁶ High Level Conference on the Lake Chad Region in Berlin results in 2.17 billion US dollars in pledges of assistance, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 3 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/themen/humanitaerehilfe/lake-chad-conference/2132000>

On 4 October 2018, the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ) worked with private corporations DHL and Wingcopter, a German drone manufacturer, to deliver medical supplies by drones to 400,000 residents in the Lake Ukerwe region of Tanzania.¹⁷⁸⁷

On 4 October 2018, Germany and Ghana hosted the Germany-Ghana Investors Forum under the G20 Compact with Africa.¹⁷⁸⁸ German investors and Ghanaian policymakers hosted a discussion to boost German private investment in the region.¹⁷⁸⁹

On 10 October 2018, Foreign Minister Heiko Maas committed EUR186 million to the World Food Programme, which provides food aid and humanitarian assistance to crisis regions, and this contribution will specifically aid countries in the Horn of Africa.¹⁷⁹⁰

On 16 October 2018, the German Development Bank KfW launched the Clean Oceans Initiative, supported by the German Government, the European Investment Bank and the French Development Bank.¹⁷⁹¹ The EUR2 billion initiative will reduce marine pollution by providing support and financial structures to waste management projects and market development for recycling plastics. Its operations will focus on areas in developing regions in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East.¹⁷⁹²

On 30 October 2018, German Chancellor Angela Merkel met with 12 African Heads of State to discuss methods of increasing German private investment in Africa.¹⁷⁹³ The conference reviewed the current implementation of the Compact with Africa initiative, which aims to foster private investment in 12 African states including Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal, Rwanda, Tunisia, Morocco, Ghana, Ethiopia, Benin, Guinea, and Egypt.¹⁷⁹⁴

On 30 October 2018, German Development Minister Gerd launched negotiations and funding considerations with Ethiopia, Morocco, and Senegal on the topic of improving private investment, vocational education and employment opportunities for youth.¹⁷⁹⁵

¹⁷⁸⁷ Rapid response from the air: medicines successfully delivered using a parcel drone in East Africa, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH (Berlin) 4 October 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <https://www.giz.de/en/press/70080.html>

¹⁷⁸⁸ German investors and Ghana's 'Beyond Aid' conundrum, African Center for Economic Transformation (Accra) 4 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <http://acetforafrica.org/media/blog/german-investors-and-ghanas-beyond-aid-conundrum/>

¹⁷⁸⁹ German investors and Ghana's 'Beyond Aid' conundrum, African Center for Economic Transformation (Accra) 4 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <http://acetforafrica.org/media/blog/german-investors-and-ghanas-beyond-aid-conundrum/>

¹⁷⁹⁰ Innovative ways to tackle hunger — Germany supports the World Food Programme, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/themen/humanitaerehilfe/german-support-wfp/2148284>

¹⁷⁹¹ The world's major climate financiers launch two billion Euro initiative, Germany Information Centre (Berlin) 16 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://germanyinafrica.diplo.de/zadz-en/-/2148850>

¹⁷⁹² The world's major climate financiers launch two billion Euro initiative, Germany Information Centre (Berlin) 16 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://germanyinafrica.diplo.de/zadz-en/-/2148850>

¹⁷⁹³ Promoting Investment in Africa: Compact with Africa, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 29 October 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/regionaleschwerpunkte/afrika/compact-with-africa-berlin/2155724>

¹⁷⁹⁴ Promoting Investment in Africa: Compact with Africa, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 29 October 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/regionaleschwerpunkte/afrika/compact-with-africa-berlin/2155724>

¹⁷⁹⁵ German Development Ministry expands reform partnerships, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 30 October 2018. Access Date: 18 November 2018. https://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2018/oktober/181029_German-Development-Ministry-expands-reform-partnerships-launches-negotiations-with-Ethiopia-Morocco-and-Senegal/index.html

On 12 November 2018, the Minister of State Neils Annen announced Germany's intention to pledge an additional EUR2.5 million to stabilizing Libya at the International Conference on Libya.¹⁷⁹⁶

On 29 November 2018, GIZ launched an initiative for sustainable cobalt mining in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in cooperation with several private firms.¹⁷⁹⁷ This project aims to improve working conditions for employees of local mining sites and foster sustainable supply chains.¹⁷⁹⁸

On 29 November 2018, Foreign Minister Heiko Maas met with the Moroccan Foreign Minister Nasser Bourita to discuss on strengthening political relations between Germany and Morocco, cooperation on development and migration and continuing to facilitate political and economic reforms in Morocco.¹⁷⁹⁹ Minister Maas praised Morocco's economic progress but encouraged the freedom of expression and freedom of the press.¹⁸⁰⁰

On 30 January 2019, Germany announced a partnership with the World Bank and six African countries to increase private investment and job creation, targeted specifically at meeting the needs of youth.¹⁸⁰¹

On 12 February 2019, Germany announced an additional EUR68 million in aid to developing countries, specifically to help them meet their Nationally Determined Contributions and combat climate change.¹⁸⁰²

On 10-13 February 2019, Germany held the German-African Business Summit in Ghana. Over 500 key figures in business and policy were invited to discuss economic cooperation between the two countries.¹⁸⁰³

¹⁷⁹⁶ Minister of State Annen travels to International Libya Conference in Palermo, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 12 November 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/annen-libya-conference-palermo/2159812>

¹⁷⁹⁷ BMW Group, BASF SE, Samsung SDI and Samsung Electronics launch cross-industry project to enhance sustainable cobalt mining, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH (Berlin) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <https://www.giz.de/en/press/72347.html>

¹⁷⁹⁸ BMW Group, BASF SE, Samsung SDI and Samsung Electronics launch cross-industry project to enhance sustainable cobalt mining, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH (Berlin) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <https://www.giz.de/en/press/72347.html>

¹⁷⁹⁹ Partner in North Africa — meeting between Foreign Minister Maas and Moroccan Foreign Minister Bourita, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/morocco-node/maas-bourita-koehler-morocco/2165522>

¹⁸⁰⁰ Partner in North Africa — meeting between Foreign Minister Maas and Moroccan Foreign Minister Bourita, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/morocco-node/maas-bourita-koehler-morocco/2165522>

¹⁸⁰¹ World Bank Group and Germany announce enhanced collaboration on Africa development projects, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. https://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/januar/190130_pm_World-Bank-Group-and-Germany-Announce-Enhanced-Collaboration-on-Africa-Development-Projects/index.html

¹⁸⁰² Germany helps developing countries and emerging economies implement climate targets, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. https://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2018/dezember/181212_pm_059_Germany-helps-developing-countries-and-emerging-economies-implement-climate-targets/index.html

¹⁸⁰³ The 3rd German-African Business Summit is bringing together companies, civil society and politicians, "Southern Africa – a booming region", Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019 <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/regionaleschwerpunkte/afrika/wirtschaft/german-african-business-summit-2019/2189708>.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to Agenda 2063 through partnerships with African states. It has provided support in the areas of security, humanitarian assistance, environmental action and economic development in Africa.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Fabim Mostafa

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to work in partnership with the African continent, supporting the African Union Agenda 2063 in order to realize Africa's potential.

On 20 June 2018, the Ambassador to Somalia Carlo Campanile, Deputy Prime Minister of Somalia Mahdi Mohamed Held, and the United Nations Resident Coordinator for Somalia Geroge Conway signed an agreement on an Italian contribution of EUR2.4 million to Somalia.¹⁸⁰⁴ Under the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund agreement, these funds will enable the Somali government to distribute aid by supporting local governance and youth employment programmes.¹⁸⁰⁵ The Italian Ambassador Carlo Campanile also noted an upcoming Italian contribution of EUR3.3 million to Somalia for the improvement of access to justice.¹⁸⁰⁶

On 25 June 2018, the Ambassador to Ethiopia Arthoro Luzzi and Ethiopian Minister of Finance and Economic Cooperation Admasu Nebebe signed a EUR30 million loan agreement. The loan will support the implementation of the Inclusive and Sustainable Development of Agricultural Value Chain project.¹⁸⁰⁷ This capital will also be used to advance inclusive and sustainable agricultural value chains of industrial tomato and wheat production in Oromia, as well as avocado and pineapple in the Southern Nation, Nationalities, and Peoples Region. Next year, Italy will provide an additional EUR22 million in loans to finance the development of industrial parks in these two regions.¹⁸⁰⁸

On 12 July 2018, the Ambassador to Libya Giuseppe Perrone approved a EUR500,000 contribution to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Libya.¹⁸⁰⁹ The financing agreement will

¹⁸⁰⁴ Italian Government contributes 2.4 million Euro to Somalia to support national governance, youth employment and aid delivery, UNDP Somalia (Nairobi) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018.

<http://www.so.undp.org/content/somalia/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2018/06/20/italian-government-contributes-2-4-million-euro-to-somalia-to-support-national-governance-youth-employment-and-aid-delivery-.html>

¹⁸⁰⁵ Italian Government contributes 2.4 million Euro to Somalia to support national governance, youth employment and aid delivery, UNDP Somalia (Nairobi) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018.

<http://www.so.undp.org/content/somalia/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2018/06/20/italian-government-contributes-2-4-million-euro-to-somalia-to-support-national-governance-youth-employment-and-aid-delivery-.html>

¹⁸⁰⁶ Italian Government contributes 2.4 million Euro to Somalia to support national governance, youth employment and aid delivery, UNDP Somalia (Nairobi) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018.

<http://www.so.undp.org/content/somalia/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2018/06/20/italian-government-contributes-2-4-million-euro-to-somalia-to-support-national-governance-youth-employment-and-aid-delivery-.html>

¹⁸⁰⁷ Ethiopia, Italy sign €30 million loan agreement, Africanews (Pointe-Noire) 23 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <http://www.africanews.com/2018/06/23/ethiopia-italy-sign-30-million-loan-agreement//>

¹⁸⁰⁸ Ethiopia, Italy sign €30 million loan agreement, Africanews (Pointe-Noire) 23 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <http://www.africanews.com/2018/06/23/ethiopia-italy-sign-30-million-loan-agreement//>

¹⁸⁰⁹ Italy contributes €500,000 to UN reconciliation efforts in Libya, UNDP Libya (Tripoli) 12 July 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <http://www.ly.undp.org/content/libya/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2018/Italy-contributes-Euro-500000-to-UN-reconciliation-efforts.html>

support national reconciliation efforts by enhancing the role of women, youth, religious leaders, civil society, and local mediators in the reconciliation process.¹⁸¹⁰

From 20 August 2018 to 7 September 2018, an Italian Carabinieri delegation organized two training courses for the Uganda Police Force in Masindi, Uganda.¹⁸¹¹ These courses provided instruction on counter-terrorism and environmental crime, including anti-poaching and international trafficking.¹⁸¹²

On 14 September 2018, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Emanuela Del re-signed a EUR50-million agreement with the European Commission on behalf of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS).¹⁸¹³ The fund will support the provision of basic utilities such as healthcare, education, water and energy in 24 Libyan municipalities.¹⁸¹⁴

On 18 September 2018, the government signed a financial agreement of USD 21 million to fund the AICS programme in Guinea, which seeks to restore and develop its healthcare system.¹⁸¹⁵ AICS aims to build basic healthcare structures and train staff in rural areas, and this agreement will work to restore the National Nutrition and Child Health Care Institute and National Dialysis Centre in Guinea's capital city of Conakry.¹⁸¹⁶

On 28 September 2018, Minister of Foreign Affairs Enzo Moavero Milanesi met with the Foreign Minister of Ethiopia Workneh Gebeyehu and the Foreign Minister of Eritrea Osman Saleh. Minister Milanesi affirmed Italy's active support of the 16 September 2017 peace agreement between Ethiopia and Eritrea.¹⁸¹⁷ He also announced Italy's interest in supporting cooperation and stimulating economic growth, sustainable development, and human capital through educational and vocational

¹⁸¹⁰ Italy contributes €500,000 to UN reconciliation efforts in Libya, UNDP Libya (Tripoli) 12 July 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <http://www.ly.undp.org/content/libya/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2018/Italy-contributes-Euro-500000-to-UN-reconciliation-efforts.html>

¹⁸¹¹ Cooperation of the Italian Carabinieri with Uganda Police Force, Farnesina (Rome) 7 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. https://ambkampala.esteri.it/ambasciata_kampala/en/ambasciata/news/dall_ambasciata/2018/09/cooperazione-dell-arma-dei-carabinieri.html

¹⁸¹² Cooperation of the Italian Carabinieri with Uganda Police Force, Farnesina (Rome) 7 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. https://ambkampala.esteri.it/ambasciata_kampala/en/ambasciata/news/dall_ambasciata/2018/09/cooperazione-dell-arma-dei-carabinieri.html

¹⁸¹³ Libya: the Italian Development Cooperation Agency and the EU Commission sign a 50 mln Agreement, Farnesina (Rome) 14 September 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2018/09/libia-accordo-da-50-mln-agenzia-cooperazione-sviluppo-ue.html

¹⁸¹⁴ Libya: the Italian Development Cooperation Agency and the EU Commission sign a 50 mln Agreement, Farnesina (Rome) 14 September 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2018/09/libia-accordo-da-50-mln-agenzia-cooperazione-sviluppo-ue.html

¹⁸¹⁵ Guinea: Italy's commitment to healthcare, Farnesina (Rome) 18 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2018/09/guinea-impegno-dell-italia-nella-sanita.html

¹⁸¹⁶ Guinea: Italy's commitment to healthcare, Farnesina (Rome) 18 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2018/09/guinea-impegno-dell-italia-nella-sanita.html

¹⁸¹⁷ Minister Moavero meets with the Foreign Ministers of Ethiopia and Eritrea, Farnesina (Rome) 28 September 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/incontro-del-ministro-moavero-con-i-ministri-degli-esteri-di-etiopia-e-eritrea.html

training programs.¹⁸¹⁸ On 11 October 2018, Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte visited Ethiopia to reaffirm Italian support for the peace process.¹⁸¹⁹ This assurance was reiterated by Prime Minister Conte to Eritrea on 12 October 2018.¹⁸²⁰

On 12 October 2018, Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte met with the African Union Commission Deputy Chairperson Ambassador Kwesi Quartey to affirm Italy's commitment to the African Union.¹⁸²¹ The two leaders discussed measures to improve collaboration on migration, sustainable development, and peace and security in Africa.¹⁸²²

On 15 October 2018, the Foreign Ministry provided a EUR4 million fund to the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF).¹⁸²³ This fund will finance projects including the "Protection of vulnerable children in Libya including host communities, migrant and refugee children" and the "Protection of children on the move-The Gambia."¹⁸²⁴ These two projects aim to protect migrant and refugees and promote education and vocational training opportunities to minors in Gambia.¹⁸²⁵

On 25 October 2018, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation held its second Italy-Africa Conference. 46 African countries, 13 international organizations and academic and research institutions attended the conference.¹⁸²⁶ The conference aimed to explore solutions to contemporary challenges facing Italy and Africa in terms of peace, security, freedom, democracy, fair socioeconomic development, and investment cooperation.¹⁸²⁷

On 25 October 2018, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation signed a Letter of Intent with the African Union Commission and RES4Africa to reinforce their partnership in

¹⁸¹⁸ Minister Moavero meets with the Foreign Ministers of Ethiopia and Eritrea, Farnesina (Rome) 28 September 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/incontro-del-ministro-moavero-con-i-ministri-degli-esteri-di-etiofia-e-eritrea.html

¹⁸¹⁹ Ethiopia: Migration On Agenda As Italy PM Visits Ethiopia, Eritrea, AllAfrica (Cape Town) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201810120387.html>

¹⁸²⁰ Italy's PM Visits Eritrea to Pursue 'Rapport' With Leader, The New York Times (New York) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2018/10/12/world/africa/ap-af-eritrea-italy.html>

¹⁸²¹ African Union and Italy hold substantive talks on strategic cooperation, African Union (Addis Ababa) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <https://au.int/en/pressreleases/20181012/african-union-and-italy-hold-substantive-talks-strategic-cooperation>

¹⁸²² African Union and Italy hold substantive talks on strategic cooperation, African Union (Addis Ababa) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <https://au.int/en/pressreleases/20181012/african-union-and-italy-hold-substantive-talks-strategic-cooperation>

¹⁸²³ The Foreign Ministry fosters the protection of migrant minors through a 4-million-euro financing to UNICEF, Farnesina (Rome) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2018/10/la-farnesina-a-tutela-dei-minori-migranti-finanziamento-di-4-milioni-di-euro-per-unicef.html

¹⁸²⁴ The Foreign Ministry fosters the protection of migrant minors through a 4-million-euro financing to UNICEF, Farnesina (Rome) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2018/10/la-farnesina-a-tutela-dei-minori-migranti-finanziamento-di-4-milioni-di-euro-per-unicef.html

¹⁸²⁵ The Foreign Ministry fosters the protection of migrant minors through a 4-million-euro financing to UNICEF, Farnesina (Rome) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2018/10/la-farnesina-a-tutela-dei-minori-migranti-finanziamento-di-4-milioni-di-euro-per-unicef.html

¹⁸²⁶ Italy Africa Conference of the Farnesina — #ItaliAfrica, ICCROM (Rome) 2 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.iccrom.org/news/italy-africa-conference-farnesina-italiafrica>

¹⁸²⁷ Italy Africa Conference of the Farnesina — #ItaliAfrica, ICCROM (Rome) 2 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.iccrom.org/news/italy-africa-conference-farnesina-italiafrica>

implementing the “Renewable Energy Capacity Building Programme: A Proposal for Africa.”¹⁸²⁸ The partnership aims to facilitate the implementation of renewable energy in Africa through investment in infrastructure, integration with development objectives, and regional training and knowledge-building.¹⁸²⁹

On 6 November 2018, at a meeting with the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, the Ambassador in Khartoum Fabrizio Lobasso reiterated Italy’s commitment to reducing malnutrition in Sudan.¹⁸³⁰ The meeting discussed the underlying social and cultural causes of malnutrition through the Scaling Up Nutrition project.¹⁸³¹

On 14 November 2018, the Ambassador to Ghana Giovanni Favalli met with Ghana’s Minister of Sanitation and Water Cecilia Abena Dapaah to renew the mutual commitment of the two countries.¹⁸³² The ministers reviewed partnerships on trade and investment to realize the “Ghana Beyond Aid” agenda.¹⁸³³

On 15 November 2018, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Emanuela Del Re approved a EUR3 million grant in support of Phase VI of the Food and Agriculture Organization’s Somali Water and Land Information Management Programme.¹⁸³⁴ Phase VI of the SWALIM programme aims to develop alerts and early response mechanisms to enable swift recovery from water crises.¹⁸³⁵

On 4 December 2018, Deputy Prime Minister Luigi Di Maio met with Kenyan Deputy Prime Minister William Ruto. They discussed assisting Kenya’s capacity-building to enact its domestic development agenda.¹⁸³⁶ Italy announced its intentions for further partnership and initiatives to facilitate bilateral trade.¹⁸³⁷

On 5 December 2018, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Emanuela Del Re granted a EUR1.6 million aid package to UNICEF and the Food and Agriculture

¹⁸²⁸ Africa Union Commission, Italy and RES4Africa sign Letter of Intent on Energy Cooperation, African Union (Addis Adaba) 31 October 201. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://au.int/en/pressreleases/20181031/african-union-commission-italy-and-res4africa-sign-letter-intent-energy>

¹⁸²⁹ Africa Union Commission, Italy and RES4Africa sign Letter of Intent on Energy Cooperation, African Union (Addis Adaba) 31 October 201. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://au.int/en/pressreleases/20181031/african-union-commission-italy-and-res4africa-sign-letter-intent-energy>

¹⁸³⁰ Sudan: Italy in action against malnutrition, Farnesina (Rome) 6 November 2018. Access Date: 10 November 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2018/11/sudan-l-italia-in-campo-contro-la-malnutrizione.html

¹⁸³¹ Sudan: Italy in action against malnutrition, Farnesina (Rome) 6 November 2018. Access Date: 10 November 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2018/11/sudan-l-italia-in-campo-contro-la-malnutrizione.html

¹⁸³² Ghana, Italy to Deepen Relationship, AllAfrica (Cape Town) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201811150638.html>

¹⁸³³ Ghana, Italy to Deepen Relationship, AllAfrica (Cape Town) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201811150638.html>

¹⁸³⁴ Italian Cooperation supports the SWALIM programme, Farnesina (Rome) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 18 November 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2018/11/finanziamento-della-cooperazione-a-sostegno-del-programma-swalim.html

¹⁸³⁵ Italian Cooperation supports the SWALIM programme, Farnesina (Rome) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 18 November 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2018/11/finanziamento-della-cooperazione-a-sostegno-del-programma-swalim.html

¹⁸³⁶ Kenya: Italy Pledges to Help Kenya Achieve Its Development Agenda, AllAfrica (Rome) 4 October 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201812040411.html>

¹⁸³⁷ Kenya: Italy Pledges to Help Kenya Achieve Its Development Agenda, AllAfrica (Rome) 4 October 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201812040411.html>

Organization (FAO) to support Eritreans. Funds allocated to UNICEF will be used to address mother and child malnutrition, promote measles vaccination, and increase awareness and treatment of dysentery. FAO funds will be used to provide individuals with seeds, livestock, and agricultural equipment, while also benefiting civil society organizations.¹⁸³⁸

On 19 December 2018, Deputy Minister Del Re authorized EUR8.4 million in emergency funds for the humanitarian crisis in the Lake Chad region. This contribution targets initiatives that increase food security, healthcare, water access, and rural development for local populations.¹⁸³⁹

On 22 January 2019, Italy pledged to fund the first phase of a feasibility study to assess a proposed rail line between Addis Ababa and the Eritrean port city of Massawa. If realized, this route will provide crucial infrastructure for bilateral trade.¹⁸⁴⁰

On 24 January 2019, Italy signed two funding agreements totaling EUR4.5 million with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization for projects in Mozambique and Tunisia. The Mozambique project will support the commercial development of coffee on the island of Ibo. The Tunisia project will focus on increasing economic opportunities for vulnerable populations, particularly women, through artisan and design value chains.¹⁸⁴¹

On 28 January 2019, Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte opened the Africa Centre for Climate and Sustainable Development in Rome. Stemming from a declaration endorsed by the G7 meeting of environment ministers in 2017, the centre is designed to coordinate initiatives in Africa regarding the Paris Agreement and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The centre will be hosted by UNDP in partnership with the FAO, as requested by the Italian government.¹⁸⁴²

On 30 January 2019, in partnership with Gambia, Italy launched two UN-associated development projects. The first initiative, worth EUR3 million and funded directly by AICS, is designed to accelerate the impact of national nutritional programs. The second program, worth EUR2 million and funded indirectly by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs via the 2018 Fund for Africa, aims to support both centralized and localized Gambian mechanisms that protect minors “in transit” from abuse and exploitation.¹⁸⁴³

On 6 February 2019, Angola and Italy signed a memorandum of understanding to increase bilateral economic and commercial cooperation in the sectors of tourism, agribusiness, fishing, and renewable

¹⁸³⁸ Deputy Minister Emanuela Del Rei visits Asmara, Farnesina (Rome) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 30 December 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2018/12/visita-ad-asmara-della-vice-ministra-emanuela-del-re.html.

¹⁸³⁹ Humanitarian aid by the Italian Cooperation Service in the Lake Chad region, Farnesina (Rome) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 30 December 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2018/12/interventi-umanitari-della-cooperazione-italiana-nella-regione-del-lago-ciad.html.

¹⁸⁴⁰ Italy to fund Ethiopia-Eritrea railway feasibility study, Africanews (Pointe-Noire) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <http://www.africanews.com/2019/01/22/italy-to-fund-ethiopia-eritrea-railway-feasibility-study-abiy/>.

¹⁸⁴¹ Italy to contribute EUR5.8 million to three new UNIDO projects in Africa and the MENA region, UNIDO (Vienna) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 6 February 2019. <https://www.unido.org/news/italy-contribute-eur-58-million-three-new-unido-projects-africa-and-mena-region>.

¹⁸⁴² Italy Prime Minister Conte Opens Africa Centre for Climate and Sustainable Development in Rome, UNDP (New York) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 5 May 2019. <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/about-us/contact-us.html>.

¹⁸⁴³ Italy promotes two projects in Gambia in association with UNICEF, Farnesina (Rome) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/02/gambia-due-progetti-italiani-in-collaborazione-con-unicef.html.

energy. Moreover, the agreement aims to increase Angola's agro-food self-sufficiency through programs focused on sustainable agricultural output, manufacturing, and food distribution.¹⁸⁴⁴

On 7 February 2019, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Emanuela Del Re and the Director General of the International Fund for Agricultural Development Gilbert F. Hougbo signed a new partnership agreement. This framework, centered around the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, outlines updates to cooperation.¹⁸⁴⁵

On 4 March 2019, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs collaborated with the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies of Pisa to deliver a training course in Niamey, Niger. The course engaged 20 local judges and magistrates on techniques to combat and judge terrorist organizations using international standards. The Italian Ambassador to Niger Marco Prencipe stated that the initiative is aimed at supporting Niger's administration of justice.¹⁸⁴⁶

On 14 March 2019, Italy signed an agreement to contribute a further EUR1 million to the African Development Bank's Multi-Partner Somalia Infrastructure Fund. This fund falls under the Somalia Development and Reconstruction Facility of the New Deal Compact for Somalia, which develops infrastructure to foster inclusive and sustainable economic recovery, state-building, and peace.¹⁸⁴⁷

From 4-5 May 2019, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Emanuela Del Re visited Burkina Faso to discuss bilateral relations. In meetings with Burkina Faso's President Roch Kaboré and government ministers, Deputy Minister Del Re highlighted collaboration on economic, environmental, development, and security initiatives. Notably, on the visit, the Deputy Minister provided the San Camillo Hospital in Ouagadougou with EUR300,000 in funding through the WHO to replenish meningitis vaccines.¹⁸⁴⁸

On 14 May 2019, the Carabinieri launched a three-week training course for Rwandan and Ugandan police units on the management of public order. This program focused on compliance with international standards, particularly enforcing restrictions on the use of force and respect for human rights. In addition, forensic training courses were offered in Uganda as a part of ongoing assistance for the establishment of a Regional Forensic Police Centre in Kampala. This initiative was part of a cooperation program between the Italian Embassy in Kampala, the Police Corps of both Rwanda and Uganda, and the General Command of the Carabinieri.¹⁸⁴⁹

¹⁸⁴⁴ Angola, Italy Strengthen Cooperation, AllAfrica (Cape Town) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201902070707.html>.

¹⁸⁴⁵ Italy and IFAD sign a new framework agreement, Farnesina (Rome) 2 February 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2019/02/italia-e-ifad-firmano-nuovo-accordo-quadro.html.

¹⁸⁴⁶ Niger: training course on skills for combating terrorism, Farnesina (Rome) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 18 March 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/03/niger-universita-sant-anna-forma-magistrati-antiterrorismo.html.

¹⁸⁴⁷ Somalia: African Development Bank Multi-Partner Infrastructure Fund to receive €1 million from Italy, African Development Bank Group (Abidjan) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 23 April 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/somalia-african-development-bank-multi-partner-infrastructure-fund-to-receive-eur1-million-from-italy-19106/>.

¹⁸⁴⁸ Deputy Foreign Minister Del Re Visits Burkina Faso, Farnesina (Rome) 6 May 2019. Access Date: 25 May 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2019/05/visita-della-vice-ministra-del-re-in-burkina-faso.html.

¹⁸⁴⁹ Italian Carabinieri train police units in Uganda and Rwanda, Farnesina (Rome) 14 May 2019. Access Date: 25 May 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/05/i-carabinieri-in-uganda-e-ruanda-per-formazione-polizia.html.

On 16 May 2019, to increase the humanitarian footprint of the Italian Cooperation in Libya, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Emanuela Del Re provided EUR1 million to the World Health Organization and the International Committee of the Red Cross. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs states that these funds are part of the Italian government's commitment to ending hostility in Libya, such that a return to dialogue on a political solution to the crisis is possible.¹⁸⁵⁰

On 3 June 2019, Italian Ambassador to Ghana Giovanni Favilli re-affirmed Italy's commitment to supporting Ghana in moving "beyond aid." He emphasized that trade, investment, and job creation will be the focus of the bilateral partnership, in order to address the root causes of irregular migration.¹⁸⁵¹

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to African Union Agenda 2063. While some efforts have been pursued through intermediary international organizations, Italy has acted in partnership with African states. It has provided aid for economic development, environmental action, humanitarian assistance, justice, and security in Africa through substantial conferences, political missions, capacity-building initiatives, and funding.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alannah Dharamshi

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to work in partnership with the African continent, supporting the African Union Agenda 2063 in order to realize Africa's potential.

On 30 July 2018, the government sent 20 military personnel from the Japanese Ground Self-Defence force to Kenya to train engineering personnel from the Republic of Ghana, Republic of Sierra Leone, and the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The training focused uses of heavy equipment under the United Nations Project for African Rapid Deployment of Engineering Capabilities.¹⁸⁵²

On 23 August 2018, the President of the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Shinichi Kitaoka met with Zambian Minister of Finance Margaret Mwanakatwe. They discussed the provision of aid to Zambia in order to diversify natural resources and reduce agricultural dependence.¹⁸⁵³ Mr. Kitaoka committed JICA to aid Zambia in expanding its healthcare and education services.¹⁸⁵⁴

¹⁸⁵⁰ Humanitarian aid interventions of the Italian Cooperation in Libya, Farnesina (Rome) 16 May 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2019/05/interventi-umanitari-della-cooperazione-italiana-in-libia.html.

¹⁸⁵¹ Ghana: Italy pledges to Support Ghana Beyond Aid Agenda, AllAfrica (Cape Town) 5 June 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201906050300.html>.

¹⁸⁵² Support for the UN Project for African Rapid Deployment of Engineering Capabilities The Initiation of the Sixth Training, Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) July 13 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018 https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002105.html

¹⁸⁵³ JICA President Kitaoka Visits Zambia and Malawi, Meets With Officials, Visits ODA Project Sites, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 25 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2018/180925_02.html

¹⁸⁵⁴ JICA President Kitaoka Visits Zambia and Malawi, Meets With Officials, Visits ODA Project Sites, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 25 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2018/180925_02.html

On 26 August 2018, the President of JICA Shinichi Kitaoka met with the Zambian Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, Margaret Mwanakatwe.¹⁸⁵⁵ The leaders reviewed projects funded by Japanese contributions, reinstated partnerships between the two countries, and discussed cooperation in improving electrification and developing agriculture.¹⁸⁵⁶

On 6 October 2018, the Japanese External Trade Organization co-organized a conference in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme. The conference, titled “Showcasing the Potential of Japanese SMEs to Africa,” discussed how Japanese small and medium-sized enterprises can contribute to economic growth in Africa.¹⁸⁵⁷ At the conference, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Kiyoto Tsuji urged African ministers to improve business environments for Japanese companies.

On 11 December 2018, during his visit to Ghana, Foreign Affairs Minister Taro Kano stated that Japan would further its support for healthcare, infrastructure and human resources development in Ghana.¹⁸⁵⁸

On 27 December 2018, JICA President Kitaoka met with President Lungu of Zambia to discuss how Japan can promote industrial development in the nation.¹⁸⁵⁹

From 25-27 January 2019, JICA President Kitaoka met with President Mayardit of South Sudan. The two parties discussed resuming future aid to South Sudan for infrastructure such as the Freedom Bridge and water supply facilities in the city of Juba.¹⁸⁶⁰

On 1 April 2019, the government committed to delivering an undisclosed volume of emergency supplies to aid Mozambique following a cyclone in the country.¹⁸⁶¹

On 4 April 2019, the government committed to delivering an undisclosed number of emergency supplies in response to a request from the government of Zimbabwe following cyclone damage in the country.¹⁸⁶²

¹⁸⁵⁵ JICA President Kitaoka Visits Zambia and Malawi, Meets With Officials, Visits ODA Project Sites, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 25 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018.
https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2018/180925_02.html

¹⁸⁵⁶ JICA President Kitaoka Visits Zambia and Malawi, Meets With Officials, Visits ODA Project Sites, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 25 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018.
https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2018/180925_02.html

¹⁸⁵⁷ Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Tsuji Attends the Business Side Event of TICAD Ministerial Meeting, “Showcasing the Potential of Japanese SMEs to Africa”, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 6 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000123.html

¹⁸⁵⁸ Foreign Minister Kono Pays a Courtesy Call on His Excellency Nana Addo Dankwa AKUFO-ADDO President of the Republic of Ghana, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 14 January 2019.
https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000196.html,

¹⁸⁵⁹ JICA President Kitaoka Holds Talks With Zambian President Lungu, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) (Tokyo) 27 December 2018. Access Date: 14 January 2019.
https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2018/181227_01.html,

¹⁸⁶⁰ JICA President Kitaoka Holds Talks With Zambian President Lungu, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) (Tokyo) 27 December 2018. Access Date: 14 January 2019.
https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2018/181227_01.html.

¹⁸⁶¹ Emergency Assistance to Mozambique in Response to the Cyclone Damage, Japan international Cooperation Agency (JICA) (Tokyo) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019.
https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2019/20190401_01.html.

¹⁸⁶² Emergency Assistance to Zimbabwe in Response to the Cyclone Damage, Japan international Cooperation Agency (JICA) (Tokyo) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2019.
https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2019/20190404_01.html.

On 21 May 2019, leading up to the 7th edition of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VII) to be held in Yokohama on 28-30 August 2019, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the OECD's Development Centre co-hosted a High-Level Dialogue with Africa.¹⁸⁶³ The meeting reflected on how private investments in Africa can boost infrastructure development, help promote economic transformation (which is one of the key themes of the African Union Agenda 2063) and ensure inclusive growth on the continent. This included topics such as the provision of social services through private investment.¹⁸⁶⁴

On 23 May 2019, Koichihiro Yamamoto of JICA, along with representatives from seven private Japanese companies, visited Nigeria and Mozambique to study challenges that Japanese and African businesses could potentially solve together.¹⁸⁶⁵

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to Agenda 2063 by providing aid in the areas of security, environmental action and economic development of Africa.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Fabim Mostafa

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to work in partnership with the African continent, supporting the African Union Agenda 2063 in order to realize Africa's potential.

On 28 July 2018, Minister for Africa Harriett Baldwin and the Zambian Minister for Energy Matthew Nkhuwa signed the Energy Africa Compact.¹⁸⁶⁶ The Compact is a partnership between the UK, the Zambian government, and the private sector to grow sustainable energy in Zambia. Minister Baldwin also announced GBP 22 million in funding to support the development of innovative energy solutions, and GBP 8.5 million to improve individual and commercial access to financing.¹⁸⁶⁷

On 28 July 2018, Minister Baldwin announced a financial contribution of GBP 37.5 million to Malawi, which will support early grade learning and promote a higher number of girls in schools.¹⁸⁶⁸

On 7 August 2018, International Development Secretary Penny Mordaunt introduced the largest tax partnership program of GBP 35 million to help Ethiopia reduce aid dependence through tax

¹⁸⁶³ High Level Dialogue with Africa "Road to TICAD7 in Yokohama and Africa Development Dynamics Report 2019", Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 21 May 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2019/190521_01.html.

¹⁸⁶⁴ High Level Dialogue with Africa, OECD (Yokohama) 21 May 2019. Access Date: 21 August 2019. <https://www.oecd.org/dev/Dev-Japan-High-Level-Dialogue-With-Africa-21-May-2019.htm>.

¹⁸⁶⁵ TOWARD TICAD 7: 'Africa and Me' Part 5 — Promoting Africa's Development Through Partnerships with Private Companies: Koichihiro Yamamoto, Staff Member, Infrastructure and Peacebuilding Department, JICA, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) (Tokyo) 23 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2019/20190523_01.html.

¹⁸⁶⁶ Minister for Africa visits Zambia and Malawi, Government of UK (London) 28 July 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uks-minister-for-africa-concludes-malawi-visit>

¹⁸⁶⁷ Minister for Africa visits Zambia and Malawi, Government of UK (London) 28 July 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uks-minister-for-africa-concludes-malawi-visit>

¹⁸⁶⁸ Minister for Africa visits Zambia and Malawi, Government of UK (London) 28 July 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uks-minister-for-africa-concludes-malawi-visit>

generation.¹⁸⁶⁹ This program will transform the country's tax system by helping it to gain stability and harness economic growth.¹⁸⁷⁰

On 28 August 2018, Prime Minister Theresa May pledged GBP 4 billion in support for African economies. This fund was raised through private sector investment and aims to support public and private investment in Africa.¹⁸⁷¹

On 28 August 2018, Prime Minister May signed a joint statement with South Africa, Mozambique, Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho, and Eswatini to guarantee that the region's present trade deal with the EU will continue after the UK leaves the Union.¹⁸⁷² Prime Minister May stated that it is the UK's goal to be the number one G7 investor on the African continent by 2022.¹⁸⁷³

On 28 August 2018, the government announced a new prosperity fund program of up to GBP 8 million. This fund will support the execution of the new UK-Southern African Economic Partnership Agreement.¹⁸⁷⁴

On 29 August 2018, Prime Minister May announced an innovative partnership with South Africa, Kenya, and Nigeria to increase technological innovation and entrepreneurship. GBP 32 million was assured for the accelerator scheme.¹⁸⁷⁵ Furthermore, Prime Minister May launched a new round of the Africa Enterprise Challenge fund of GBP 16 million to promote innovative household solar products and improve solar technologies across the African continent.¹⁸⁷⁶

On 30 August 2018, Prime Minister May expressed support for the transformation of Kenya's Big 4 agenda by aligning expertise, investment, and assistance.¹⁸⁷⁷ Through a training program with Kenyan troops, she also pledged the UK's support to Kenya's efforts in fighting Al Shabaab in Somalia.¹⁸⁷⁸

¹⁸⁶⁹ UK launches largest tax partnership programme to help Ethiopia transition from aid, Government of UK (London) 8 August 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-launches-largest-tax-partnership-programme-to-help-ethiopia-transition-from-aid>

¹⁸⁷⁰ UK launches largest tax partnership programme to help Ethiopia transition from aid, Government of UK (London) 8 August 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-launches-largest-tax-partnership-programme-to-help-ethiopia-transition-from-aid>

¹⁸⁷¹ UK launches ambition to generate billions more investment in Africa to trigger transformational growth, Government of UK (London) 28 August 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-launches-ambition-to-generate-billions-more-investment-in-africa-to-trigger-transformational-growth>

¹⁸⁷² PM press statement in South Africa: 28 August 2018, Government of UK (London) 28 August 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-press-statement-in-south-africa-28-august-2018>

¹⁸⁷³ PM press statement in South Africa: 28 August 2018, Government of UK (London) 28 August 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-press-statement-in-south-africa-28-august-2018>

¹⁸⁷⁴ UK-Southern African trade: boosting UK and African economies, Government of UK (London) 28 August 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-southern-african-trade-boosting-uk-and-african-economies>

¹⁸⁷⁵ Ambitious new Innovation Partnerships with African countries, Government of UK (London) 29 August 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ambitious-new-innovation-partnerships-with-african-countries>

¹⁸⁷⁶ British expertise boosts innovative solar technologies across Africa, Government of UK (London) 29 August 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-expertise-boosts-innovative-solar-technologies-across-africa>

¹⁸⁷⁷ Prime Minister's press statement in Nairobi: 30 August 2018, Government of UK (London) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/prime-ministers-press-statement-in-nairobi-30-august-2018>

¹⁸⁷⁸ Prime Minister's press statement in Nairobi: 30 August 2018, Government of UK (London) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/prime-ministers-press-statement-in-nairobi-30-august-2018>

On 30 August 2018, Prime Minister May declared funding of over GBP 7 million to the African Union Mission in Somalia to support stability and resilience in the region.¹⁸⁷⁹ Additionally, she committed over GBP 60 million to support resilience and recovery from the impact of conflict and drought for over a million people. More than GBP 25 million was pledged in support of Somalia's democratic processes.¹⁸⁸⁰

On 30 August 2018, through the Department of International Development (DFID), UKAID announced an investment of GBP 36 million between 2019-2024 in partnership with the Kenyan government. This investment seeks to increase access to modern family planning services in 19 counties.¹⁸⁸¹ The UK also announced its intention to support Kenya's education system and address its aid dependence through the Global Partnership for Education.¹⁸⁸²

On 30 August 2018, Prime Minister May announced a new cyber unit as part of the UK-Kenya security compact.¹⁸⁸³ This unit will offer training in community security to strengthen the police's engagement with marginalized communities, tackle violence against girls and women, and prevent extremism by addressing its root causes. The UK will also share best practices with Kenya's criminal justice system to strengthen its legal procedures.¹⁸⁸⁴

On 30 August 2018, Prime Minister May signed an agreement with the Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta to ensure that any proceeds from corruption in Kenya that arrive in the UK will be returned to the Kenyan people.¹⁸⁸⁵

On 13 September 2018, International Development Secretary Mordaunt launched a new education program to connect classrooms across UK, Africa, Asia, and the Middle East through the Global Learning Programme.¹⁸⁸⁶ This programme aims to foster lasting partnerships between schools and communities in the UK and around the world.¹⁸⁸⁷

On 21 September 2018, Minister for Immigration Caroline Nokes strengthened the UK's cooperation with Nigeria in tackling modern slavery and human trafficking through the Modern

¹⁸⁷⁹ New UK support to boost long-term stability in Somalia, Government of UK (London) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-support-to-boost-long-term-stability-in-somalia>

¹⁸⁸⁰ New UK support to boost long-term stability in Somalia, Government of UK (London) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-support-to-boost-long-term-stability-in-somalia>

¹⁸⁸¹ UK announces major investments in future of African youth through education and voluntary family planning, Government of UK (London) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-major-investments-in-future-of-african-youth-through-education-and-voluntary-family-planning>

¹⁸⁸² UK announces major investments in future of African youth through education and voluntary family planning, Government of UK (London) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-major-investments-in-future-of-african-youth-through-education-and-voluntary-family-planning>

¹⁸⁸³ New cyber unit to tackle child sex abuse in Kenya, Government of UK (London) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-cyber-unit-to-tackle-child-sex-abuse-in-kenya>

¹⁸⁸⁴ New cyber unit to tackle child sex abuse in Kenya, Government of UK (London) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-cyber-unit-to-tackle-child-sex-abuse-in-kenya>

¹⁸⁸⁵ Prime Minister's press statement in Nairobi: 30 August 2018, Government of UK (London) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/prime-ministers-press-statement-in-nairobi-30-august-2018>

¹⁸⁸⁶ UK aid to connect UK schools with classrooms around the world, Government of UK (London) 14 September 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-connect-uk-schools-with-classrooms-around-the-world>

¹⁸⁸⁷ UK aid to connect UK schools with classrooms around the world, Government of UK (London) 14 September 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-connect-uk-schools-with-classrooms-around-the-world>

Slavery Fund. The fund supports Nigerian law enforcement in handling crime and promoting rehabilitation for victims of trafficking. Furthermore, this partnership builds on the foundation of the Joint Border Task Force based in Lagos, Nigeria, which fights cross-border crime with officers from both UK and Nigerian agencies.¹⁸⁸⁸

On 5 October 2018, in collaboration with Uganda's Ministry of Health and four UN agencies, International Development Secretary Mordaunt announced the UK's financial support of up to GBP 5.1 million for Uganda's National Task Force to support Ebola preparedness and prevention efforts.¹⁸⁸⁹

On 8 October 2018, the UK announced up to GBP 210 million to help Uganda support half a million refugees that fled from conflicts in the Democratic Republic of Congo or South Sudan.¹⁸⁹⁰

On 14 October 2018, Minister Baldwin attended the first UK-Ghana Business Council meeting in Accra.¹⁸⁹¹ The business council will be meeting twice a year to decrease barriers to trade and investment and generate jobs.¹⁸⁹²

On 19 October 2018, Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations Ambassador Jonathan Allen reconfirmed the UK's commitment to increased support for the implementation of the Comité de suivi de l'Accord, an agreement for peace and reconciliation in Mali. He also committed to focusing on increasing female participation in the peace progress.¹⁸⁹³

From 8-9 November 2018, Minister Baldwin met with the Prime Minister of Mali Soumeylou Boubèye Maïga to discuss security and developmental challenges and the implementation of the peace accord.¹⁸⁹⁴ Minister Baldwin reaffirmed the UK's support for the EU Training Mission in Mali, which also supports the development of the Malian Armed Forces.¹⁸⁹⁵

¹⁸⁸⁸ Immigration Minister strengthens cooperation with Nigeria on modern slavery, Government of UK (London) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/immigration-minister-strengthens-cooperation-with-nigeria-on-modern-slavery>

¹⁸⁸⁹ Minister for Africa hails UK and Uganda co-operation in fighting infectious diseases, Government of UK (London) 5 October 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/minister-for-africa-hails-uk-and-uganda-co-operation-in-fighting-infectious-diseases>

¹⁸⁹⁰ UK deepens ties across East Africa, Government of UK (London) 8 October 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-deepens-ties-across-east-africa>

¹⁸⁹¹ First UK-Ghana Business Council seeks to boost trade and investment, Government of UK (London) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/first-uk-ghana-business-council-seeks-to-boost-trade-and-investment>

¹⁸⁹² First UK-Ghana Business Council seeks to boost trade and investment, Government of UK (London) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/first-uk-ghana-business-council-seeks-to-boost-trade-and-investment>

¹⁸⁹³ Rapid progress is needed in Mali to implement Peace Agreement, Government of UK (London) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 11 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/rapid-progress-is-needed-in-mali-to-implement-peace-agreement>

¹⁸⁹⁴ Africa Minister visits Mali as UK deepens efforts to stabilise the region, Government of UK (London) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 24 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/africa-minister-visits-mali-as-uk-deepens-efforts-to-stabilise-the-region>

¹⁸⁹⁵ Africa Minister visits Mali as UK deepens efforts to stabilise the region, Government of UK (London) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 24 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/africa-minister-visits-mali-as-uk-deepens-efforts-to-stabilise-the-region>

On 15 November 2018, Ambassador Allen reaffirmed the UK's support for the G5 Sahel Joint Force by contributing 15.5 percent of the European Union's package towards the joint force.¹⁸⁹⁶

On 23 November 2018, DFID announced a financial contribution of GBP 50 million to the cause of ending the practice of female genital mutilation by 2030.¹⁸⁹⁷

On 26 November 2018, DFID Country Director Philip Smith delivered a speech at the 2nd African Girls Summit on Ending Child Marriage in Ghana.¹⁸⁹⁸ He spoke on behalf of development partners including the European Union, the Netherlands, and Canada.¹⁸⁹⁹ He emphasised that together, with UNICEF and the United Nations Population Fund, this partnership supports 12 countries with high records of child marriage and seeks to address structural barriers facing girls.¹⁹⁰⁰

On 28 November 2018, Department for International Development Country Director Philip Smith launched the Basic Needs Maternal Mental Health project in Ghana.¹⁹⁰¹ BasicNeeds UK will work with BasicNeeds Ghana and three other non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for this project. GBP 940,000 has been granted to the network of NGOs for project implementation.¹⁹⁰²

On 4 December 2018, DFID Ghana social sectors team leader Jemima Gordon-Duff announced a new program to support 2.8 million Ghanaians suffering from disabilities.¹⁹⁰³

On 13 December 2018, Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Jonathan Allen announced additional funding of GBP3.1 million in response to Cameroon's humanitarian crisis in the Anglophone regions. The funding will be delivered by UNICEF.¹⁹⁰⁴

On 18 December 2018, Minister of State for the UN Lord Ahmad announced that the UK has agreed to match up to GBP500,000 in funding raised by War Child. This funding is a new Aid Match appeal on education and psychological support for children in the Central African Republic.¹⁹⁰⁵

¹⁸⁹⁶ Addressing the long-standing causes of instability in the Sahel, Government of UK (London) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 25 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/addressing-the-long-standing-causes-of-instability-in-the-sahel>

¹⁸⁹⁷ UK aid makes largest ever investment to help end FGM, Government of UK (London) 23 November 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <https://dfidnews.blog.gov.uk/2018/11/23/uk-aid-makes-largest-ever-investment-to-help-end-fgm/>

¹⁸⁹⁸ 2nd African Girls Summit: speech by DFID Country Director Philip Smith, Government of UK (London) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/dfid-country-directors-speech-at-the-2nd-african-girls-summit>

¹⁸⁹⁹ 2nd African Girls Summit: speech by DFID Country Director Philip Smith, Government of UK (London) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/dfid-country-directors-speech-at-the-2nd-african-girls-summit>

¹⁹⁰⁰ 2nd African Girls Summit: speech by DFID Country Director Philip Smith, Government of UK (London) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/dfid-country-directors-speech-at-the-2nd-african-girls-summit>

¹⁹⁰¹ UK aid direct funded 'maternal health project' launches in Ghana: speech by DFID Country Director, Government of UK (London) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/ukaid-direct-funded-maternal-health-project-launches-in-ghana-speech-by-dfid-country-director>

¹⁹⁰² UK aid direct funded 'maternal health project' launches in Ghana: speech by DFID Country Director, Government of UK (London) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/ukaid-direct-funded-maternal-health-project-launches-in-ghana-speech-by-dfid-country-director>

¹⁹⁰³ DFID aims to be 'persons with disability' inclusive: speech by Jemima Gordon-Duff, government of UK (London) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/career-fair-for-persons-with-disabilities-speech-by-jemima-gordon-duff>

¹⁹⁰⁴ Preventing further conflict in Cameroon and the Lake Chad Basin: speech by Ambassador Jonathan Allen, government of UK (London) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/preventing-further-conflict-in-cameroon-and-the-lake-chad-basin>

On 18 December 2018, the UK announced additional funding of GBP100 million to the previously committed GBP48 million for renewable energy projects in Africa. This extra funding will support up to 40 new projects over the next five years and increase private financing in the sector.¹⁹⁰⁶

On 21 February 2018, Minister of State for Africa Harriett Baldwin announced funding of up to GBP30 million for African security and prosperity projects.¹⁹⁰⁷

On 26 February 2019, the British High Commission in Yaounde initiated a six-month project with Girl Excel. This project seeks to address menstrual hygiene challenges in Cameroon as a major cause of high school dropout rates among women.¹⁹⁰⁸

On 27 February 2019, UK Export Finance (UKEF) announced that it will support UK firms with GBP130 million in funding for infrastructure projects in Ghana.¹⁹⁰⁹

On 15 March 2019, Minister for Africa Harriett Baldwin announced an investment of USD2.2 million through a private infrastructure development group InfraCo Africa. This investment will be allocated to the development of two solar plants, providing a boost to clean energy initiatives and energy access in Kenya.¹⁹¹⁰

On 18 March 2019, International Development Secretary Penny Mordaunt announced up to GBP6 million in aid and an expert team to support victims of Cyclone Idai in Mozambique and Malawi.¹⁹¹¹

On 16 April 2019, to support fair elections in Malawi, British Support Team (Africa) conducted an election strategy workshop and announced GBP2.77 million in funding for the UNDP-managed Elections Basket Fund. Additionally, the British Support Team announced GBP1.5 million in funding in tandem with USAID to ensure credible and fair elections in 2019.¹⁹¹²

On 17 April, Deputy Social Sectors Team Lead for DFID Ghana Enyonam Azumah announced a flagship initiative entitled ‘What Works to Prevent Violence Against Women and Girls.’ The DFID

¹⁹⁰⁵ Lord Ahmad and Carey Mulligan: “International community must work together to ensure that children in conflict zones have a real chance to reach their full potential”, government of UK (London) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/lord-ahmad-and-carey-mulligan-international-community-must-work-together-to-ensure-that-children-in-conflict-zones-have-a-real-chance-to-reach-their>.

¹⁹⁰⁶ UK invests £100 million for renewable energy projects in Africa, government of UK (London) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-invests-100-million-for-renewable-energy-projects-in-africa>.

¹⁹⁰⁷ UK to invest up to £30m through partnership with African Union, government of UK (London) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-invest-up-to-30m-through-partnership-with-african-union>.

¹⁹⁰⁸ Cameroon: UK funds campaign to address menstrual hygiene challenges, government of UK (London) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cameroon-uk-funds-campaign-to-address-menstrual-hygiene-challenges>.

¹⁹⁰⁹ UKEF supports UK firms to develop critical Ghanaian infrastructure, government of UK (London) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukef-supports-uk-firms-to-develop-critical-ghanaian-infrastructure>.

¹⁹¹⁰ UK aid to give clean energy boost to Kenya, government of UK (London) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 19 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-give-clean-energy-boost-to-kenya>.

¹⁹¹¹ UK to provide up to £6 million of UK aid to support victims of deadly East Africa cyclone, government of UK (London) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 19 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-provide-up-to-6-million-of-uk-aid-to-support-victims-of-deadly-east-africa-cyclone>.

¹⁹¹² UK supports National Elections Command and Control exercise in Malawi, government of UK (London) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-supports-national-elections-command-and-control-exercise-in-malawi>.

committed GBP25 million over the course of five years. This fund will be dedicated to protecting women and girls from violence in Africa and Asia.¹⁹¹³

On 29 April 2019, Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt announced aid of GBP4 million to launch an English language programme named ‘English Connects’ at Université Virtuelle du Sénégal in Dakar. This programme is aimed at teaching English in French and Portuguese speaking countries in sub-Saharan Africa.¹⁹¹⁴

On 29 April 2019, International Development Secretary Penny Mordaunt committed to aid of up to GBP3 million to help victims of Cyclone Kenneth in Mozambique. The UK will also send a team of experts to address the on-ground situation.

On 30 April 2019, Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt announced several new deals between UK and African companies. One of the deals caters to reducing water poverty in Africa, and the deal is valued at GBP26 million.¹⁹¹⁵ In Ghana, Secretary Hunt committed to funding of GBP30 million, an amount that will be invested in infrastructure and market development for agriculture.¹⁹¹⁶

On 30 April 2019, Energy Security and Resource Efficiency in Somaliland, a UK-funded programme, announced a phased plan to provide clean, renewable and affordable energy options to citizens of Somalia. This programme was designed to help improve standards of living while addressing high energy costs.¹⁹¹⁷

On 1 May 2019, International Development Secretary Penny Mordaunt committed GBP1 million towards the UN Flash Appeal for Libya to help citizens of Tripoli. Additionally, she announced GBP5 million in funding that will be given to the International Organisation for Migration, the Danish Refugee Council and the International Rescue Committee over a period of three years to aid migrants and refugees in Libya.¹⁹¹⁸

On 1 May 2019, Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt restated UK’s support for Nigeria’s fight against Boko Haram and the Islamic State in West Africa.¹⁹¹⁹

On 1 May 2019, Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt announced GBP153 million in funding for programmes to help farmers adapt to climate change and increase their climate resilience.¹⁹²⁰

¹⁹¹³ UK is committed to ensure everyone is equal, safe and empowered: Speech by Enyonam Azumah, government of UK (London) 8 May 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/uk-is-committed-to-ensure-everyone-is-equal-safe-and-empowered-speech-by-enyonam-azumah>.

¹⁹¹⁴ Foreign Secretary’s visit to Africa: April to May 2019, government of UK (London) 30 April 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretary-visit-to-africa-april-to-may-2019>.

¹⁹¹⁵ Foreign Secretary’s visit to Africa: April to May 2019, government of UK (London) 30 April 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretary-visit-to-africa-april-to-may-2019>.

¹⁹¹⁶ Jeremy Hunt: ‘Time for the world to see African nations as partners for investment and trade,’ government of UK (London) 30 April 2019. Access Date: 1 Jun 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/jeremy-hunt-time-for-the-world-to-see-african-nations-as-partners-for-investment-and-trade>.

¹⁹¹⁷ UK aid to give clean, affordable renewable energy boost in Somaliland, government of UK (London) 30 April 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-give-clean-affordable-renewable-energy-boost-in-somaliland>.

¹⁹¹⁸ Penny Mordaunt statement on fighting in Libya, government of UK (London) 1 May 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/penny-mordaunt-statement-on-fighting-in-libya>.

¹⁹¹⁹ Foreign Secretary: UK backs Nigeria in fight against extremism, government of UK (London) 1 May 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretary-uk-backs-nigeria-in-fight-against-extremism>

¹⁹²⁰ Foreign Secretary’s visit to Africa: April to May 2019, government of UK (London) 30 April 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretary-visit-to-africa-april-to-may-2019>.

On 2 May 2019, Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt committed to providing GBP15.5 million in aid to Ethiopia with the mandate of supporting fair and transparent elections.¹⁹²¹

On 2 May 2019, Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt announced a new Fellowship programme that will allow 60 African journalists to garner experience with media organisations based in the UK.¹⁹²²

On 3 May 2019, Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt announced funding of over GBP64 million for Kenyan businesses. This fund is aimed at creating employment, supporting creative industries, and setting up a solar power plant.¹⁹²³

On 13 May 2019, Deputy High Commissioner to Ghana Tom Hartley restated UK's commitment to social well-being and announced a UKEF fund of GBP17 million for the completion of Bekwai Hospital in Ghana.¹⁹²⁴

On 17 May 2019, Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt signed a partnership agreement on behalf of the UK with Ghana. He reaffirmed UK's commitment to working together with Ghana in the areas of border, crime and cyber-security.¹⁹²⁵

On 24 May 2019, DFID head of Somalia Phil Evans announced GBP8 million in aid to help fight Somalia's drought condition and provide necessities to its citizens.¹⁹²⁶

The UK has fully complied with its commitment to Agenda 2063 by initiating and consolidating partnerships with African states. It has provided support for regional security, economic development, education and healthcare in Africa through financial contributions and educational programs.

Thus, UK receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sanam Panjwani

United States: +1

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to work in partnership with the African continent, supporting the African Union Agenda 2063 in order to realize Africa's potential.

On 17-29 June 2018, the Department of State hosted the fourth WiSci (Women in Science) Girls STEAM Camp in Namibia, bringing together 100 students from Ethiopia, Kenya, Namibia, Eswatini,

¹⁹²¹ Foreign Secretary's visit to Africa: April to May 2019, government of UK (London) 30 April 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretary-visit-to-africa-april-to-may-2019>.

¹⁹²² Foreign Secretary's visit to Africa: April to May 2019, government of UK (London) 30 April 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretary-visit-to-africa-april-to-may-2019>.

¹⁹²³ Foreign Secretary welcomes more than £64 million of British funding for Kenyan industry, government of UK (London) 3 May 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretary-welcomes-more-than-64-million-of-british-funding-for-kenyan-industry>.

¹⁹²⁴ British Council and the Otumfuo Osei Tutu II Foundation MoU signing: speech by Tom Hartley, government of UK (London) 13 May 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/deputy-high-commissioner-tom-hartleys-speech-at-the-mou-signing-between-british-council-and-the-otumfuo-osei-tutu-ii-foundation>.

¹⁹²⁵ UK and Ghana sign strategic partnership agreement, government of UK (London) 17 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-ghana-sign-strategic-partnership-agreement>.

¹⁹²⁶ UK government allocates £8 million to drought response in Somalia, government of UK (London) 24 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-allocates-8-million-to-drought-response-in-somalia>.

and the U.S.¹⁹²⁷ WiSci aims to generate skill development and opportunities for high school girls in science, technology, engineering, arts and design, and mathematics.¹⁹²⁸

On 2 July 2018, the U.S. African Development Foundation announced a partnership with Bechtel, a global leader in engineering, procuring, and constructing community-level infrastructure projects.¹⁹²⁹ The partnership supports local enterprise development by providing grant financing to increase access to roads, clean water, and reliable and affordable electricity.¹⁹³⁰

On 4 July 2018, Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Louis Ross and the Finance Minister of Ghana Ken Ofori-Atta signed a memorandum of understanding.¹⁹³¹ It aims to strengthen developmental partnerships between the two countries.¹⁹³²

On 6 July 2018, Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Louis Ross announced a contribution of over USD 5.4 billion to increase commercial ties with Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Cote d'Ivoire.¹⁹³³ The contribution aims to support Africa's sustainable infrastructure development and create local jobs.¹⁹³⁴

On 24 July 2018, the U.S. African Development Foundation (USDAF) announced a joint venture with the Tiger Woods Foundation.¹⁹³⁵ The partnership aims to support African education and entrepreneurship in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education by providing training resources.¹⁹³⁶

On 24 July 2018, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the Elton John AIDS Foundation announced a USD 360 million investment over the upcoming 12 months.¹⁹³⁷ The

¹⁹²⁷ WiSci Girls STEAM Camp in Namibia Begins June 17, United States Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/06/283257.htm>

¹⁹²⁸ WiSci Girls STEAM Camp in Namibia Begins June 17, United States Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/06/283257.htm>

¹⁹²⁹ USADF Partners with Bechtel to Include All Communities in Africa's Growth Story, The United States African Development Foundation (Washington, D.C.) 2 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases/?offset=1532623498589>

¹⁹³⁰ USADF Partners with Bechtel to Include All Communities in Africa's Growth Story, The United States African Development Foundation (Washington, D.C.) 2 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases/?offset=1532623498589>

¹⁹³¹ With Investment MoU, U.S. and Ghana launch new chapter in Bilateral Relations, Ghana Ministry of Finance (Accra) 12 July 2018. Access Date: 21 December 2018. <https://www.mofep.gov.gh/news-and-events/2018-07-12/with-investment-mou-us-and-ghana-launch-new-chapter-in-bilateral-relations>

¹⁹³² With Investment MoU, U.S. and Ghana launch new chapter in Bilateral Relations, Ghana Ministry of Finance (Accra) 12 July 2018. Access Date: 21 December 2018. <https://www.mofep.gov.gh/news-and-events/2018-07-12/with-investment-mou-us-and-ghana-launch-new-chapter-in-bilateral-relations>

¹⁹³³ USA earmarks \$5.4 billion to deepen commercial ties with 4 African countries, Business Ghana (Accra) 6 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. [https://www.businessghana.com/site/news/general/168201/USA-earmarks-\\$5.4-billion-to-deepen-commercial-ties-with-4-African-countries](https://www.businessghana.com/site/news/general/168201/USA-earmarks-$5.4-billion-to-deepen-commercial-ties-with-4-African-countries)

¹⁹³⁴ USA earmarks \$5.4 billion to deepen commercial ties with 4 African countries, Business Ghana (Accra) 6 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. [https://www.businessghana.com/site/news/general/168201/USA-earmarks-\\$5.4-billion-to-deepen-commercial-ties-with-4-African-countries](https://www.businessghana.com/site/news/general/168201/USA-earmarks-$5.4-billion-to-deepen-commercial-ties-with-4-African-countries)

¹⁹³⁵ The U.S. African Development Foundation and TGR Foundation — A Tiger Woods Charity, Partner to Support African STEM Education Entrepreneurs, The United States African Development Foundation (Washington, D.C.) 26 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases/?offset=1539722590461>

¹⁹³⁶ The U.S. African Development Foundation and TGR Foundation — A Tiger Woods Charity, Partner to Support African STEM Education Entrepreneurs, The United States African Development Foundation (Washington, D.C.) 26 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases/?offset=1539722590461>

¹⁹³⁷ Elton John AIDS Foundation and PEPFAR Reaffirm Commitments to HIV Support for Key Populations, The United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (Amsterdam) 24 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.pepfar.gov/press/releases/284307.htm>

fund will support indigenous organizations throughout sub-Saharan Africa in expanding non-discriminatory access to quality and critical HIV services.¹⁹³⁸

On 24 July 2018, PEPFAR co-launched the MenStar Coalition with a financial pledge of USD 1.2 billion.¹⁹³⁹ The initiative will support local community efforts to expand the diagnosis and treatment of HIV infections among men in sub-Saharan Africa.¹⁹⁴⁰

On 18 September 2018, Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of African Affairs Tibor P. Nagy Jr. underscored the U.S. commitment to strengthening trade with Africa. He emphasized building capacity among Africa's youth as a force for economic growth and reaffirmed the importance of advancing peace and security through partnerships with African governments.¹⁹⁴¹

On 26 September 2018, Secretary of State for Political Affairs David Hale met with African regional leaders and international partners to discuss the peace process in South Sudan.¹⁹⁴² Mr. Hale reviewed current actions to address political, security, and humanitarian crises, and reaffirmed America's support for South Sudan's peace process.¹⁹⁴³

On 17 October 2018, the USADF announced results of Nigeria's Off-Grid Energy Challenge. USADF will provide further technical assistance and governance support to stimulate the growth of winning local energy enterprises.¹⁹⁴⁴ The challenge aims to develop, scale-up and extend the use of renewable off-grid energy technologies and reach underserved communities in Nigeria.¹⁹⁴⁵

On 18 October 2018, the President and CEO of USADF C.D. Glin and the Governor of Kebbi State in Nigeria Abubakar Bagudu signed a Memorandum of Understanding proclaiming their collective commitment to strengthening the capacity of local agricultural enterprises in the northern Nigerian state of Kebbi.¹⁹⁴⁶ USADF and the state government of Kebbi will contribute USD 10

¹⁹³⁸ Elton John AIDS Foundation and PEPFAR Reaffirm Commitments to HIV Support for Key Populations, The United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (Amsterdam) 24 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018.

<https://www.pepfar.gov/press/releases/284307.htm>

¹⁹³⁹ Global Partners Pledge over \$1.2 Billion to Launch the MenStar Coalition, The United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (Amsterdam) 24 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018.

<https://www.pepfar.gov/press/releases/284176.htm>

¹⁹⁴⁰ Global Partners Pledge over \$1.2 Billion to Launch the MenStar Coalition, The United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (Amsterdam) 24 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018.

<https://www.pepfar.gov/press/releases/284176.htm>

¹⁹⁴¹ Africa: U.S. is Africa's 'Ideal Partner' for Promoting Democratic Institutions & Economic Growth, United States Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 18 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018.

<https://www.state.gov/p/af/rls/rm/2018/285991.htm>

¹⁹⁴² Under Secretary Hale's Meeting on Next Steps on the South Sudan Peace Process, United States Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018.

<https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/09/286240.htm>

¹⁹⁴³ Under Secretary Hale's Meeting on Next Steps on the South Sudan Peace Process, United States Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018.

<https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/09/286240.htm>

¹⁹⁴⁴ USADF and All On Announce the Winners of the 2018 Nigeria Off-Grid Energy Challenge, The United States African Development Foundation (Washington, D.C.) 17 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018.

<https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases/?offset=1532623498589&reversePaginate=true>

¹⁹⁴⁵ USADF and All On Announce the Winners of the 2018 Nigeria Off-Grid Energy Challenge, The United States African Development Foundation (Washington, D.C.) 17 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018.

<https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases/?offset=1532623498589&reversePaginate=true>

¹⁹⁴⁶ USADF and Governor of Kebbi State in Nigeria Announce \$10 Million Dollar Partnership to Support Local Agribusiness, The United States African Development Foundation (Washington, D.C.) 18 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases/2018/10/17/usadf-and-governor-of-kebbi-state-in-nigeria-announce-10-million-dollar-partnership-to-support-local-agribusiness>

million in the upcoming five years to provide financial and technical support to local agricultural development.¹⁹⁴⁷

From 2-10 November 2018, Assistant Secretary Tibor P. Nagy Jr. travelled to Togo, Guinea, Mali, and Nigeria to review and strengthen trade and commercial ties between the U.S. and Africa, discuss the empowerment of Africa's youth, and build peace and security through partnerships.¹⁹⁴⁸

On 8 November 2018, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator of the US Agency for International Development's (USAID) Power Africa Initiative Ramsey Day and Chief Executive of the Eastern and Southern African Trade and Development Bank Admassu Tadesse signed a MOU, which will provide funding to power projects in 22 African countries.¹⁹⁴⁹

On 8 November 2018, USAID and the Ethiopian Ministry of Education introduced the five-year USD 86 million READ II project, which seeks to improve the reading and writing abilities of 15 million children.¹⁹⁵⁰

From 27-29 November 2018, the U.S. and Morocco hosted a Bilateral Proliferation Security Initiative Workshop to enhance the countries' capacities to interdict weapons of mass destruction and related materials.¹⁹⁵¹

On 2 December 2018, the U.S. re-established a permanent diplomatic presence in Somalia to demonstrate its commitment to advancing stability, democracy, and local economic development in Somalia.¹⁹⁵²

On 4 December 2018, the U.S. and the Republic of Congo signed the Open Skies Air Transport Agreement. The agreement will enable more open market access, providing greater opportunities for airlines, travelers, businesses, shippers, airports, workers, and localities.¹⁹⁵³

On 4 December 2018, Secretary of State and the Libyan Prime Minister reaffirmed their shared commitment to counter-terrorism, economic reforms, fiscal transparency, oil production, and security for all Libyans.¹⁹⁵⁴

On 10 December 2018, the Millennium Challenge Corporation and the government of Senegal signed the USD550 million Senegal Power Compact to modernize and strengthen Senegal's power

¹⁹⁴⁷ USADF and Governor of Kebbi State in Nigeria Announce \$10 Million Dollar Partnership to Support Local Agribusiness, The United States African Development Foundation (Washington, D.C.) 18 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases/2018/10/17/usadf-and-governor-of-kebbi-state-in-nigeria-announce-10-million-dollar-partnership-to-support-local-agribusinessnbspc>

¹⁹⁴⁸ Assistant Secretary Nagy Travels to the United Kingdom, France, Togo, Guinea, Mali, and Nigeria, United States Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/10/286816.htm>

¹⁹⁴⁹ The Trade and Development Bank and USAID Sign MOU to Power Africa, All Africa (Cape Town) 8 November 2018. Access Date: 11 November 2018. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201811090528.html>

¹⁹⁵⁰ Ethiopia: New U.S. Investment Continues Support to Strengthen Ethiopia's Education System, All Africa (Cape Town) 8 November 2018. Access Date: 11 November 2018. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201811090883.html>

¹⁹⁵¹ Morocco Hosts Bilateral Proliferation Security Initiative Workshop, United States Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/11/287647.htm>

¹⁹⁵² Reestablishment of a Permanent Diplomatic Presence in Somalia, United States Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/12/287876.htm>

¹⁹⁵³ United States and the Republic of the Congo Sign Open Skies Air Transport Agreement, United States Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/12/287878.htm>

¹⁹⁵⁴ Secretary Pompeo's Meeting With Libyan Prime Minister al-Sarraj, United States Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/12/287880.htm>

sector. Through improved access to electricity, the Senegal Power Compact will impact economic growth and poverty reduction.¹⁹⁵⁵

On 29 January 2019, Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo and Algerian Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdelkader Messahel agreed to bilateral government cooperation on advancing shared interests in regional stability and combatting terrorist groups. They also reviewed cultural and educational programs between the two countries and agreed to promote educational exchange and protect cultural heritage.¹⁹⁵⁶

From 10-12 February 2019, Under-Secretary for Political Affairs David Hale travelled to West Africa to strengthen commercial ties, advance peace and security through regional partnerships, and encourage the potential of Africa's youth.¹⁹⁵⁷

On 18 March 2019, Deputy Secretary of State John J. Sullivan met with Angola's President João Lourenço for strategic dialogue focused on strengthening collaboration for the advancement of democracy, health, human rights, and development in the Okavango region.¹⁹⁵⁸

On 3 April 2019, Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo met with the President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Felix Tshisekedi, in Washington, D.C. Secretary Pompeo expressed support for addressing corruption, building transparent institutions, strengthening governance, advancing human rights, accountability for human rights abuses and violations, promoting stability and security, and attracting American investment in the DRC. Furthermore, they discussed the significance of sustainable and responsible development of natural resources, combatting the Ebola outbreak, and responding to humanitarian crises.¹⁹⁵⁹

On 11 April 2019, Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo met with the President of the Central African Republic Faustin Archange Touadera in Washington, D.C. The meeting underscored support for institutionalizing democratic reforms, building an inclusive government, promoting a more inclusive and transparent business environment to revitalize the CAR's economy, and ensuring justice for victims of war crimes.¹⁹⁶⁰

From 2-13 April 2019, USAID Deputy Administrator Bonnie Glick traveled to the Republics of Kenya and Rwanda and the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. In Addis Ababa, the Deputy Administrator met with Ethiopia's Deputy Prime Minister Demeke Mekonnen Hassen and the Minister of Agriculture Oumer Hussein Obba to launch the partnership for Ethiopia. The strategy

¹⁹⁵⁵ On Senegal's Millennium Challenge Compact, United States Department of State (Washington, D.C.). 10 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.state.gov/secretary/remarks/2018/12/287973.htm>.

¹⁹⁵⁶ Joint Communique on the U.S.-Algeria Strategic Dialogue, United States Department of State (Washington, D.C.). 29 January 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2019/01/288662.htm>.

¹⁹⁵⁷ Under Secretary for Political Affairs David M. Hale Travel to West Africa, United States Department of State (Washington, D.C.). 7 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2019/02/288854.htm>.

¹⁹⁵⁸ Deputy Secretary Sullivan's Visit to Angola, United States Department of State (Washington, D.C.). 18 March 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2019/03/290461.htm>.

¹⁹⁵⁹ Secretary Pompeo's Meeting With DRC President Felix Tshisekedi, United States Department of State (Washington, D.C.). 3 April 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2019/04/290885.htm>.

¹⁹⁶⁰ Secretary Pompeo's Meeting With Central African Republic President Faustin Archange Touadera, United States Department of State (Washington, D.C.). 11 April 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2019/04/291071.htm>.

will focus investments in youth employment acceleration, economy diversification, and increased access to finance, food and medicine.¹⁹⁶¹

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to Agenda 2063 through fostering partnerships with the African States. It has specifically provided support in the areas of security, economic development, infrastructure, education, and healthcare.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Hoore Jannat

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to work in partnership with the African continent, supporting the African Union Agenda 2063 in order to realize Africa's potential.

On 30 June 2018, EU Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven Mimica visited Mauritania for the African Union Summit. The Summit discussed corruption prevention and Africa's economic transformation towards sustainable development.¹⁹⁶² Commissioner Mimica signed two support programmes for Mauritania, amounting to EUR47.6 million. The fund aims to boost investments in rural communities and build the capacity of local judicial systems.¹⁹⁶³

On 30 June 2018, EU Commissioner Neven Mimica and African Union President Paul Kagame co-organized the "Women in Power" event at the 31st African Union Summit.¹⁹⁶⁴ The event aims to facilitate high-level discussion between Africa and Europe on the role of women as important leaders of political, social and economic development.¹⁹⁶⁵

On 11 July 2018, the EU approved EUR800 million in financial guarantee programmes as a part of its External Investment Plan (EIP).¹⁹⁶⁶ The EIP aims to deliver sustainable investments in Africa that promote inclusive growth, job creation, and sustainable development to address the root causes of irregular migration.¹⁹⁶⁷

On 12 September 2018, President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker unveiled the Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs.¹⁹⁶⁸ The Alliance will increase

¹⁹⁶¹ USAID Deputy Administrator Bonnie Glick's Visit to Kenya, Rwanda, and Ethiopia, The United States Agency for International Development (Washington, D.C.). 18 April 2019. Access Date: 6 June 2019. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/apr-18-2019-usaid-deputy-administrator-bonnie-glick-visit-kenya-rwanda-ethiopia>.

¹⁹⁶² EU support to Mauritania, European Commission (Brussels) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4303_en.htm

¹⁹⁶³ EU support to Mauritania, European Commission (Brussels) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4303_en.htm

¹⁹⁶⁴ Africa and Europe put women's empowerment and gender equality at the top of their agenda, African Union & European Union. 30 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/africa-and-europe-put-womens-empowerment-and-gender-equality-top-their-agenda_en

¹⁹⁶⁵ Africa and Europe put women's empowerment and gender equality at the top of their agenda, African Union & European Union. 30 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/africa-and-europe-put-womens-empowerment-and-gender-equality-top-their-agenda_en

¹⁹⁶⁶ The EU's External Investment Plan: first projects in Africa and the Neighbourhood, European Commission (Brussels) 11 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4385_en.htm

¹⁹⁶⁷ The EU's External Investment Plan: first projects in Africa and the Neighbourhood, European Commission (Brussels) 11 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4385_en.htm

¹⁹⁶⁸ European Commission unveils new Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs, European Union 12 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/en/stay-informed/news/european-commission-unveils-new-africa-europe-alliance-sustainable-investment-and>

investment in Africa, strengthen trade between the EU and Africa, foster further job creation, and improve education.¹⁹⁶⁹

On 23 September 2018, President Juncker, Chairperson of the African Union Commission Moussa Faki Mahamat, and the United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres convened a trilateral meeting at the United Nations headquarters in New York. They reviewed current cooperation and discussed future opportunities for partnership between the AU, EU and the UN. They also reaffirmed peace and security as the fundamental pillars of sustainable development.¹⁹⁷⁰

On 28 September 2018, the EU and the African, Caribbean, and Pacific Group of States began negotiations on a new Partnership Agreement to guide cooperation post-2020.¹⁹⁷¹ The negotiations underscored multilateral cooperation to work towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.¹⁹⁷²

On 8 October 2018, the European Commission committed EUR5 million to African countries to support their fulfillment and application of global rules on customs and trade facilitation.¹⁹⁷³ This fund will be administered by the World Customs Organization, and it will enable African countries to harmonize and coordinate custom rules and reduce the costs of international trade.¹⁹⁷⁴

On 16 October 2018, the German Development Bank KfW launched the Clean Oceans Initiative, supported by the European Investment Bank, the French Development Bank, and the German government.¹⁹⁷⁵ The EUR2 billion initiative will reduce marine pollution by providing support and financial structures to waste management projects and market development for recycling plastics. Its operations will focus on areas in developing regions in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East.¹⁹⁷⁶

¹⁹⁶⁹ European Commission unveils new Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs, European Union 12 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/en/stay-informed/news/european-commission-unveils-new-africa-europe-alliance-sustainable-investment-and>

¹⁹⁷⁰ Third African Union-European Union-United Nations Trilateral Meeting: Joint Communiqué, European Union 28 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/en/stay-informed/news/third-african-union-european-union-united-nations-trilateral-meeting-joint>

¹⁹⁷¹ European Union and the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States commence negotiations on a new Partnership Agreement, European Commission (New York) 28 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-5902_en.htm

¹⁹⁷² European Union and the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States commence negotiations on a new Partnership Agreement, European Commission (New York) 28 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-5902_en.htm

¹⁹⁷³ Africa-Europe Alliance: Commission mobilises € 5 million to support African customs authorities implementing global roles and facilitating trade, European Union. 10 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/en/stay-informed/news/africa-europe-alliance-commission-mobilises-eu-5-million-support-african-customs>

¹⁹⁷⁴ Africa-Europe Alliance: Commission mobilises € 5 million to support African customs authorities implementing global roles and facilitating trade, European Union. 10 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/en/stay-informed/news/africa-europe-alliance-commission-mobilises-eu-5-million-support-african-customs>

¹⁹⁷⁵ The world's major climate financiers launch two billion Euro initiative, Germany Information Centre (Berlin) 16 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://germanyinafrica.diplo.de/zadz-en/-/2148850>

¹⁹⁷⁶ The world's major climate financiers launch two billion Euro initiative, Germany Information Centre (Berlin) 16 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://germanyinafrica.diplo.de/zadz-en/-/2148850>

On 23 October 2018, the EU Political and Security Committee and the AU Peace and Security Council held their 11th Annual Joint Consultative Meeting.¹⁹⁷⁷ The meeting reviewed progress made on resolving conflict situations and the various threats to peace and stability across Africa.¹⁹⁷⁸

On 8 November 2018, the EU and AU launched the Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs at the Africa Investment Forum in Johannesburg.¹⁹⁷⁹ The alliance aims to connect actors in the sustainable energy sector from Europe and Africa. The alliance will work to identify and encourage strategic investments in the private sectors between the two continents and focus on energy investment analysis for policy and sustainable business practices.¹⁹⁸⁰

On 23 November 2018, the Head of the EU Delegation to Liberia Ambassador H el ene Cav e held a meeting in Monrovia, Liberia.¹⁹⁸¹ The Ambassador stressed the importance of increased collaboration and stakeholder engagement to manage issues of migration. She emphasized that migration is the common responsibility of countries of origin, transit, and destination.¹⁹⁸²

On 18 December 2018, the EU and the International Fund for Agricultural Development launched a new Agri-Business Capital fund worth EUR45 million. The Agri-Business Capital Fund is an operation to benefit the agricultural sector and improve access to capital. The government of Luxembourg and the Africa Green Revolution Alliance will each contribute EUR5 million.¹⁹⁸³

On 18 December 2018, alongside the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the EU announced a EUR3 million program to develop national implementation strategies for a continental free trade area. The African Continental Free Trade Area is one of the key priorities of Agenda 2063, and it will be a major step towards African continental economic integration.¹⁹⁸⁴

On 21 January 2019, the EU-African Union held foreign affairs ministerial meetings in Brussels. The focus of the discussion was on three main themes of politics, economics and multilateralism. The discussion also touched upon issues of peace, security, governance, trade and economic integration, and cooperation in support of a rules-based global order. Both sides agreed to engage in further

¹⁹⁷⁷ African Union — European Union relations: joint consultative meeting on peace and security, Council of the EU (Brussels) 23 October 2018. Access Date: 3 November 2018. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2018/10/23/african-union-european-union-relations-joint-consultative-meeting-on-peace-and-security/>

¹⁹⁷⁸ African Union — European Union relations: joint consultative meeting on peace and security, Council of the EU (Brussels) 23 October 2018. Access Date: 3 November 2018. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2018/10/23/african-union-european-union-relations-joint-consultative-meeting-on-peace-and-security/>

¹⁹⁷⁹ EU Announces Africa-Europe Alliance for Increasing Investments in Sustainable Energy, International Institute for Sustainable Development. 27 November 2018. Access Date: 30 November 2018. <http://sdg.iisd.org/news/eu-announces-africa-europe-alliance-for-increasing-investments-in-sustainable-energy/>

¹⁹⁸⁰ EU Announces Africa-Europe Alliance for Increasing Investments in Sustainable Energy, International Institute for Sustainable Development. 27 November 2018. Access Date: 30 November 2018. <http://sdg.iisd.org/news/eu-announces-africa-europe-alliance-for-increasing-investments-in-sustainable-energy/>

¹⁹⁸¹ Liberia: European Union Engages Key Stakeholders on Migration Issues, Front Page Africa (Monrovia) 27 November 2018. Access Date: 30 November 2018. <https://frontpageafricaonline.com/news/liberia-european-union-engages-key-stakeholders-on-migration-issues/>

¹⁹⁸² Liberia: European Union Engages Key Stakeholders on Migration Issues, Front Page Africa (Monrovia) 27 November 2018. Access Date: 30 November 2018. <https://frontpageafricaonline.com/news/liberia-european-union-engages-key-stakeholders-on-migration-issues/>

¹⁹⁸³ Africa-Europe Alliance: EU to contribute €45 million to boost agri-business investments and create jobs in rural areas, European Commission 18 December 2018. Access Date: 15 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/africa-europe-alliance-eu-contribute-eu45-million-boost-agri-business-investments_en.

¹⁹⁸⁴ Africa-Europe Alliance: EU supports the African Continental Free Trade Area with €50 million, European Commission 18 December 2018. Access Date: 15 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/africa-europe-alliance-eu-supports-african-continental-free-trade-area-eu50-million_en.

consultations and ensure the implementation of the Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs. The EU agreed to strengthen the business climate by supporting and de-risking investment through the External Investment Plan.¹⁹⁸⁵

On 9 February 2019, with the African Union Commission and the International Trade Centre, the European Commission created the African Union Trade Observatory. The EU provided EUR4 million for the observatory's establishment. The observatory will collect data and analyze trade across borders in Africa to assist in the identification of promising market opportunities. The observatory acts as a pillar of support for the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area.¹⁹⁸⁶

On 11 March 2019, the EU committed to implementing concrete actions as found in the Africa-Europe Agenda for Rural Transformation. The actions touch on exchange programs, the creation of a cross-jurisdictional Agribusiness platform, and innovation hubs. The European Commission launched an online consultation to gather direct stakeholder feedback and support the process.¹⁹⁸⁷

On 12 April 2019, the EU and Africa announced greater investment in Horizon 2020 with a focus on partnerships in science and technology. Horizon 2020 is the biggest EU Research and Innovation program with nearly EUR80 billion in funding over seven years, from 2014 to 2020.¹⁹⁸⁸

On 12 April 2019, the EU invested EUR10 million in improving the business climate in West and Central Africa. In partnership with the IMF, the programs are focused on technical assistance and capacity-building, in line with the Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs.¹⁹⁸⁹

On 2 May 2019, the European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven Mimica and the Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius Pravind Jugnauth signed a EUR7.9 million contribution to the development of projects in the country to address unemployment and foster innovation. The initiative contributes to the goal of creating sustainable jobs and growth.¹⁹⁹⁰

The EU has fully complied with its commitment to Agenda 2063 through partnerships with African states. It has provided support for security, humanitarian assistance, environmental action and the economic development of Africa.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Jean-Paul St. Rose

¹⁹⁸⁵ European Union and African Union Foreign Ministers take stock of their strong partnership, European Union (Brussels) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/en/stay-informed/news/european-union-and-african-union-foreign-ministers-take-stock-their-strong>.

¹⁹⁸⁶ Africa-Europe Alliance: EU supports the new African Union Trade Observatory, European Commission (Brussels) 9 February 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-890_en.htm.

¹⁹⁸⁷ Africa-Europe Alliance: Task Force Rural Africa reveals recommendations, European Union (Brussels) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/en/stay-informed/news/africa-europe-alliance-task-force-rural-africa-reveals-recommendations>.

¹⁹⁸⁸ Horizon 2020: Africa and the EU strengthen their cooperation in research and innovation, European Union (Brussels) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/en/stay-informed/news/horizon-2020-africa-and-eu-strengthen-their-cooperation-research-and-innovation>.

¹⁹⁸⁹ Africa-Europe Alliance: EU invests €10 million to improve business climate in West and Central Africa, European Union (Brussels) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/africa-europe-alliance-eu-invests-eu10-million-improve-business-climate-west-and_en

¹⁹⁹⁰ Africa — Europe Alliance: EUR7.9 million EU funding programme to support Mauritius's development and youth employability, European Union (Brussels) 6 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/en/stay-informed/news/africa-europe-alliance-eur-79-million-eu-funding-programme-support-mauritiuss>.

8. Development: International Development Partnerships and Private Sector Investments

“Fostering new international development partnerships, and capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development, with particular attention to inclusive growth.”

Charlevoix Commitment on Innovative Financing for Development

Assessment

	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+1	

Background

This commitment is a collective pledge by G7 members to advance innovative forms of development finance. The commitment was made in response to the identified gap in traditional development financing, and reliance on public sector support in the status quo.¹⁹⁹¹ In order to address infrastructural and investment-related deficits in global development projects, the G7 has explored policies, regulatory frameworks, and subsidies to attract private investment in sustainable development projects.¹⁹⁹² This sentiment to catalyze private sector contributions to development initiatives has also been welcomed by other international organizations, namely the United Nations and World Bank.

The two parts of this commitment, international development partnerships, and private sector investments have respectively had a diverse and substantial history in G7 summitry. Below are a few notable examples.

On 8 June 2015, the Elmau Leaders' Declaration referenced the topic of “growth for all.” Specifically, it states the G7's collective will to achieve “effective resource mobilization in partnership with the private sector.”¹⁹⁹³ This document also acknowledges the role of the private sector in implementing human rights, developing low-carbon technologies to build climate resilience, improving food security and nutrition, and creating a gender-equal work environment and job market — all of which are issue areas in the field of international sustainable development.¹⁹⁹⁴

¹⁹⁹¹ Canada Leads in Bringing Together G7 Private Sector Investment for International Development, Department of Finance Canada (Toronto) 6 June 2018. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n18/18-046-eng.asp>

¹⁹⁹² Facilitating private-sector investment, The Global Governance Project (Toronto) Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://www.g7g20summits.org/opinions/facilitating-private-sector-investment/>

¹⁹⁹³ 2015 Elmau Summit — Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Schloss Elmau) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

¹⁹⁹⁴ 2015 Elmau Summit — Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Schloss Elmau) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

On 17 May 2016, the G7 Environment Ministers communiqué was adopted in Toyama during Japan's G7 presidency.¹⁹⁹⁵ The outcomes of this meeting emphasize the role of partnerships and working with the private sector to transition to a low-carbon society, foster green financial systems, and reach the objectives outlined in the Paris Agreement.¹⁹⁹⁶

A notable example of the spirit of this commitment is evident in the Charlevoix summit's hallmark pledge to empower girls and women with education, poverty alleviation, and gender equality in underserved communities around the world. On 25 May 2018, prior to the Charlevoix summit, the Canadian Minister for International Development and La Francophonie Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau called upon investors, philanthropists, and the private sector to contribute to this cause.¹⁹⁹⁷ The summit resulted in a pledge by G7 "development finance institutions and their private sector partners" to contribute CAD 3 billion over the course of the next two years.¹⁹⁹⁸ This ambitious commitment seeks to foster development partnerships among G7 members, and specifically to finance development projects through inter-sectoral collaboration.

On 26-27 May 2017, the President of the African Development Bank (ADB), Akinwumi A. Adesina, attended the Taormina summit in Italy.¹⁹⁹⁹ In his remarks, he referenced the wish of the ADB to "help advance private sector investment from G7 countries in Africa."²⁰⁰⁰ Development in Africa has been a recurring topic in the G7's outreach programme and summit outcomes over the past several years. Both the Taormina and Charlevoix summits in 2017 and 2018 committed to partnering with the African continent to realize African Union Agenda 2063, serving as one notable example of the G7's international development partnerships.²⁰⁰¹

On 1 June 2018, the G7 development and finance ministers published a news release after their ministerial meeting in Whistler, British Columbia, Canada.²⁰⁰² The meeting centered around the Charlevoix summit priority of inclusive growth, and discussed "innovative financing approaches to

¹⁹⁹⁵ G7 Environment Ministers Communiqué, Toyama Meeting, United Nations Climate Change (Toyoma) 17 May 2016. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://unfccc.int/news/g7-environment-ministers-communiqué-toyama-meeting>

¹⁹⁹⁶ G7 Environment Ministers Communiqué, Toyama Meeting, United Nations Climate Change (Toyoma) 17 May 2016. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://unfccc.int/news/g7-environment-ministers-communiqué-toyama-meeting>

¹⁹⁹⁷ Canada announces new partnership to fund gender equality and empower women and girls in developing countries, Government of Canada — Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 25 May 2018. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/05/canada-announces-new-partnership-to-fund-gender-equality-and-empower-women-and-girls-in-developing-countries.html>

¹⁹⁹⁸ The G7's significant substantive success at the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, The Global Governance Project (Toronto) Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://www.g7g20summits.org/opinions/the-g7s-significant-substantive-success-at-the-2018-charlevoix-summit/>

¹⁹⁹⁹ Remarks by Akinwumi A. Adesina, President of the African Development Bank, at the G7 Summit, May 26-27, 2017, Taormina, Italy, African Development Bank Group (Taormina) 29 May 2017. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/remarks-by-akinwumi-a-adesina-president-of-the-african-development-bank-at-the-g7-summit-may-26-27-2017-taormina-italy-17054/>

²⁰⁰⁰ Remarks by Akinwumi A. Adesina, President of the African Development Bank, at the G7 Summit, May 26-27, 2017, Taormina, Italy, African Development Bank Group (Taormina) 29 May 2017. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/remarks-by-akinwumi-a-adesina-president-of-the-african-development-bank-at-the-g7-summit-may-26-27-2017-taormina-italy-17054/>

²⁰⁰¹ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

²⁰⁰² G7 Development and Finance Ministers Discuss Investing in Growth that Works for Everyone, G7 2018 Charlevoix (Whistler) 1 June 2018. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/g7-development-finance-ministers-discuss-investing-growth-that-works-everyone/>

mobilize private capital for sustainable development, including supporting new partnerships to connect the public sector and private investment communities.”²⁰⁰³

International sustainable development is a concept spearheaded by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals or 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.²⁰⁰⁴ This G7 commitment to foster inclusive growth through international partnerships and private sector investment echo the 2030 blueprint for global action.

Commitment Features

The first part of this commitment reflects the G7’s collective commitment to foster new international development partnerships. “Foster” is defined as “encourag[ing] the development of something.”²⁰⁰⁵ Partnerships in the field of development can refer to inter-sectoral, inter-state, or inter-regional collaboration. Partnered actors include but are not limited to the private sector, educational partners, civil society organizations, public sector and government institutions at various levels, internal institutions created by the G7, external inter-governmental organizations and more. Cooperation can include actions such as sharing best practices, resource pooling, institutional learning, international standard coordination, stakeholder consultations, and meetings etc. Notably, such international development partnerships must be “new.” This means that initiatives that count towards compliance should be newly created programs that involve actors in multiple states, rather than actions reinforcing pre-existing channels of cooperation or fundraising.

The second part of this commitment is dedicated to developing the “capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development.” Specifically, this commits G7 governments to develop its ability to engage the private sector and fund sustainable international development. Examples of actions in this regard include working with business entities for development financing, building public-private partnerships, etc. As indicated by the word “more,” G7 members must demonstrate capacity-building attempts to liaise and generate additional financial contributions in tandem with private sector actors, in order to achieve compliance in this part of the commitment.

The text of the commitment ends by referencing one of the summit priorities set by the Canadian G7 presidency in 2018 — inclusive growth.²⁰⁰⁶ Thus, to achieve compliance in either part of the commitment, G7 members must demonstrate efforts to strive for equitable and accessible distribution of resources, as well as shared benefit from economic growth. Actions that count toward compliance in this regard may demonstrate explicit or special attention to vulnerable and underserved communities, historically disadvantaged demographics, hard-to-reach populations, or any groups excluded from conventional development financing. This emphasis on inclusive growth must be realized in a way simultaneous to fostering “new international developmental partnerships and the capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international

²⁰⁰³ G7 Development and Finance Ministers Discuss Investing in Growth that Works for Everyone, G7 2018 Charlevoix (Whistler) 1 June 2018. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/g7-development-finance-ministers-discuss-investing-growth-that-works-everyone/>

²⁰⁰⁴ Sustainable Development Goals, Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform (New York) Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300>

²⁰⁰⁵ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 23 September 2018.

²⁰⁰⁶ Canada’s G7 Themes, G7 2018 Charlevoix (Ottawa) 14 December 2017. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/g7-presidency/themes/>

development.” For further context on the concept of inclusive growth, please refer to the outcomes and documents of the G7 Ministerial Meeting in Whistler on 31 May–2 June 2018.²⁰⁰⁷

To achieve full compliance, the G7 member must foster new international development partnerships, while fostering its capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development; and foster both with an emphasis on inclusive growth.

If the G7 member only meets the threshold of action for the former or latter half of the commitment, it will be assigned a score of 0 or partial compliance. If the G7 member does not comply with either part of the commitment, it will be scored for non-compliance, or -1.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member does NOT foster new international development partnerships NOR the capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development, with NO particular attention to inclusive growth.
0	The G7 member fosters new international development partnerships OR the capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development, with particular attention to inclusive growth.
+1	The G7 member fosters new international development partnerships AND the capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development, with particular attention to inclusive growth.

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Compliance Director: Ivan Hsieh
Lead Analyst: David Manocchio*

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to foster new international development partnerships and foster the capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development, with particular attention to inclusive growth.

On 10 June 2018, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced a CAD3.8 billion investment alongside the European Union, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the World Bank to “support quality education for women and girls living in crisis, conflict-affected and fragile states.”²⁰⁰⁸

On 24 September 2018, the Government of Canada announced a CAD20 million contribution to the Global Infrastructure Hub (GI Hub) in Toronto, Ontario. The goal of the GI Hub is to bring together public and private investors and develop critical infrastructure projects that “benefit people, strengthen communities, and connect global markets.”²⁰⁰⁹ The projects are aimed at addressing key

²⁰⁰⁷ G7 Ministerial Meeting: Investing in Growth that Works For Everyone, G7 2018 Charlevoix (Ottawa) Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/g7-presidency/themes/investing-growth-works-everyone/g7-ministerial-meeting/>

²⁰⁰⁸ Prime Minister concludes successful G7 Summit focused on creating economic growth that benefits everyone, Prime Minister’s Office (Ottawa) 10 June 2018. Access Date: 8 October 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/prime-minister-concludes-successful-g7-summit-focused-on-creating-economic-growth-that-benefits-everyone-685080361.html>

²⁰⁰⁹ Canada supports global infrastructure with new hub in Toronto, Prime Minister’s Office (Ottawa) 24 September 2018. Access Date: 8 October 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/canada-supports-global-infrastructure-with-new-hub-in-toronto-694179751.html>

challenges around sustainable economic growth, gender representation, and infrastructure in mitigating the threats posed by climate change.²⁰¹⁰

On 23 September 2018, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez approved the Canada-Spain Cooperation Agenda, a collaborative agreement to “closely create economic growth that benefits everyone, combat climate change, advance gender equality, and build a safer, more peaceful world.”²⁰¹¹

On 25 October 2018, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Prime Minister of the Netherlands Mark Rutte welcomed increased partnership between the two countries in fighting climate change and explored how to better leverage the Canada-EU Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement at the Canada-Netherlands roundtable on climate adaptation. Canada further announced the investment of CAD7.5 million in financial support towards the Global Commission on Adaptation, which is spearheaded by the Netherlands.²⁰¹²

On 13 November 2018, the Government of Canada announced CAD 19.5 million of funding for a Right to Play project and CAD 750 000 for a World Food Programme project.²⁰¹³ The Right to Play project operates in Ghana, Mozambique, and Rwanda to improve primary education and eliminate barriers to gender equality.²⁰¹⁴ The World Food Programme project provides nutrition-related humanitarian support for refugees in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Burundi through food distribution programs.²⁰¹⁵

On 18 November 2018, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau attended the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Leaders’ Meeting in Papua New Guinea. In addition to reaffirming Canada’s commitment to expanding trade and global investment within the Asia-Pacific region and creating new economic opportunities, the Prime Minister also announced a CAD20 million investment in increased technological assistance and capacity development in public financial management, financial sector supervisory, and fostering inclusive growth.²⁰¹⁶

From 26 to 28 of November 2018, the Government of Canada co-hosted the Sustainability Blue Economy Conference with the governments of Kenya and Japan in Nairobi, Kenya. The first-ever global conference on the sustainable blue economy concentrated on the potential of oceans, seas,

²⁰¹⁰ Prime Minister concludes successful week at United Nations General Assembly, Prime Minister’s Office (Ottawa) 28 August 2018. Access Date: 8 October 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/09/26/prime-minister-concludes-successful-week-united-nations-general-assembly>

²⁰¹¹ Prime Minister announce increased collaboration with Spain, Prime Minister’s Office, (Ottawa) 23 September 2018. Access Date: 8 October 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/09/23/prime-minister-announces-increased-collaboration-spain>

²⁰¹² Prime Minister welcomes increased partnership with Netherlands, Prime Minister’s Office (Ottawa) 25 October 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/10/25/prime-minister-welcomes-increased-partnership-netherlands>

²⁰¹³ Canada announces funding for projects in Rwanda, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/11/canada-announces-funding-for-projects-in-rwanda.html>

²⁰¹⁴ Canada announces funding for projects in Rwanda, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/11/canada-announces-funding-for-projects-in-rwanda.html>

²⁰¹⁵ Canada announces funding for projects in Rwanda, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/11/canada-announces-funding-for-projects-in-rwanda.html>

²⁰¹⁶ Prime Minister Concludes Successful APEC Meeting, Prime Minister’s Office (Ottawa) 18 November 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/11/18/prime-minister-concludes-productive-apec-leaders-meeting>

lakes and rivers to improve life in developing states. Attending delegations focused on fostering international support of the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by leveraging the latest innovations, scientific advances, and best practices to build prosperity and conserve the environment.²⁰¹⁷

On 1 December 2018, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau concluded his participation in the G20 Leaders' Summit in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he announced an additional CAD10 million contribution to the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness, a global alliance that develops life-saving vaccines to prevent and contain infectious diseases. The investment was made in support of the G20 efforts on global health.²⁰¹⁸

On 28 April 2019, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau met with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to affirm their commitment to strengthening the strategic partnership between both countries. The meeting also established two memorandums. A Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between Invest in Canada and the Japan External Trade Organization, which will drive investment and facilitate more partnerships between Canadian and Japanese companies. An Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the National Research Council of Canada and Japan's Advanced Telecommunications Research Institute International to support joint research in emerging technologies.²⁰¹⁹

On 6 May 2019, Canadian Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Navdeep Bains and France's Secretary of State for Digital Affairs Cedric O announced the joint panel on Artificial Intelligence between Canada and France. The panel's participants will commit to fostering growth, promotion, and implementation of artificial intelligence in a way that aligns with the principles of sustainable development.²⁰²⁰

On 2 June 2019, the Honourable Maryam Monsef, Minister of International Development, Women and Gender Equality, announced a CAD300 million investment to bring the granting, philanthropic, and investment worlds together under a single platform. The purpose of this investment is to mobilize more resources for women's rights organizations and movements in developing countries.²⁰²¹

Canada has improved its capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development and has fostered new international development partnerships.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sunny Wang

²⁰¹⁷ Canada co-hosts the Sustainable Blue Economy Conference, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Ottawa) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/campaign-campagne/bec-ceb/index-eng.html>

²⁰¹⁸ Prime Minister concludes productive G20 Leaders' Summit, Prime Minister's Office (Ottawa) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/12/01/prime-minister-concludes-productive-g20-leaders-summit>

²⁰¹⁹ Prime Minister of Canada announces closer collaboration with Japan, Prime Minister's Office (Ottawa) 28 April 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2019/04/28/prime-minister-canada-announces-closer-collaboration-japan>

²⁰²⁰ Canada and France work with international community to support responsible use of artificial intelligence, Cision News (Ottawa) 6 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/canada-and-france-work-with-international-community-to-support-responsible-use-of-artificial-intelligence-886629141.html>

²⁰²¹ Canada and partners announce new legacy investments to support women's rights and gender equality at home and abroad, Global Affairs Canada (Vancouver) 2 June 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/06/canada-and-partners-announce-new-legacy-investments-to-support-womens-rights-and-gender-equality-at-home-and-abroad.html>

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to foster new international development partnerships and foster the capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development, with particular attention to inclusive growth.

On 3 September 2018, the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs announced that its financial contributions towards poor and fragile countries through the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) will be increased by EUR1 billion in 2019.²⁰²² Two of the AFD's five foundational commitments made for the 2018-2022 period are non-sovereign first and partnership by design. Non-sovereign first is the recognition that non-sovereign entities such as foundations, companies, and financial institutions have a role to play in development. The AFD will make it an objective to dedicate more funding to non-sovereign entities. Partnership by design is a commitment to working with partners, and the AFD will ensure systematic openness to all potential partners.²⁰²³

On 3 October 2018, French development finance institution Proparco and German development finance institution DEG signed a USD150 million credit facility to the Mauritius Commercial Bank Limited. This action will finance long-term corporate and infrastructure projects in Mauritius and sub-Saharan Africa.²⁰²⁴

On 25 October 2018, the French Development Agency signed an memorandum of understanding with the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank). The goal of the memorandum is to support Afrximbank in its mandate to promote intra and extra trade along with climate finance on the African continent.²⁰²⁵

On 8 November 2018, Proparco signed a EUR150 million loan to Nachtigal Hydro Power Company, which will be used to finance the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of a 420 MW run-of-river hydropower plant in Cameroon.²⁰²⁶

On 22 November 2018, Proparco announced a USD18 million credit line granted to Fransabank. Fransabank, a leading Lebanese bank, will use the credit line to support Lebanese small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and corporations in difficulty.²⁰²⁷

On 27 November 2018, Proparco signed three credit facilities that will contribute to the development of renewable energies and small agri-business in Central America. Proparco granted a USD20 million loan to the Latin American Agribusiness Development Corporation. Around 40

²⁰²² Development aid set to increase by EUR1bn in 2019, Gouvernement.fr (Paris) 3 September 2018. Access Date: 2 November 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/development-aid-set-to-increase-by-eu1bn-in-2019>

²⁰²³ Factsheet: Strategy AFD 2018-2022 synthesis, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 3 September 2018. Access Date: 9 October 2018. <https://www.afd.fr/en/afd-group-2018-2022-strategy>

²⁰²⁴ Proparco and DEG sign a US\$150 Million Loan to the Mauritius Commercial Bank Limited to Support Corporate and Infrastructure Projects in Africa, Groupe l'agence française de développement (Paris) 3 October 2018. Access Date: 28 December 2018. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/proparco-and-deg-sign-us150-million-loan-mauritius-commercial-bank-limited-support-corporate-and>

²⁰²⁵ AFD AND AFREXIMBANK Signed a Memorandum of Understanding for a Partnership to Promote Intra-African Trade and Climate Finance, Agence française de développement (Paris) 25 October 2018. Access Date: 24 June 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/afd-and-afreximbank-partnership-promote-intra-african-trade-and-climate-finance>

²⁰²⁶ Cameroon: AFD Group Signs a ERU 150M Financing Agreement for the Construction of the Nachtigal Hydropower Plant, Groupe l'agence française de développement (Paris) 8 November 2018. Access Date: 28 December 2018. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/cameroon-afd-group-signs-eur-150m-financing-agreement-construction-nachtigal-hydropower-plant>

²⁰²⁷ Proparco and Fransabank Strengthen Their Collaboration in Favor of Lebanese Companies, Groupe l'agence française de développement (Paris) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 28 December 2018. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/proparco-and-fransabank-strengthen-their-collaboration-favor-lebanese-companies>

agricultural SMEs in Mexico will benefit from this new funding.²⁰²⁸ Proparco also granted a USD28 million loan to the French solar and wind energy specialist Neoen to construct a 140MTWp solar power plant in El Salvador.²⁰²⁹ Finally, Proparco provided a 35 million loan to Banco Ficohsa, Honduras' largest bank. This amount will provide loans to renewable energy projects in the country.²⁰³⁰

On 28 November 2018, President Emmanuel Macron and Romanian President Klaus Iohannis signed a strategic partnership agreement on the development of economic cooperation, transport and energy efficiency, culture, and education by 2022. Both countries committed to stepping up their bilateral dialogue on European affairs and fostering international cooperation in areas such as defense, security, and technological innovation.²⁰³¹

On 6 December 2018, the Government of France pledged EUR400 million in development funding, aid, and security to the European Union's EUR1.3 billion project on G5 Sahel priorities in Africa.²⁰³² As part of France's commitment to the Priority Investment Programme, this investment aims to improve living conditions, build resilience in agricultural production, and foster economic development within states that are currently under conditions of insecurity and impoverishment.²⁰³³

On 9 December 2018, Proparco signed a USD5.8 million investment in the first closing for the Sawari Ventures North Africa Fund I. This fund will invest in around 25 fast-growing start-ups in Egypt, Morocco, and Tunisia.²⁰³⁴

On 12 December 2018, Proparco arranged a USD30 million senior debt facility to support Uganda's second largest bank, DFCU Bank. The funds will be used to bridge long-term financing gaps for SMEs.²⁰³⁵

On 28 January 2019, President Emmanuel Macron met with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah-al-Sisi to finalize an intergovernmental agreement for a EUR336 million soft loan, a EUR286 million grant, and a EUR50 million commercial loan. These funds will finance the fourth phase of the third metro line, linking Cairo International Airport with Heliopolis Square. The French Agency for

²⁰²⁸ Proparco Grants \$83M to Support Renewable Energies and Small Agri-Businesses in Central America, Groupe l'agence française de développement (Paris) 27 November 2018. Access Date: 28 December 2018. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/proparco-grants-83m-support-renewable-energies-and-small-agri-businesses-central-america>

²⁰²⁹ Proparco Grants \$83M to Support Renewable Energies and Small Agri-Businesses in Central America, Groupe l'agence française de développement (Paris) 27 November 2018. Access Date: 28 December 2018. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/proparco-grants-83m-support-renewable-energies-and-small-agri-businesses-central-america>

²⁰³⁰ Proparco Grants \$83M to Support Renewable Energies and Small Agri-Businesses in Central America, Groupe l'agence française de développement (Paris) 27 November 2018. Access Date: 28 December 2018. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/proparco-grants-83m-support-renewable-energies-and-small-agri-businesses-central-america>

²⁰³¹ Iohannis, Macron sign political statement on Strategic Partnership, Act Media (Romania) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. <https://www.actmedia.eu/daily/iohannis-macron-sign-political-statement-on-strategic-partnership/78570>

²⁰³² The European Union's partnership with the G5 Sahel countries, European Commission (Brussels) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-18-6670_en.htm

²⁰³³ EU, France announce \$1.5bn in aid for African Sahel, Aljazeera (Qatar) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/12/eu-france-announce-15bn-aid-african-sahel-181206120109665.html>

²⁰³⁴ Proparco Invests in the Development of Start-Ups in North Africa, Groupe l'agence française de développement (Paris) 9 December 2018. Access Date: 28 December 2018. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/proparco-Sawari>

²⁰³⁵ USD 30 Million Granted to dfcu Bank to Support SMEs in Uganda, Groupe l'agence française de développement (Paris) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 28 December 2018. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/usd-30-million-granted-dfcu-bank-support-smes-uganda>

Development (FAD) will further secure EUR6 million to support social security, and both countries agreed to move ahead with a strategic partnership on socio-economic development for 2030.²⁰³⁶

On 15 February 2019, on behalf of French Guiana, the French government adopted a declaration to mobilize climate change finance at the High-Forest/Low-Deforestation Conference on Climate Finance Mobilization, convened by the government of Suriname and organized by the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank, the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the Food and Agriculture Organization, and the Inter American Development Bank. The declaration aims to increase global cooperation and mobilize world leaders to maintain forest cover and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.²⁰³⁷

On 22 February 2019, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian met with Audrey Azoulay, the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The Minister affirmed France's full support for cooperation with UNESCO's priorities. At the meeting, Le Drain also announced a EUR5 million contribution to UNESCO to support programs and projects related to the education of girls in Africa.²⁰³⁸

On 13 March 2019, President Emanuel Macron announced the launch of Choose Africa, a EUR2.5 billion commitment to support African entrepreneurship and innovation. Choose Africa will finance the specific needs of businesses through loans granted to financial institutions in Africa. The loans will be earmarked for small and medium-sized enterprise lending or guarantees for banks to share the associated SME risk. Choose Africa will also provide technical and strategic support to local financial partners and SMEs.²⁰³⁹

On 9 June 2019, Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire attended a G20 ministerial meeting in Fukuoka, Japan to discuss international policies against global growth disruptions. The meeting, which focused on trade-related topics, aimed to reaffirm the global commitment of leveraging policy tools to achieve strong, sustainable, and inclusive growth.²⁰⁴⁰

France has improved its capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development through the AFD and has fostered new international development partnerships.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sunny Wang

²⁰³⁶ Strategic partnership, loan endorsed by Egypt, France, Egypt Today (Cairo) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.egypttoday.com/Article/2/63990/Strategic-partnership-loans-endorsed-by-Egypt-France>

²⁰³⁷ HFLD Nations Call for Climate Finance for Forests, SDG Knowledge Hub, 26 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/hfld-nations-call-for-climate-finance-for-forests/>

²⁰³⁸ United Nations - Meeting between Jean-Yves Le Drian and the director-general of UNESCO, France Diplomatie (Paris) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/events/events-2018/article/united-nations-meeting-between-jean-yves-le-drian-and-the-director-general-of>

²⁰³⁹ In Nairobi, Emmanuel Macron Announced the Launch of Choose Africa, EUR2.5 Billion Committed Until 2022 to Accelerate the Growth of SMEs in Africa, Groupe l'agence française de développement (Paris) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 24 June 2019. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/nairobi-emmanuel-macron-announced-launch-choose-africa-eur-25-billion-committed-until-2022>

²⁰⁴⁰ G-20 finance officials pledge to protect global growth, The Canadian Press (Toronto) 9 June 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://chatnewstoday.ca/article/598746/g-20-finance-officials-pledge-protect-global-growth>

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to foster new international development partnerships and foster the capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development, with particular attention to inclusive growth.

On 10 June 2018, Germany contributed to a Canadian-led CAD3.8 billion investment alongside Canada, the European Union, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the World Bank to “support quality education for women and girls living in crisis, conflict-affected and fragile states.”²⁰⁴¹

On 16 September 2018, Germany announced that it will provide EUR1.1 million for the implementation of the Support to Community Stabilisation and Resilience project in Ukhia and Teknaf upazilas of Cox’s Bazar. The project will be a joint effort between the United Nations Development Programme and the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. This project will establish community security and gender-responsive policing in a district under pressure from the Rohingya crisis.²⁰⁴²

On 3 October 2018, German development finance institution DEG and French development finance institution Proparco signed a USD150 million credit facility to the Mauritius Commercial Bank Limited. This action will finance long-term corporate and infrastructure projects in Mauritius and sub-Saharan Africa.²⁰⁴³

On 12 October 2018, the World Bank, Germany, and the United Kingdom announced a USD145 million Global Risk Financing Facility, which will “help government access risk financing and insurance solutions to mobilize effective response and prepare better for climate and disaster shocks.”²⁰⁴⁴

On 16 October 2018, the German Development Bank KfW launched the Clean Oceans Initiative, supported by the German Government, the European Investment Bank and the French Development Bank.²⁰⁴⁵ The EUR2 billion initiative will reduce marine pollution by providing support and financial structures to waste management projects and market development for recycling plastics. Its operations will focus on areas in developing regions in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East.²⁰⁴⁶

²⁰⁴¹ Prime Minister concludes successful G7 Summit focused on creating economic growth that benefits everyone, Prime Minister’s Office (Ottawa) 10 June 2018. Access Date: 8 October 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/prime-minister-concludes-successful-g7-summit-focused-on-creating-economic-growth-that-benefits-everyone-685080361.html>

²⁰⁴² Germany to support UNDP and UN Women efforts for community stabilization and resilience in Cox’s Bazar, United Nations Development Programme Bangladesh (Dhaka) 16 September 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. http://www.bd.undp.org/content/bangladesh/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2018/09/16/Germany_UNDP_signs_community_stabilization_resilience_Cox_deal.html

²⁰⁴³ Proparco and DEG sign a US\$150 Million Loan to the Mauritius Commercial Bank Limited to Support Corporate and Infrastructure Projects in Africa, Groupe l’agence française de développement (Paris) 3 October 2018. Access Date: 28 December 2018. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/proparco-and-deg-sign-us150-million-loan-mauritius-commercial-bank-limited-support-corporate-and>

²⁰⁴⁴ World Bank Group, Germany and UK Launch \$145 Million Financing Facility to Support Earlier Action on Climate and Disaster Shocks, The World Bank (Washington/Bali) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/10/12/world-bank-group-germany-and-uk-launch-145-million-financing-facility-to-support-earlier-action-on-climate-and-disaster-shocks>

²⁰⁴⁵ The world’s major climate financiers launch two billion Euro initiative, Germany Information Centre (Berlin) 16 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://germanyinafrica.diplo.de/zadz-en/-/2148850>

²⁰⁴⁶ The world’s major climate financiers launch two billion Euro initiative, Germany Information Centre (Berlin) 16 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://germanyinafrica.diplo.de/zadz-en/-/2148850>

On 29 November 2018, the Society for International Cooperation (GIZ) launched an initiative for sustainable cobalt mining in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in cooperation with several private firms.²⁰⁴⁷ This project aims to improve working conditions for employees of local mining sites and foster sustainable supply chains.²⁰⁴⁸

On 9 January 2019, the Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development Gerd Muller announced that Malawi is set to receive EUR58 million for development programmes. The grant will go towards establishing an Agricultural Innovation Centre, which will enhance agricultural production and marketing. The funds will also go towards the health sector to help fight HIV and Aids.²⁰⁴⁹

On 6 February 2019, Germany granted Morocco over EUR300 million for sustainable development. The funds will go towards projects in renewable energy, electric power, water supply, storage in rural areas and desalination of seawater.²⁰⁵⁰

On 27 February 2019, the German government committed EUR5 million towards “improving public health, advancing rural development and moving forward on decentralization” in Cambodia.²⁰⁵¹

On 16 May 2019, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development signed an agreement with Indonesia that focuses on the development of “effective governance, technical and vocational education and training (TVET) and the protection of the environment and biodiversity.”²⁰⁵² The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development also granted EUR37 million in funding to other projects lead by Indonesian government agencies.²⁰⁵³

On 17 May 2019, Germany committed EUR58.6 million to the development of rural infrastructure, health and social programs in Cambodia.²⁰⁵⁴ Of the EUR58.6 million, EUR28.6 million will go towards rural infrastructure. With commitments from France and the European Union, this funding is expected to rise to USD90 million.²⁰⁵⁵

On 6 June 2019, the German Development Bank KfW accounted Africa Connect, a program that finances German and European companies engaged in developmentally, ecologically, and socially

²⁰⁴⁷ BMW Group, BASF SE, Samsung SDI and Samsung Electronics launch cross-industry project to enhance sustainable cobalt mining, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH (Berlin) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <https://www.giz.de/en/press/72347.html>

²⁰⁴⁸ BMW Group, BASF SE, Samsung SDI and Samsung Electronics launch cross-industry project to enhance sustainable cobalt mining, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH (Berlin) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <https://www.giz.de/en/press/72347.html>

²⁰⁴⁹ Germany commits €58 Mln euros to Malawi, African Daily Voice (Casablanca) 9 January 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://africandailyvoice.com/en/2019/01/09/germany-commits-58-million-euros-to-malawi/>

²⁰⁵⁰ Germany Grants Morocco over €300 Mln for Sustainable Development, the North Africa Post (Morocco) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <http://northafricapost.com/27757-germany-grants-morocco-over-e300-mln-for-sustainable-development.html>

²⁰⁵¹ Germany donates €5 Mln to boost local services, The Phnom Penh Post (Phnom Penh) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/germany-donates-eu5m-boost-local-services>

²⁰⁵² RI, Germany ink Deals on human development, Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 16 May 2019. Access Date: 3 June 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/05/16/ri-germany-ink-deals-human-development.html>

²⁰⁵³ RI, Germany ink Deals on human development, Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 16 May 2019. Access Date: 3 June 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/05/16/ri-germany-ink-deals-human-development.html>

²⁰⁵⁴ Germany to provide Cambodia \$66M in loans, grants for infrastructure, poverty reduction, VOA Cambodia (Washington, D.C.) 17 May 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://www.voacambodia.com/a/germany-to-provide-cambodia-66m-in-loans-grants-for-infrastructure-poverty-reduction/4920662.html>

²⁰⁵⁵ Germany to provide Cambodia \$66M in loans, grants for infrastructure, poverty reduction, VOA Cambodia (Washington, D.C.) 17 May 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://www.voacambodia.com/a/germany-to-provide-cambodia-66m-in-loans-grants-for-infrastructure-poverty-reduction/4920662.html>

sustainable investment in Africa. The loan amount can range between EUR750,000 to EUR4 million with maturities of three to seven years. Companies will also benefit from a special model of risk sharing.²⁰⁵⁶

Germany has fostered new international development partnerships with particular attention to inclusive growth, and it has fostered the capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Jawad Ramal

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to foster new international development partnerships and foster the capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development, with particular attention to inclusive growth.

On 25 June 2018, the Ambassador to Ethiopia Arthoro Luzzi and Ethiopian Minister of Finance and Economic Cooperation Admasu Nebebe signed a EUR30 million loan agreement. The loan will support the implementation of the Inclusive and Sustainable Development of Agricultural Value Chain project.²⁰⁵⁷ This capital will also be used to advance inclusive and sustainable agricultural value chains of industrial tomato and wheat production in Oromia, as well as avocado and pineapple in the Southern Nation, Nationalities, and Peoples Region. Next year, Italy will provide an additional EUR22 million in loans to finance the development of industrial parks in these two regions.²⁰⁵⁸

From 20 August 2018 to 7 September 2018, an Italian Carabinieri delegation organized two training courses for the Uganda Police Force in Masindi, Uganda.²⁰⁵⁹ These courses provided instruction on counter-terrorism and environmental crime, including anti-poaching and international trafficking.²⁰⁶⁰

On 28 September 2018, Minister of Foreign Affairs Enzo Moavero Milanese met with the Foreign Minister of Ethiopia Workneh Gebeyehu and the Foreign Minister of Eritrea Osman Saleh. Minister Milanese affirmed Italy's active support of the 16 September 2017 peace agreement between Ethiopia and Eritrea.²⁰⁶¹ He also announced Italy's interest in supporting cooperation and stimulating economic growth, sustainable development, and human capital through educational and vocational

²⁰⁵⁶ AfricaConnect: New financing offer for German companies (Cologne) 6 June 2019. Access Date: 24 June 2019. https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details_526784-2.html

²⁰⁵⁷ Ethiopia, Italy sign €30 million loan agreement, Africanews (Pointe-Noire) 23 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <http://www.africanews.com/2018/06/23/ethiopia-italy-sign-30-million-loan-agreement/>

²⁰⁵⁸ Ethiopia, Italy sign €30 million loan agreement, Africanews (Pointe-Noire) 23 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <http://www.africanews.com/2018/06/23/ethiopia-italy-sign-30-million-loan-agreement/>

²⁰⁵⁹ Cooperation of the Italian Carabinieri with Uganda Police Force, Farnesina (Rome) 7 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018.

https://ambkampala.esteri.it/ambasciata_kampala/en/ambasciata/news/dall_ambasciata/2018/09/cooperazione-dell-arma-dei-carabinieri.html

²⁰⁶⁰ Cooperation of the Italian Carabinieri with Uganda Police Force, Farnesina (Rome) 7 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018.

https://ambkampala.esteri.it/ambasciata_kampala/en/ambasciata/news/dall_ambasciata/2018/09/cooperazione-dell-arma-dei-carabinieri.html

²⁰⁶¹ Minister Moavero meets with the Foreign Ministers of Ethiopia and Eritrea, Farnesina (Rome) 28 September 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/incontro-del-ministro-moavero-con-i-ministri-degli-esteri-di-etiopia-e-eritrea.html

training programs.²⁰⁶² On 11 October 2018, Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte visited Ethiopia to reaffirm Italian support for the peace process.²⁰⁶³ This assurance was reiterated by Prime Minister Conte to Eritrea on 12 October 2018.²⁰⁶⁴

On 25 October 2018, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation signed a Letter of Intent with the African Union Commission and RES4Africa to reinforce their partnership in implementing the “Renewable Energy Capacity Building Programme: A Proposal for Africa.”²⁰⁶⁵ The partnership aims to facilitate the implementation of renewable energy in Africa through investment in infrastructure, integration with development objectives, and regional training and knowledge-building.²⁰⁶⁶ On 7 December 2018, The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) launched a project to assist Syrian Families in Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon with their economic empowerment.²⁰⁶⁷ The project will also apart of Oxfam initiatives that aim to improve development solutions for social cooperatives and assist with microcredits.²⁰⁶⁸

On 7 December 2018, AICS launched a project to assist Syrian Families in Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon with their economic empowerment.²⁰⁶⁹ The project will also apart of Oxfam initiatives that aim to improve development solutions for social cooperatives and assist with microcredits.²⁰⁷⁰

On 27 January 2019, the Director General Giorgio Marrapodi of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation signed an agreement which will provide EUR4.5 million for sustainable development projects in Mozambique and Tunisia. The project in Mozambique is intend to promote value chain development while the Tunisian project, which is also co-funded by the European Union, will focus on “artisan and design value chains to create jobs and economic opportunities for vulnerable populations, especially women.”²⁰⁷¹

On 8 May 2019, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Enzo Moavero Milanesi and Vietnamese Foreign Minister Pham Binh Minh agreed to initiate development projects in

²⁰⁶² Minister Moavero meets with the Foreign Ministers of Ethiopia and Eritrea, Farnesina (Rome) 28 September 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/incontro-del-ministro-moavero-con-i-ministri-degli-esteri-di-etioopia-e-eritrea.html

²⁰⁶³ Ethiopia: Migration On Agenda As Italy PM Visits Ethiopia, Eritrea, AllAfrica (Cape Town) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201810120387.html>

²⁰⁶⁴ Italy's PM Visits Eritrea to Pursue 'Rapport' With Leader, The New York Times (New York) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2018/10/12/world/africa/ap-af-eritrea-italy.html>

²⁰⁶⁵ Africa Union Commission, Italy and RES4Africa sign Letter of Intent on Energy Cooperation, African Union (Addis Adaba) 31 October 201. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://au.int/en/pressreleases/20181031/african-union-commission-italy-and-res4africa-sign-letter-intent-energy>

²⁰⁶⁶ Africa Union Commission, Italy and RES4Africa sign Letter of Intent on Energy Cooperation, African Union (Addis Adaba) 31 October 201. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://au.int/en/pressreleases/20181031/african-union-commission-italy-and-res4africa-sign-letter-intent-energy>

²⁰⁶⁷ Italy Launches project for Syria refugees in Middle East, Info Migrants (Italy) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/13780/italy-launches-project-for-syrian-refugees-in-middle-east>

²⁰⁶⁸ Italy Launches project for Syria refugees in Middle East, Info Migrants (Italy) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/13780/italy-launches-project-for-syrian-refugees-in-middle-east>

²⁰⁶⁹ Italy Launches project for Syria refugees in Middle East, Info Migrants (Italy) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/13780/italy-launches-project-for-syrian-refugees-in-middle-east>

²⁰⁷⁰ Italy Launches project for Syria refugees in Middle East, Info Migrants (Italy) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/13780/italy-launches-project-for-syrian-refugees-in-middle-east>

²⁰⁷¹ Italy to contribute EUR5.8 Mllion to three new UNIDO projects in Africa and MENA region, UNIDO (Vienna) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 8 March 2019. <https://www.unido.org/news/italy-contribute-eur-58-million-three-new-unido-projects-africa-and-mena-region>

Vietnam. The projects will focus on “vocational training, environment, water management, healthcare and support for small and medium-sized businesses.”²⁰⁷²

On 15-17 May 2019, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Agency for Development Cooperation and the National Development Bank Cassa Depositi and Prestiti jointly supported the organization of EXCO 2019 in Rome, the first global expo with the purpose of enhancing development cooperation.²⁰⁷³ The event fostered multi-stakeholder partnerships with an emphasis on the role of private sector entities and business partnerships in sustainable development.²⁰⁷⁴

Italy has continued its active involvement and fostered new international development partnerships. Italy has also increased its capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable development through hosting platforms of international development finance cooperation.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Jawad Ramal

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to foster new international development partnerships and foster the capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development, with particular attention to inclusive growth.

On 10 June 2018, Japan contributed to a Canadian-led CAD3.8 billion investment alongside Canada, the European Union, Germany, the United Kingdom, and the World Bank to “support quality education for women and girls living in crisis, conflict-affected and fragile states.”²⁰⁷⁵

On 20 June 2018, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed a memorandum of cooperation with the Pratham Education Foundation and the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL). JICA, Pratham and J-PAL will work coordinately to “improve literacy and numeracy abilities among children in developing countries.”²⁰⁷⁶

On 12 July 2018, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) signed loan agreements with the Government of Turkmenistan on buyer’s credit (export loan) totalling up to approximately JPY 7.8 billion and USD 91 million (JBIC portion), respectively. Co-financed with Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation and ING Bank N.V., Tokyo Branch, these loans reached a total of “approximately JPY 13.1 billion and USD 152 million, with Nippon Export and Investment

²⁰⁷² VN, Italy build new development orientation, Vietnam News (Ha Noi) 8 May 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://vietnamnews.vn/politics-laws/519582/vn-italy-build-new-development-orientation.html#avtkOWH6zWEz79Li.97>

²⁰⁷³ EXCO 2019, Chiesi Foundation (Parma) 21 May 2019. Access Date: 21 August 2019. www.chiesifoundation.org/en/exco-2019/.

²⁰⁷⁴ EXCO 2019, Chiesi Foundation (Parma) 21 May 2019. Access Date: 21 August 2019. www.chiesifoundation.org/en/exco-2019/.

²⁰⁷⁵ Prime Minister concludes successful G7 Summit focused on creating economic growth that benefits everyone, Prime Minister’s Office (Ottawa) 10 June 2018. Access Date: 8 October 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/prime-minister-concludes-successful-g7-summit-focused-on-creating-economic-growth-that-benefits-everyone-685080361.html>

²⁰⁷⁶ Bringing Learning to the Children of the World: Memorandum of cooperation signed with an Indian non-governmental organization and a research center based at MIT, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/low/news/press/2018/180621_02.html

Insurance (NEXI) providing insurance for the portion co-financed by the two private-sector banks.”²⁰⁷⁷

On 27 July 2018, JBIC signed a loan agreement amounting to approximately USD 467 million (JBIC portion) to finance long-term floating production storage and offloading (FPSO) vessel chartering services of Petróleo Brasileiro S.A. (Petrobras), a state-owned oil company in Brazil. The loan is co-financed with several private companies, and the total co-financing amount reached approximately USD 995 million. “This loan will lead to the strengthening of the international competitiveness of Japanese companies in offshore resource development by helping them acquire and improve technologies, management practices, and know-how regarding the operation of FPSO systems.”²⁰⁷⁸

On 30 July 2018, at the Indo-Pacific Business Forum, leaders from JBIC, the American’s Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC), and the Australian government announced a trilateral partnership to invest in infrastructure projects in the Indo-Pacific region. JBIC committed to mobilizing investment in infrastructure, and “attract more private capital to achieve greater results” through this partnership.²⁰⁷⁹

On 27 September 2018, JICA signed a “memorandum of cooperation with OPIC, agreeing to promote mutual co-financing of the private sector in developing countries.” Given that OPIC has been a development finance institution with extensive operations, JICA sought to expand financial support for the private sector in project formation in developing countries.²⁰⁸⁰

On 6-7 October 2018, the Government of Japan, the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and the African Union Commission co-organized the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) Ministerial Meeting.²⁰⁸¹ Throughout the meeting, Minister for Foreign Affairs Taro Kono emphasized the importance of “strong partnership between governments, private sector, financial institutions, civil society organizations [civil society organizations], and development partners,” and reaffirmed Japan’s determination to continue promoting sustainable development in Africa through TICAD.²⁰⁸²

On 16 October 2018, JICA launched a new program titled the Development Studies Program with the goal of sharing Japan’s experience in modernization with young leaders from developing countries. This program aims to host 2,000 participants, primarily through master’s degree programs

²⁰⁷⁷ Buyer’s Credit for Government of Turkmenistan Supporting Export of Gas-Fired Power Plant Facility to Turkmen State Power Corporation by Japanese Companies, Japan Bank For International Cooperation (Tokyo) 13 July 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/0713-011158.html>

²⁰⁷⁸ Project Financing for FPSO Operation Project of the Mero Oil Field in the Libra Block, Brazil, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 30 July 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/0730-011246.html>

²⁰⁷⁹ US-Japan-Australia Announce Trilateral Partnership for Indo-Pacific Infrastructure Investment, OPIC (Washington) 30 July 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://www.opic.gov/press-releases/2018/us-japan-australia-announce-trilateral-partnership-indo-pacific-infrastructure-investment>

²⁰⁸⁰ Signing of Memorandum of Cooperation with OPIC: Promoting Japan-US bilateral DFI cofinancing for the private sector, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180927_01.html

²⁰⁸¹ Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) Ministerial Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 2 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002180.html

²⁰⁸² Remarks by H.E. Taro KONO, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, at the Closing Session of the TICAD Ministerial Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 7 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/page4e_000922.html

in the next five years, in order to “encourage them to apply their knowledge to the development of their own countries.”²⁰⁸³

On 18 October 2018, JBIC signed a loan agreement with Indonesian companies PT Jawa Satu Power and PT Jawa Satu Regas for the Jawa 1 Gas-to-Power Project in Indonesia. The loan is co-financed by Mizuho Bank, Ltd., MUFG Bank, Ltd. and other banks. The co-financed amount totals USD1.312 billion. This agreement is a part of the JBIC’s newly launched Global Facility to Promote Quality Infrastructure Investment for Environmental Preservation and Sustainable Growth.²⁰⁸⁴

On 9 November 2018, JICA signed a grant agreement with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Bangkok to provide aid totalling JPY1.095 billion for the Project for Enhancing Rural Livelihoods through Improved Irrigation Facilities in Bamyan, Kabul, and the Kapisa provinces. This project aims to improve agricultural productivity and access to agricultural water by rehabilitating and expanding irrigation facilities.²⁰⁸⁵

On 28 November 2018, JBIC signed a loan agreement with British corporation Moray Offshore Windfarm (East) Limited, providing a total of GBP743 million for the Moray East offshore wind power generation project in the United Kingdom. This financial support is part of JBIC’s policy towards promoting quality infrastructure investment for environmental preservation and sustainable growth.²⁰⁸⁶

On 29 November 2018, JBIC signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Corporación Andina de Fomento, a regional development finance institution consisting of 19 shareholder countries primarily from Latin America and the Caribbean. The MOU aimed to promote the development of natural resources and infrastructure in Argentina, and it was signed during Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s participation in the G20 summit in Buenos Aires, Argentina.²⁰⁸⁷

On 29 November 2018, JBIC signed a general agreement with the Banco de la Nación Argentina, the largest commercial bank in Argentina, to finance the provision of an export credit line totalling USD36 million (JBIC portion). Private sector financial institutions will co-finance the loan through Nippon Export and Investment Insurance, and the total co-financing amount will reach USD60 million.²⁰⁸⁸

On 4 December 2018, JICA signed a grant agreement with the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) to provide aid totalling JPY 1.009 billion for the Project for Infectious Diseases Prevention for Children. This project aims to provide “vaccines needed for routine immunization

²⁰⁸³ 'Japan's Modernization Experience as a Legacy for the World' Part 1: 'JICA Development Studies Program' Launched, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 16 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2018/181016_01.html

²⁰⁸⁴ Project Financing for Jawa 1 Gas-to-Power Project in Indonesia, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/1022-011485.html>

²⁰⁸⁵ Signing of Grant Agreement with FAO for Afghanistan: Contributing to improvements in agricultural productivity by constructing and rehabilitating irrigation infrastructure, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 12 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/low/news/press/2018/181112_01.html

²⁰⁸⁶ Project Financing for Moray East Offshore Wind Power Generation Project in the U.K., Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/1129-011637.html>

²⁰⁸⁷ JBIC Signs MOU on Business Cooperation with CAF, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/1203-011647.html>

²⁰⁸⁸ Export Credit Line for Banco de la Nación Argentina, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/1203-011643.html>

against various infectious diseases and for polio vaccination campaigns planned in Afghanistan in 2019.”²⁰⁸⁹

On 18 December 2018, JBIC signed a USD 47 million (JBIC portion) loan agreement with with Yangon Museum Development Pte. Ltd., a Singaporean subsidiary of Tokyo Tatemono Co., Ltd., and Fujita Corporation that was jointly established with the Japan Overseas Infrastructure Investment Corporation for Transport & Urban Development. This project will benefit Japanese companies expanding in Myanmar by maintaining and enhancing their international competitiveness. Additionally, by incorporating the Building Energy Management System, this project will contribute to the efficient use of energy.²⁰⁹⁰

On 15 January 2019, JBIC signed an agreement in the JB Nordic Fund for equity participation. The fund is a joint venture capital fund established in Luxembourg, and the fund intends to invest in advanced IT companies in the Nordic and Baltic region. The Fund will launch with an amount of approximately EUR100 million, and JBIC plans to invest up to EUR40 million. The fund offers sustainable support for Japanese companies operating overseas by inviting them to participate as strategic investors.²⁰⁹¹

On 26 February 2019, JICA signed a memorandum of cooperation (MOC) with Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, an international organization that brings public and private sectors together with the goal of improving access to vaccines for children. The MOC aims to invite private industry and generate innovative scientific ideas in the vaccine and immunization sectors in developing countries. JICA and Gavi will continue to work toward the SDG of achieving “good health and well-being” for all.²⁰⁹²

On 6 March 2019, JBIC signed a MOU with Petróleos Mexicanos (PEMEX), the Mexican state-owned petroleum company. The MOU aims to enhance cooperation between JBIC and PEMEX in the field of oil, natural gas and energy-related infrastructure by holding periodic discussions in the long-term. The MOU also encourages Japanese companies to participate in upstream development and oil refinery upgrading projects affiliated with PEMEX in Mexico.²⁰⁹³

On 14 March 2019, JBIC announced an investment equivalent to a maximum of JPY500 million for the Vietnam Rare Elements Chemical Joint Stock Company. The investment was jointly funded alongside Daichi Kigenso Kagaku Kogyo Co., Ltd. This investment is intended to support VREC’s stable provision of zirconium oxychloride, a strategic mineral resource.²⁰⁹⁴

²⁰⁸⁹ Signing of Grant Agreement with UNICEF for Afghanistan: Contributing to stronger infectious diseases prevention through a partnership with UNICEF, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/low/news/press/2018/181204_02.html

²⁰⁹⁰ Loan for Mixed Use Development Project by Japanese Company in Myanmar, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/1218-011714.html>

²⁰⁹¹ Equity Participation in Fund that Invests in Advanced IT Companies in the Nordic and Baltic Region, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 15 January 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/0115-011752.html>

²⁰⁹² Protecting People around the World from Infectious Diseases through Immunization: JICA signs Memorandum of Cooperation with Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/low/news/press/2018/190301_01.html

²⁰⁹³ JBIC Signs MOU with Petróleos Mexicanos, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/0313-011955.html>

²⁰⁹⁴ Equity Participation in Vietnam Rare Elements Chemical Joint Stock Company, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/0314-011959.html>

On 24 May 2019, JBIC committed to establishing an export credit line for the Eastern and Southern African Trade and Development Bank, totalling USD210 million. The loan is co-financed alongside private financial institutions, which increased the total amount of credit to USD350 million. This credit line aims to financially support the expanded supply of machinery and equipment in 22 countries, mainly in Sub-Saharan Africa.²⁰⁹⁵

On 3 June 2019, JICA signed an MOC to develop a strategic partnership with Sihanoukville Autonomous Port in Cambodia. This port is the only deep-sea port in Cambodia, and this strategic partnership will promote logistic upgrading for the socio-economic development of Cambodia.²⁰⁹⁶

Japan has fostered new international development partnerships and the capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development, with particular attention to inclusive growth.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Minghan Sun

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to foster new international development partnerships and foster the capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development, with particular attention to inclusive growth.

On 10 June 2018, the UK contributed to a Canadian-led CAD3.8 billion investment alongside Canada, the European Union, Japan, Germany, and the World Bank to “support quality education for women and girls living in crisis, conflict-affected and fragile states.”²⁰⁹⁷

On 17 July 2018, the Department for International Development (DFID) awarded Welsh charity Bees for Development with GBP 50,000 through the Small Charities Challenge Fund, which supports and celebrates the work of small UK-based charities in some of the world’s poorest countries. Bees for Development will use this fund to train and initiate new businesses for beekeepers in the Amhara region of Ethiopia, offering young people without access to land a viable income-earning opportunity at very low start-up costs.²⁰⁹⁸

On 30 July 2018, the Minister for International Development, Alistair Burt, announced a fund of GBP 2.7 million to Mercy Corps, an Edinburgh charity, to support life-saving work in Yemen. This fund aims to help Yemenis gain access to food, water, medicine, and other essential needs.²⁰⁹⁹

²⁰⁹⁵ Export Credit Line for Eastern and Southern African Trade and Development Bank, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2019/0527-012202.html>

²⁰⁹⁶ Signing of Memorandum of Cooperation on Strategic Partnership with Sihanoukville Autonomous Port : Promotion of Port Development and Logistics Facilitation in Cambodia, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 4 June 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20190604_10_en.html

²⁰⁹⁷ Prime Minister concludes successful G7 Summit focused on creating economic growth that benefits everyone, Prime Minister’s Office (Ottawa) 10 June 2018. Access Date: 8 October 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/prime-minister-concludes-successful-g7-summit-focused-on-creating-economic-growth-that-benefits-everyone-685080361.html>

²⁰⁹⁸ UK aid helps Welsh charity to train Ethiopian beekeepers, United Kingdom Government (London) 27 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-helps-welsh-charity-to-train-ethiopian-beekeepers>

²⁰⁹⁹ Funding boost for Scottish charity working in Yemen, United Kingdom Government (London) 30 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/funding-boost-for-scottish-charity-working-in-yemen>

On 28 August 2018, Minister for Africa at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Department for International Development Harriet Baldwin announced in Ghana that the UK's GBP20 million Jobs and Economic Transformation Programme will help create over 15,000 jobs for Ghanaians. The program is expected to facilitate over GBP 50 million of additional private sector investment.²¹⁰⁰

On 28 August 2018, Prime Minister Theresa May announced in Cape Town an additional GBP 4 billion of direct UK government investment, which is expected to be matched by the private sector.²¹⁰¹

On 29 August 2018, Minister Baldwin announced a new aid program through the Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund to support the growth of innovative solar technology companies that are providing clean energy to off-grid households in Africa.²¹⁰²

On 29 August 2018, Prime Minister May announced in Lagos that the new "LINKS" program of GBP 70 million will support the growth of innovative companies in Nigeria's northern states, and attract investment and create 100,000 new jobs.²¹⁰³

On 30 August 2018, Prime Minister May announced a new aid program through DFID. The new program will support family planning services and vocational skills training across Africa. The aid program includes support for girls who have dropped out of school due to early marriage or gender-based violence and supports their efforts to regain education and access safe contraception.²¹⁰⁴

On 22 September 2018, the International Development Secretary Priti Patel announced at the United Nations General Assembly that the Work and Opportunities for Women program, a new partnership between the government and private sector, will help the world's poorest and most marginalized women gain access to better job opportunities and improved working conditions.²¹⁰⁵

On 25 September 2018, Prime Minister May joined the United Nations General Assembly in New York to convene investors, businesses and young African business leaders. May called on attendees to invest in Africa for job creation and to unlock the potential of the private sector.²¹⁰⁶

²¹⁰⁰ UK Minister for Africa visits Ghana to show support for Ghana's vision to move beyond aid. United Kingdom (London) 29 August 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-minister-for-africa-visits-ghana-to-show-support-for-ghanas-vision-to-move-beyond-aid>

²¹⁰¹ Theresa May pledges Africa investment boost after Brexit, BBC (Cape Town) 28 August 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-45325701>

²¹⁰² British expertise boosts innovative solar technologies across Africa, United Kingdom Government (London) 29 August 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-expertise-boosts-innovative-solar-technologies-across-africa>

²¹⁰³ UK boosts innovative business in Nigeria's poorest states to improve incomes for 3 million people. United Kingdom Government (London) 29 August 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-boosts-innovative-business-in-nigerias-poorest-states-to-improve-incomes-for-3-million-people>

²¹⁰⁴ UK announces major investments in future of African youth through education and voluntary family planning United Kingdom Government (London) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-major-investments-in-future-of-african-youth-through-education-and-voluntary-family-planning>

²¹⁰⁵ UK and private sector to help the world's poorest women into better jobs. United Kingdom Government (London) 22 September 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-private-sector-to-help-the-worlds-poorest-women-into-better-jobs>

²¹⁰⁶ Prime Minister takes message on investment in Africa to the UN. United Kingdom Government (London) 25 September 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-takes-message-on-investment-in-africa-to-the-un>

On 12 October 2018, the World Bank, Germany, and the United Kingdom announced a USD145 million Global Risk Financing Facility (GRiF). GRiF will “help government access risk financing and insurance solutions to mobilize effective response and prepare better for climate and disaster shocks.”²¹⁰⁷

On 9 November 2018, Minister of State for Trade and Export Promotion Baroness Fairhead announced EUR450 million in UK Export Finance (UKEF) funding for British firms. This fund will support the construction of three new hospitals and upgrade two power stations, in order to improve the healthcare and power provision in Angola. EUR380 million of the funding will support a contract between Angola’s Ministry of Health and the construction firm ASGC UK. UKEF also provided a EUR70 million loan to the Angolan Ministry of Finance for the project contract with IQA Group, which will update the two aforementioned power stations.²¹⁰⁸

On 29 November 2018, Prime Minister Theresa May announced a new long-term commitment alongside Jordan that will provide GBP60 million to improving education, creating jobs and boosting Jordan’s long-term economic resilience.²¹⁰⁹

On 29 January 2019, Minister for the Middle East Alistair Burt announced a new aid package to help Iraq rebuild vital infrastructure including houses, schools and hospitals. This package will also assist the Iraqi government in carrying out vital reforms to unlock the country’s economic potential. In addition, Minister Burt also announced immediate humanitarian support for 1.8 million displaced Iraqis.²¹¹⁰

On 21 February 2019, Minister of State for Africa Harriet Baldwin signed a new strategic partnership with the African Union to invest up to GBP30 million in prosperity and security projects across Africa. The funding will be used to train peacekeepers in Kenya, assist free and fair elections, and support the next phase of negotiations for the African Continental Free Trade Area.²¹¹¹

On 7 March 2019, Minister of State for Africa Harriet Baldwin announced funding to support private and corporate access to affordable clean energy. This additional aid will be used to support research into new ways of storing energy in developing countries, and provide further funding to the Energy Catalyst Challenge fund, which helps start-ups develop new renewable technologies such as solar and bioenergy initiatives.²¹¹²

²¹⁰⁷ World Bank Group, Germany and UK Launch \$145 Million Financing Facility to Support Earlier Action on Climate and Disaster Shocks, The World Bank (Washington/Bali) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018.

<https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/10/12/world-bank-group-germany-and-uk-launch-145-million-financing-facility-to-support-earlier-action-on-climate-and-disaster-shocks>

²¹⁰⁸ UKEF supports Angolan healthcare and power infrastructure development. United Kingdom Government (London) 9 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukef-supports-angolan-healthcare-and-power-infrastructure-development>

²¹⁰⁹ UK set to agree new long-term partnership to bolster Jordan’s economic resilience. Department for International Development (London). 29 November 2018. Access Date: March 7 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-set-to-agree-new-long-term-partnership-to-bolster-jordans-economic-resilience>

²¹¹⁰ Minister for the Middle East announces new UK aid package to help Iraq rebuild infrastructure and boost economy. Department for International Development (London) 29 January 2019. Access Date: March 7 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/minister-for-the-middle-east-announces-new-uk-aid-package-to-help-iraq-rebuild-infrastructure-and-boost-economy>

²¹¹¹ UK to invest up to £30m through partnership with African Union. Department for International Development (London) 21 February 2019. Access Date: March 7 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-invest-up-to-30m-through-partnership-with-african-union>

²¹¹² UK aid to give clean energy boost to Africa. Department for International Development (London) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-give-clean-energy-boost-to-africa>

The United Kingdom has fostered new international development partnerships, and capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development, with particular attention to inclusive growth.

Thus, the United Kingdom receive a score of +1.

Analyst: Jamie Huiyi Chen

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to foster new international development partnerships and foster the capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development, with particular attention to inclusive growth.

On 19 June 2018, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) signed a formal partnership with Malteser International. This new partnership will seek to provide medical assistance and resources to countries in the Americas, the Middle East, and Africa affected by conflict or natural disasters. The US will work to familiarize itself with these communities through regional-level activities to reinforce the capacity of the medical sector.²¹¹³

On 27 June 2018, Power Africa, a U.S. government-led partnership coordinated by USAID, announced its new Gas Roadmap to 2030 strategy. This roadmap outlines a plan to implement 16,000 megawatts of gas-fired power generation in nine countries in Sub-Saharan Africa by 2030. The plan expects and estimates the investments of U.S. private companies to amount to USD 175 billion, which will serve to help fund the initiative.²¹¹⁴

On 6 July 2018, the Department of Commerce, in partnership with the President’s Advisory Council on Doing Business in Africa, released a memorandum announcing over USD 1 billion in private sector deals with Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, and Cote D’Ivoire. These cooperation agreements seek to ensure aid-based economies transform into trade-based economies that are capable of long-term and sustainable growth. The U.S. will mobilize its private sector by establishing forums to address and resolve business climate issues and provide these companies with the information necessary to ensure long-term investment and further sustainable economic growth.²¹¹⁵

On 10 July 2018, Power Africa signed a formal partnership with the Babcock & Wilcox Company (B&W). This new partnership joins over 70 US-based private sector partners and pledges to develop

²¹¹³ U.S. Agency for International Development Administrator Mark Green’s Remarks During a Signing Ceremony for a Memorandum of Understanding with Malteser International Americas, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jun-19-2018-usaid-administrator-mark-green-remarks-signing-ceremony-mou-malteser-international-americas?fbclid=IwAR2_omJZxDkt6V-vp1zxyZQIQ9bypPb-Qg0hHda938Rc5FZhCTQFIMF4bZA

²¹¹⁴ Power Africa Announces Gas Roadmap to 2030 at World Gas Conference, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 27 June 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jun-27-2018-power-africa-announces-gas-roadmap-2030-world-gas-conference?fbclid=IwAR2-GDml-0HpOFbXPGx_ijEfG0mulcYymb_aSs61xBPSJrGNa8WzbPynGUE

²¹¹⁵ U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross, President’s Advisory Council on Doing Business in Africa, Announce \$1 Billion in Deals during Africa Mission, Department of Commerce (Washington) 20 July 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2018/07/us-secretary-commerce-wilbur-ross-presidents-advisory-council-doing>

4,560 megawatts of coal, solar, and biomass power across sub-Saharan Africa through mutually beneficial and sustainable energy-development to continue the Gas Roadmap to 2030 strategy.²¹¹⁶

On 17 July 2018, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Better Utilization of Investments Leading to Development (BUILD) Act of 2018.²¹¹⁷ This bill combines the Overseas Private Investment Corporation and other development finance programs to establish the new United States International Development Finance Corporation (USDFC), an institution that will seek to better develop U.S. economic capabilities and ensure growth in emerging markets. The USDFC will work with private sector capital and skills to further the long-term development of low-income international economies.²¹¹⁸ The BUILD Act of 2018 was passed by the Senate on 3 October 2018.²¹¹⁹

On 26 July 2018, USAID announced the 2018 Progress Snapshot for Feed the Future, a global strategy working with 48 Feed the Future partner countries to reduce world hunger. USAID will partner with OPIC and 60 US-based companies, in an effort to encourage private sector investment in the agriculture sector of the strategy's target regions to reduce food shortage. The strategy makes clear that investments can be provided in the form of monetary support, technological resources, or information-sharing.²¹²⁰

On 14 September 2018, USAID released the US Government Strategy on International Basic Education for Fiscal Years 2019-2023. This strategy involves partnerships with 98 countries facing challenges to the growth of their education sector and seeks to share US government data, research, practices, and technical expertise with partner governments. The strategy also outlines a framework to involve public-private partnerships by engaging the private sector, promising to mobilize future private sector capital.²¹²¹

On 9 October 2018, USAID announced three new partnerships, respectively with Ethical Apparel Africa in the Republic of Ghana, with Junior Achievement Worldwide for activities in the Republic of Ecuador and the Dominican Republic, and with the Conservation Council of Nations. These

²¹¹⁶ Power Africa Signs New Partner on Midwest Tour, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 13 July 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jul-13-2018-power-africa-signs-new-partner-midwest-tour>

²¹¹⁷ H.R.5105 — BUILD Act of 2018, Congress (Washington) 17 July 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/5105>

²¹¹⁸ Statement from the Press Secretary on H.R. 5105/S. 2463, the Better Utilization of Investments Leading to Development (BUILD) Act of 2018, The White House (Washington) 17 July 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/statement-press-secretary-h-r-5105-s-2463-better-utilization-investments-leading-development-build-act-2018/>

²¹¹⁹ President and CEO Washburne Statement as BUILD Act Heads to President's Desk, Overseas Private Investment Corporation (Washington) 3 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.opic.gov/press-releases/2018/opic-president-and-ceo-washburne-statement-build-act-heads-presidents-desk>

²¹²⁰ Statement by U.S. Agency for International Development Spokesperson Clayton M. McCleskey on the Launch of the 2018 Feed the Future Progress Snapshot, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 26 July 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jul-26-2018-usaid-statement-launch-2018-feed-the-future-progress-snapshot?fbclid=IwAR2ljVPvd3S2ea9A_r_llywqbvqSuyXqMhbKQgKfRAM8HWEle8wGvTbm_Co

²¹²¹ U.S. Government Education Strategy, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 14 September 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.usaid.gov/education/usg-strategy>

partnerships will mobilize skilled volunteers to provide long-term and short-term support in the areas of female entrepreneurship and economic training.²¹²²

On 11 October 2018, President Donald Trump signed the Global Food Security Reauthorization Act into law, committing government agencies to further the Feed the Future world hunger strategy by providing resources needed to support smallholder farmers and economies suffering from food shortage.²¹²³

On 11 October 2018, USAID signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Knights of Columbus to foster new partnerships in communities in the Middle East recovering from genocide. USAID will work to continue expanding its partner base, and this MOU outlines measures to seek additional private sector partners to advance recovery initiatives within these regions. This initiative pays particular attention to those who suffered persecution under the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria. This partnership also seeks to advance pluralism within these identified populations.²¹²⁴

On 14 November 2018, USAID launched the Sustainable Trade Initiative (IDH) Farmfit Fund in the Netherlands, in cooperation with Queen Maxima of the Netherlands, 600 CEOs, ministers, financiers, NGOs, and other experts. The IDH Farmfit fund collaborates with the private sector to co-create and co-invest in smallholder farmer value-chain financing.²¹²⁵

On 15 November 2018, USAID announced the 2018 USAID Education Policy, a global strategy to ensure that more youth, particularly girls, have the opportunity to gain an education. The policy pledges direct finances towards the strengthening of local institutional capacity and educational quality in target countries. USAID has made commitments to consider a number of investments in the private sector and will look towards Country Roadmaps to inform their dialogue with multiple private corporations in order to increase their financial capacity.²¹²⁶

On 18 November 2018, Vice President Mike Pence announced the launch of the Papua New Guinea Electrification Partnership between the U.S., Australia, Japan, and Papua New Guinea. This partnership aims to bring electricity to 70 percent of the people of Papua New Guinea by the year 2030.²¹²⁷ It involves large-scale investment by both public and private sectors, and the finances will

²¹²² USAID Announces Partnerships to Mobilize Volunteers to Advance Prosperity, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 9 October 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/oct-9-2018-usaid-announces-partnerships-mobilize-volunteers-advance-prosperity>

²¹²³ Statement by Administrator Mark Green on the Reauthorization of the Global Food Security Act, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/oct-12-2018-administrator-green-reauthorization-global-food-security-act?fbclid=IwAR3Ws85CCqmG7kdcWgg3DdPdapSKucoI4EgBxkO63ecnUUycd1WfivUkHyE>

²¹²⁴ Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding Between USAID and Knights of Columbus, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/oct-12-2018-signing-memorandum-understanding-between-usaid-and-knights-columbus?fbclid=IwAR16IYId6gpaWkF6SShN8SYPPAO5vDO2_dQlGQlHdQv_zlFXfSka7Eg5dY

²¹²⁵ USAID Assistant to the Administrator Beth Dunford Travels to the Netherlands to Participate in the Launch of the IDH Farmfit Fund, United States Agency for International Development (Washington), 14 November 2018. Access Date: 24 November 2018. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/nov-14-2018-usaid-assistant-to-administrator-beth-dunford-travels-netherlands>

²¹²⁶ USAID Releases New Education Policy, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/nov-15-2018-usaid-releases-new-education-policy>

²¹²⁷ Remarks by Vice President Pence at Announcement of the Papua New Guinea Electrification Partnership, The White House (Washington) 18 November 2018. Access Date: 24 November 2018. https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/remarks-vice-president-pence-announcement-papua-new-guinea-electrification-partnership/?fbclid=IwAR16DV4mNeLfg2a3e_NkYzwe_9O6VBUTuWqZm1wzPecExX0Hj1VZGNHto8U

contribute to new energy generation capacity, as well as transmission and distribution lines to connect households, service providers, and businesses to the grid.²¹²⁸

On 18 November 2018, in partnership with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperation, the White House announced the Indo-Pacific Transparency Initiative. The initiative is intended to help countries attract private sector growth and private investments. The US allocated USD400 million to this initiative, seeking to improve the security of regional institutions.²¹²⁹

On 12 December 2018, USAID Administrator Mark Green delivered remarks at the American Enterprise Institute, highlighting USAID's new Price-Sector Engagement Policy.²¹³⁰ Administrator Green outlined the ways the agency will expand collaboration with the private sector significantly in order to prioritize enterprise-driven development and embrace market-based approaches as a sustainable way to support countries and communities in achieving development.²¹³¹

On 13 December 2018, the White House, in partnership with several private organizations, announced its "Prosper Africa" initiative which will increase trade and employment opportunities to support Africa's middle class. The initiative aims to develop the continent's private sector, with particular attention to supporting the growth of open markets.²¹³²

On 14 February 2019, USAID Administrator Mark Green met with Colombian President Iván Duque at the Blair House in Washington, D.C. They discussed the importance of further collaboration on security and property initiatives. Notably, Administrator Green and President Duque discussed USAID partnerships with the private sector to support rural development and illicit economic opportunities to promote sustainable and inclusive peace.²¹³³

On 21 February 2019, the governments of the United States and Lao PDR officially launched an intellectual property web portal at the Ministry of Science and Technology in Vientiane. They were joined by more than 70 representatives from the government and the private sector. The intellectual

²¹²⁸ The Papua New Guinea Electrification Partnership, United States Embassy in Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu (Port Moresby) 18 November 2018. Access Date: 24 November 2018. <https://pg.usembassy.gov/the-papua-new-guinea-electrification-partnership/>

²¹²⁹ President Trump's Administration is Advancing a Free and Open Indo-Pacific Through Investments and Partnerships in Economics, Security, and Governance, The White House (Washington) 18 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-trumps-administration-advancing-free-open-indo-pacific-investments-partnerships-economics-security-governance/?fbclid=IwAR3ys_79LAGb5vNTEKUhsi77ZLtBENxoMigIRSL50KJYolhiQI6EuCzAMYc

²¹³⁰ USAID Administrator Mark Green to Deliver Remarks on a New USAID Private Sector Engagement Policy at the American Enterprise Institute, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 11 December 2018. Date of access: 17 February 2019. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/dec-11-2018-usaid-mark-green-deliver-remarks-new-usaid-private-sector-engagement-policy>

²¹³¹ U.S. Agency for International Development Administrator Mark Green Panel Discussion on the Launch of USAID's New Private Sector Engagement Policy, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 12 December 2018. Date of access: 17 February 2019. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/dec-12-2018-administrator-green-panel-launch-private-sector-engagement-policy>

²¹³² President Donald J. Trump's Africa Strategy Advances Prosperity, Security, and Stability, The White House (Washington) 13 December 2018. Date of access: 17 February 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trumps-africa-strategy-advances-prosperity-security-stability/>

²¹³³ USAID Administrator Mark Green's Meeting With Colombian President Iván Duque, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/feb-15-2019-administrator-green-meeting-colombian-president-ivan-duque>

property web portal will allow users to learn about intellectual property protections and contribute to encouraging entrepreneurship and investment in Laos.²¹³⁴

On 24-26 February 2019, USAID Deputy Administrator Bonnie Glick attended the 5th Annual Powering Africa Summit in Miami, Florida. At the summit, Deputy Administrator Glick discussed USAID's commitment to energy development in Africa through Power Africa's private sector partnership model.²¹³⁵

On 26 February 2019, USAID Mission Director Sherry F. Carlin announced the partnership of three leading universities in Egypt (Ain Shams University, Cairo University, American University in Cairo) with three American universities (Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cornell University, Alexandria University) to create Centres of Excellence in energy, water, and agriculture. The three Centers are supported by an investment of USD90 million through USAID. This academic network will establish linkages between Egyptian and American researchers and experts, and drive research and innovation in the private sectors of both countries.²¹³⁶

On 18 March 2019, alongside Brazil's office for the Ministry of Environment, USAID signed a Letter of Intent to launch an investment fund aimed at continuing conservation efforts within the Brazilian Amazon. The fund of an estimated USD100 million will be largely financed by the private sector, and it will seek to invest in sectors that contribute to the continuation of biodiversity conservation.²¹³⁷

On 14 May 2019, USAID hosted a workshop in the Kurdistan region of Iraq to announce USAID's New Partnership Initiative with 30 Iraqi organizations. The project aims to support the private sector in recovering markets that have suffered from economic stagnation. The initiative also aims to aid communities affected by the violence perpetrated by the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria.²¹³⁸

On 4 June 2019, USAID announced its partnership with OPIC to provide USD25 million in investment to the Women's World Banking Asset Management, a project with aims to increase women's economic empowerment in developing markets. The fund will seek to mobilize commercial investment in regions where women are underfunded, specifically in Africa, the Middle East and the Indo-Pacific. The initiative will provide women in these regions with the opportunity to access loans, learn to develop credit, build savings and purchase insurance. Through working to increase women's access to the financial sector, this initiative seeks to stimulate sustainable economic development.²¹³⁹

²¹³⁴ United States and Laos Launch New Intellectual Property Web Portal, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.usaid.gov/laos/press-releases/feb-21-2019-united-states-and-laos-launch-new-intellectual-property-web-portal>

²¹³⁵ USAID Deputy Administrator Bonnie Glick Travels to Miami, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/feb-22-2018-deputy-administrator-bonnie-glick-travels-miami>

²¹³⁶ USAID Funds Partnerships between Leading Egyptian and American Universities, United States Embassy and Consulate in Egypt (Cairo) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://eg.usembassy.gov/usaids-funds-partnerships-between-leading-egyptian-and-american-universities/>

²¹³⁷ United States and Brazil to Partner in First-Ever Private Sector Driven Biodiversity Focused Impact Investment Fund for the Brazilian Amazon, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/united-states-and-brazil-partner-first-ever-private-sector-driven>

²¹³⁸ USAID Launches New Partnerships Initiative in Iraq, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 14 May 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/may-31-2019-usaid-launches-new-partnerships-initiative-iraq>

²¹³⁹ U.S. Government Blended-Finance Fund to Empower Women in Developing Markets, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 4 June 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jun-4-2019-usaid-deputy-administrator-bonnie-glick-opic-acting-president-and-ceo-bohigian-launch-partnership-womens-world-banking-asset-management>

On 5 June 2019, in partnership with Circulate Capital, an impact investment firm, USAID invested USD35 million to help mobilize private investment that will combat plastic pollution in oceans in the Indo-pacific region. The partnership has already received more than USD100 million in private sector contributions, and the funds will assist in creating new business opportunities and strengthen the capacity of the private sector.²¹⁴⁰

On 7 June 2019, USAID and PepsiCo signed a Memorandum of Understanding to create a formal partnership which seeks to invest in underserved communities around the world. The partnership will invest in programs to address food and water sustainability, and it will also finance projects that empower women in these communities. The memorandum also highlights the intent to increase engagement in the private sector to ensure long-term and sustainable development.²¹⁴¹

The United States has taken efforts to foster new international development partnerships, and capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development, with particular attention to inclusive growth.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ikeran Jama

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to foster new international development partnerships and foster the capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development, with particular attention to inclusive growth.

On 10 June 2018, the EU contributed to a Canadian-led CAD3.8 billion investment alongside Canada, the United Kingdom, Japan, Germany, and the World Bank to “support quality education for women and girls living in crisis, conflict-affected and fragile states.”²¹⁴²

On 14 June 2018, the European Commission proposed to increase its external action budget to EUR123 billion. The Commission’s proposal includes an investment framework for external action, first introduced in September 2017, which will “help raise and leverage additional financial resource for sustainable development from the private sector.”²¹⁴³ It does so by integrating financial instruments such as guarantees, risk-sharing instruments, and the blending of grants and loans into more traditional forms of assistance.²¹⁴⁴

²¹⁴⁰ USAID Announced Private-Sector Partnership to Combat Plastic Pollution in the Ocean, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 5 June 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jun-5-2019-usaid-announces-private-sector-partnership-combat-plastic-pollution>

²¹⁴¹ USAID Administrator Mark Green and PepsiCo Leaders Announce Global Partnership, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 7 June 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jun-7-2019-usaid-administrator-mark-green-and-pepsico-leaders-announce-global>

²¹⁴² Prime Minister concludes successful G7 Summit focused on creating economic growth that benefits everyone, Prime Minister’s Office (Ottawa) 10 June 2018. Access Date: 8 October 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/prime-minister-concludes-successful-g7-summit-focused-on-creating-economic-growth-that-benefits-everyone-685080361.html>

²¹⁴³ EU budget: Making the EU fit for its role as strong global actor, European Commission (Brussels) 14 June 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4086_en.htm

²¹⁴⁴ EU-Morocco partnership: first investments in Morocco under the European External Investment Plan to increase business opportunities, enhancing job creation, private sector development and inclusive growth, European Commission (Brussels) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4190_en.htm

On 19 June 2018, the EU extended the EU External Investment Plan to Morocco. This plan will help leverage significant private funds in key sectors of Morocco's economy, which will, in turn, encourage local entrepreneurship and job creation in the country.²¹⁴⁵

On 10 July 2018, the EU mobilized a package of financial guarantee programmes worth EUR800 million under the External Investment Plan. This package is intended to help leverage EUR8 to 9 billion in public and private investment in Africa and neighbouring European countries. The guarantee programmes enable affordable loans for small-scale entrepreneurship and access to new technologies, particularly for refugees and migrants. The financial package will also support much-needed investment in sustainable development and job creation, especially in Africa.²¹⁴⁶

On 23 August 2018, the EU announced a EUR18 million package in support of sustainable economic and social development projects in the Islamic Republic of Iran, including EUR8 million of assistance to the private sector. The assistance will include technical assistance and support for high-potential Iranian enterprises.²¹⁴⁷

On 12 September 2018, the EU created the Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs, a new plan to increase investment, strengthen trade, create jobs, and invest in education and skills in Africa. The plan will increase the de-risking of investment projects through blending grants and loans, investing in education and skills, and improving the business environment by strengthening dialogue between African partners. The initiative expects to generate more employment opportunities, skills development, access to electricity, and investment in infrastructure and business.²¹⁴⁸ The new platform will unite public, private and financial operators as well as academia from Africa and Europe to attract and promote sustainable energy in Africa.²¹⁴⁹

On 11 October 2018, the EU pledged to grant EUR100 million to a new bio-economical investment platform known as Circular Bioeconomy Thematic Investment Platform. This grant aims to strengthen and promote the sustainable use of renewable resources to address global challenges such as climate change and sustainable development, while also implementing an EU-wide monitoring system to track progress towards a sustainable and circular bio-economy.²¹⁵⁰

On 19 October 2018, the EU partnered with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to contribute EUR54 million to strengthening diagnostic health services in Sub-Saharan Africa under the External Investment Plan. The majority of this fund will be used to leverage private investment aimed at promoting inclusive growth and creating jobs. The fund will also enable private investment in the health sector, where investments are much needed to meet the health needs of the population. The

²¹⁴⁵ EU-Morocco partnership: first investments in Morocco under the European External Investment Plan to increase business opportunities, enhancing job creation, private sector development and inclusive growth, European Commission (Brussels) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4190_en.htm

²¹⁴⁶ The EU's External Investment Plan: first projects in Africa and the Neighbourhood, European Commission (Brussels) 11 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4385_en.htm

²¹⁴⁷ European Commission adopts support package for Iran, with a focus on the private sector, European Commission (Brussels) 23 August 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-5103_en.htm

²¹⁴⁸ State of the Union 2018: Towards a new 'Africa — Europe Alliance' to deepen economic relations and boost investment and jobs, European Commission (Brussels) 12 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-5702_en.htm

²¹⁴⁹ Africa-Europe Alliance: boosting sustainable energy investments in Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 8 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6313_en.htm

²¹⁵⁰ A new bioeconomy strategy for a sustainable Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 11 October 2018. Access Date: October 19, 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6067_en.htm

remaining fund will be used to incentivise research and innovation and invest in technical assistance.²¹⁵¹

On 8 November 2018, the European Union, the African Development Bank, and the African Union organized by the new “Africa — Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs” to “substantially boost investment in Africa, strengthen trade, create jobs, and invest in education and skills.”²¹⁵² The new platform will unite public, private and financial operators as well as academia from Africa and Europe to attract and promote sustainable private investments towards sustainable energy in Africa.

On 23 November 2018, the EU made available a set of regional programmes worth over EUR88 million to support the private sector, trade, and investment in Central Asia, which will specifically benefit Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. EUR31.2 million will go towards promoting job creation by supporting the role that the private sector and trade are involved in sustainable development, while the EU will invest an additional EUR20 million to the Investment Facility for Central Asia (IFCA) and EUR10 million to for the 'Accelerate Prosperity' project.²¹⁵³

On 3 December 2018, the European Investment Bank signed a EUR10 million financing agreement with Latvian electronic system development and manufacturing company HansaMatrix, the first direct financing to a private company in Latvia. The financing will support HansaMatrix's expansion of its manufacturing strategy and the ongoing shift from manufacturing to offering a full range of services. The financing will also help the company grow its research and development activities.²¹⁵⁴

On 20 December 2018, the EU announced EUR73.3 million to support the living conditions in East Jerusalem and to promote economic development in the occupied Palestinian territory. EUR29.9 million will go towards the promotion of “productive investments” in Gaza and improve economic conditions specifically in Area C of the West Bank.²¹⁵⁵

On 15 February 2019, the EU provided EUR45 million to the new Agri-Business Capital (ABC) Fund, which will deliver financial support to small and medium-sized agribusinesses in rural Africa. Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven Mimica stated that the fund will play a role in “boosting agri-business investments, strengthening livelihoods and creating sustainable jobs in rural areas [in Africa].” The ABC fund aims to reduce investment risks and attract private investors by providing small-scale loans to small enterprises and farmer organizations, as well as providing indirect investment to local financial institutions for lending and loans.²¹⁵⁶

On 4 April 2019, the EU mobilized an additional EUR115.5 million under the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa to strengthen security and economic development opportunities in the Sahel and Lake Chad region. Of the five new programmes established, EUR5 million of the fund will be

²¹⁵¹ EU and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation join forces to support health services in Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 18 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6135_en.htm

²¹⁵² Africa-Europe Alliance: boosting sustainable energy investments in Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 8 November 2018. Access Date: December 7, 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6313_en.htm

²¹⁵³ EU to promote sustainable development in Central Asia with €124 million, European Commission (Brussels) 23 November 2018. Access Date: February 26, 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6525_en.htm

²¹⁵⁴ First direct support to private company in Latvia under the Juncker Plan through EFSI financing to manufacturer HansaMatrix, European Commission (Brussels) 3 December 2018. Access Date: December 7, 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-6649_en.htm

²¹⁵⁵ EU reaffirms strong commitment to support for Palestine refugees and for Palestine's socio-economic development, European Commission (Brussels) 20 December 2018. Access Date: February 27, 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6854_en.htm

²¹⁵⁶ EU provides €45 million in support for smallholder agri-businesses in rural Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1068_en.htm

directed towards capacity-building and investment in equipment in Ghana. EUR20 million will be allocated to improve employment opportunities, support sustainable development, and encourage the transition towards climate-resilient economies. EUR13 million will be provided to promote job creation in fragile security areas in Mali.²¹⁵⁷

On 12 April 2019, the EU made available EUR4.2 million to help banks in Africa and countries to the east and south of the EU region. This fund will facilitate financing for small and underfinanced sectors. The new programme aims to encourage local banks to lend and provide sources of financing for small businesses in low-income countries or fragile and conflict-affected countries, women, or young entrepreneurs. Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven Mimica stated that the programme aims to support around 50,000 small businesses and assist in creating up to 200,000 jobs.²¹⁵⁸

On 12 April 2019, in cooperation with the International Monetary Fund, the EU announced its EUR10 million contribution in technical assistance and capacity-building to countries in West and Central Africa. The fund will provide training to businesses and help improve investment prospects, boost regional integration, and support economic governance reforms in African partner countries.²¹⁵⁹

On 17 April, the EU committed to four mutually reinforcing partnership goals - prosperity, democracy, resilience, and effective global governance - in its political partnership with Latin America and the Caribbean. The EU aims to encourage sustainable growth, improve job prospects, alleviate socio-economic inequalities, and transition towards a technological, climate-resilient and circular economy. The EU also strives to further strengthen the trade and investment partnership with countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.²¹⁶⁰

The EU has fostered new international development partnerships and the capacity to mobilize sector investments for sustainable development, with a special focus on inclusive growth.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Nicole Shi

²¹⁵⁷ EU Trust Fund for Africa: €115.5 million to enhance security, migrant protection and job creation in the Sahel region, European Commission (Brussels) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 6 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1890_en.htm

²¹⁵⁸ EU to facilitate financing for small businesses in Africa and the European Neighbourhood, European Commission (Washington) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 6 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2112_en.htm

²¹⁵⁹ Africa-Europe Alliance: EU invests €10 million to improve business climate in West and Central Africa, European Commission (Washington) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 6 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2111_en.htm

²¹⁶⁰ EU, Latin America and the Caribbean: Partnering for prosperity, democracy, resilience and global governance, European Commission (Brussels) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 6 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2137_en.htm

9. Gender: Development Finance

“Supporting development finance programs that strive to advance women’s economic empowerment and gender equality while promoting mutually reinforcing economic prosperity and stability in partner countries, including by providing access to capital that enhance economic opportunities for women.”

G7 Charlevoix Leaders’ Communiqué

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France		0	
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan	-1		
United Kingdom			+1
United States of America			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.50	

Background

There have been many commitments made at G7 summits aimed at promoting women’s rights as well as women’s economic and employment equality.²¹⁶¹ Addressing gender equality first came on the G7 agenda at the 2010 Muskoka Summit, where members committed to addressing gender inequality for women and girls in education.²¹⁶² Gender equality went off the summit agenda until the 2014 Brussels summit. On 5 June 2014, G7 leaders stated that employment and participation of women was a priority within the ambitious and comprehensive growth strategies in the global economy with the goal to create a resilient economy.²¹⁶³ The feature was a component of the overall strategy and growth plan to enhance the economy.²¹⁶⁴

At the Schloss Elmau Summit, on 8 June 2015, the G7 countries committed to supporting women’s entrepreneurship.²¹⁶⁵ The G7 leaders highlighted the strength of women’s entrepreneurship as a driver in innovation, growth, and jobs.²¹⁶⁶ Such strength was being limited by the barriers facing women in starting and growing businesses.²¹⁶⁷ This included “mak[ing] girls and women aware of the possibility of becoming entrepreneurs.”²¹⁶⁸ Leaders further stated: “we will address the specific needs

²¹⁶¹ G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 June 2014. Date of access: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>.

²¹⁶² Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2010. Date of access: 23 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>.

²¹⁶³ G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 June 2014. Date of access: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>.

²¹⁶⁴ G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 June 2014. Date of access: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>.

²¹⁶⁵ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Date of access: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

²¹⁶⁶ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Date of access: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

²¹⁶⁷ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Date of access: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

²¹⁶⁸ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Date of access: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

of women entrepreneurs, e.g. by promoting their access to finance, markets, skills, leadership opportunities, and networks.”²¹⁶⁹

Gender equality and women’s empowerment was highlighted under Japan’s presidency at the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit.²¹⁷⁰ On 27 May 2016, the G7 leaders committed to “create a society where all women and girls are empowered and actively engage for sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth.”²¹⁷¹ The commitment also pledged to “empower women and girls, including through capacity-building such as education and training as well as promoting the active role of women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields.”²¹⁷² The *G7 Guiding Principles for Building the Capacity of Women and Girls* were created.²¹⁷³

Attention to gender equality continued at the 2017 G7 Taormina Summit. On 27 May 2017, the G7 leaders committed to “mainstreaming gender equality in all our policies.”²¹⁷⁴ Such mainstreaming of gender equality in all policies led to the first *G7 Roadmap for a Gender-Responsive Economic Environment*.²¹⁷⁵

On 9 June 2018, G7 members endorsed the *Charlevoix Commitment on Equality and Economic Growth*, which is an encompassing commitment to work together to maximize the economic prosperity of all citizens.²¹⁷⁶ The G7 members also indicated the value of development and assistance that promotes greater equality of opportunity, gender equality and prioritizes the most vulnerable to work.²¹⁷⁷

Commitment Features

The G7 member agreed to “support ... development finance programs that strive to advance women’s economic empowerment and gender equality while promoting mutually reinforcing economic prosperity and stability in partner countries, including by providing access to capital that enhances economic opportunities for women.”

The first component of the commitment is “supporting development [of] finance programs.” These finance programs must also “strive to advance women’s economic empowerment and gender equality.” “Support” is understood to mean “the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity.”²¹⁷⁸ Strive is defined as “to devote serious effort or energy.” Development is defined as “the process of economic and social transformation that is based on

²¹⁶⁹ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Date of access: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

²¹⁷⁰ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Date of Access: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>.

²¹⁷¹ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Date of Access: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>.

²¹⁷² G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Date of Access: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>.

²¹⁷³ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Date of Access: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>.

²¹⁷⁴ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Date of Access: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>.

²¹⁷⁵ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Date of Access: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>.

²¹⁷⁶ Charlevoix Commitment on Equality and Economic Growth, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Date of access: 23 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/growth-commitment.html>.

²¹⁷⁷ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Date of access: 23 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

²¹⁷⁸ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at Trinity College (Toronto) 2 May 2016. Access Date: 26 August 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>.

complex cultural and environmental factors and their interactions.” To advance is “move or push forward, make progress, give active support to, promote, cause an event to occur at an earlier date.”²¹⁷⁹ This commitment continues by stating that while G7 members support the development of finance programs for gender balance, they will also “promote mutually reinforcing economic prosperity and stability in partner countries.” Finance programs are defined as “providing financial resources to finance a need, program, or project.” In order to achieve this goal G7 members will “provide ... access to capital [to] enhance economic opportunities for women.” Thus, while there are two parts to this commitment, the second part is connected to the first part by the conjunction “while,” suggesting that the first more general part on supporting the development of finance programs for gender equality is the intended core of this commitment.

The development of finance programs can be achieved by providing financing to a program being led by an international organization. For full compliance, it must be evident that the financing will support the development of financing programs and/or including access to capital. “Support” could also include a relevant policy initiative or program that fulfils the welfare target of the commitment. regarding gender equality and women’s economic empowerment.

Access is “the right to obtain or make use of the entity in reference.”²¹⁸⁰ Capital is “relating to or being assets that add to the long-term net worth of a corporation.” “Access to capital” signifies providing access to capital to women in the pursuit of enhancing economic opportunities for women to promote gender equality and economic empowerment. Members must demonstrate the specific allocation of capital to be accessed by women for the purpose of enhancing economic opportunities. To promote is to “support or renew old efforts or create new efforts in the area and should not have to have to be a brand-new initiative but contribute to growth or prosperity of, to help bring into being.”²¹⁸¹ Support requires “aid” while promote may not require an actual financial contribution. Examples of compliance for access to capital could be creating a capital fund for women to start personal businesses or any sort of entrepreneurial venture. Another example could be accessing capital for mothers to have childminding in order to aid them in getting back into the workforce to enhance their economic earning opportunities.

In scoring compliance greater weight will be given to the fulfillment of the first part of the commitment. Moreover, it is noted that should the G7 member promote greater access to capital for women, this could count as supporting the development of a financing program to advance women’s economic empowerment and gender equality.

To achieve full compliance, G7 member countries must take action according to both parts of the commitment by supporting development finance programs while also promoting mutually reinforcing economic prosperity and stability in partner countries specifically by providing access to capital. The G7 member must promote mutually reinforcing economic prosperity and stability in partner countries through access to capital to receive a score of +1.

Partial compliance will be awarded if only the first part of the commitment is met but there is no promotion of mutually reinforcing economic prosperity and stability in partner countries specifically

²¹⁷⁹ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at Trinity College (Toronto) 2 May 2016. Access Date: 26 August 2018.
<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>.

²¹⁸⁰ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at Trinity College (Toronto) 2 May 2016. Access Date: 26 August 2018.
<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>.

²¹⁸¹ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at Trinity College (Toronto) 2 May 2016. Access Date: 26 August 2018.
<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>.

by providing access to capital. A score of no compliance will be accorded only with no demonstrable compliance to any part of the commitment.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member does NOT take any efforts to support the development of finance programs that strive to advance women’s economic empowerment and gender equality AND does not promote mutually reinforcing economic prosperity and stability in partner countries, including by providing access to capital that enhances economic opportunities for women.
0	G7 member has taken efforts to support the development of finance programs that strive to advance women’s economic empowerment and gender equality but HAS NOT has taken efforts in promoting mutually reinforcing economic prosperity and stability in partner countries, including by providing access to capital that enhances economic opportunities for women.
+1	G7 member has taken efforts to support the development of finance programs that strive to advance women’s economic empowerment and gender equality AND has taken efforts in promoting mutually reinforcing economic prosperity and stability in partner countries, including by providing access to capital that enhances economic opportunities for women.

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Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to support development finance programs that advance women’s economic empowerment, whilst also reinforcing economic prosperity in partner countries, including through the provision of access to capital for women.

On 29 June 2018, Minister of Finance Bill Morneau announced that he would become an International Gender Champion (IGC), led by the United Nations to unite international leaders in support of gender equality.²¹⁸² As an IGC, Minister Morneau supports the IGC Panel Parity Pledge to no longer sit on single-sex panels.²¹⁸³ Additionally, he made two individualized commitments: 1) to pursue gender budgeting and 2) to achieve gender parity in Canadian appointments to the International Financial Institutions where the Minister is governor and to ensure appointees prioritise gender equality.²¹⁸⁴ Minister Morneau made the announcement at the iW50 Summit in Paris and invited other G7 leaders to join him as IGCs.²¹⁸⁵

On 13 August 2018, the Business Development Bank of Canada announced that it would be hosting “WE Talk Business” boot camps throughout 2018 and 2019, to enhance women entrepreneurs’ business skills and financial literacy.²¹⁸⁶ The boot camps are part of the Women Entrepreneurship

²¹⁸² Minister Morneau attends summit on importance of empowering women, announces new role as International Gender Champion, Department of Finance Canada (Paris) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 28 November 2018. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n18/18-057-eng.asp>.

²¹⁸³ About International Gender Champions, Gender Champions (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 28 November 2018. <https://genderchampions.com/about>.

²¹⁸⁴ William Morneau, Gender Champions (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 28 November 2018. <https://genderchampions.com/champions/william-morneau>.

²¹⁸⁵ Minister Morneau attends summit on importance of empowering women, announces new role as International Gender Champion, Department of Finance Canada (Paris) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 28 November 2018. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n18/18-057-eng.asp>.

²¹⁸⁶ BDC talks business with women entrepreneurs and launches a series of bootcamps throughout Canada, Business Development Bank of Canada (Montreal) 13 August 2018. Access Date: 27 November 2018. https://www.bdc.ca/en/about/mediaroom/news_releases/pages/bdc-talks-business-with-women-entrepreneurs-launches-series-boot-camps-through-out-canada.aspx.

Strategy, a CAD2 billion government plan launched under Budget 2018 that aims to help businesswomen through a focus on access to capital, data and federal innovation programming.²¹⁸⁷

On 6 September 2018, Status of Women Canada awarded CAD498,000 to Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters for their project, “Untapped Potential: Attracting and Engaging Women in Canadian Manufacturing.”²¹⁸⁸ This project aims to increase Canadian women’s participation in the manufacturing sector by collaborating with working groups and creating a web portal.²¹⁸⁹ The budget was provided as part of the Status of Women Canada’s “Women’s Program,” a federal funding program that releases annual calls for proposals.²¹⁹⁰ The current 2017 calls are entitled: “Support for Women’s Economic Security,” which uses CAD10 million to address systemic barriers and encourage partnerships with the private sector to find innovative solutions, and “Addressing the Economic Security and Prosperity of Indigenous Women,” which uses CAD5 million to focus on indigenous groups.²¹⁹¹

On 21 and 22 September 2018, the Minister of Foreign Affairs Chrystia Freeland co-chaired a meeting of women foreign ministers along with the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission Federica Mogherini. The meeting focused on the meaningful participation of women in foreign policy.²¹⁹² They pledged to work together to promote shared values and to work towards building a network of governments and civil society organisations to support gender empowerment.²¹⁹³

On 23 September 2018, Canada marked the start of its first ever Gender Equality Week.²¹⁹⁴ The Minister of Families, Children and Social Development Jean-Yves Duclos announced that the Government of Canada would be launching its Employment Insurance parental sharing benefits in

²¹⁸⁷ Women Entrepreneurship Strategy, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 10 September 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. <https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/107.nsf/eng/home>.

²¹⁸⁸ New federal funding will help more women enter the manufacturing sector, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 6 September 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/09/backgrounder---new-federal-funding-will-help-more-women-enter-the-manufacturing-sector.html>.

²¹⁸⁹ New federal funding will help more women enter the manufacturing sector, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 6 September 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/09/backgrounder---new-federal-funding-will-help-more-women-enter-the-manufacturing-sector.html>.

²¹⁹⁰ Backgrounder — the new federal investment will help boost number of women in Canada’s forestry sector, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/backgrounder---new-federal-investment-will-help-boost-number-of-women-in-canadas-forestry-sector.html>.

²¹⁹¹ Backgrounder — the new federal investment will help boost number of women in Canada’s forestry sector, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/backgrounder---new-federal-investment-will-help-boost-number-of-women-in-canadas-forestry-sector.html>.

²¹⁹² Canada and EU reiterate shared commitment to advance gender equality, Global Affairs Canada (Montreal) 23 September 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/09/canada-and-eu-reiterate-shared-commitment-to-advance-gender-equality-and-womens-contributions-to-peace-and-security-at-the-women-foreign-ministers-.html.

²¹⁹³ The EU and Canada reiterate shared commitment to advance gender equality, European External Action Service (Montreal) 23 September 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. https://eeas.europa.eu/regions/north-america/50954/eu-and-canada-reiterate-shared-commitment-advance-gender-equality-and-women%E2%80%99s-contributions_en.

²¹⁹⁴ New five week parental sharing to start in March 2019, Employment and Social Development Canada (Toronto) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/09/new-five-week-parental-sharing-to-start-in-march-2019.html>.

March 2019.²¹⁹⁵ Employment Insurance parental sharing benefits provide additional insurance to parents who share benefits.²¹⁹⁶ In turn, this allows working mothers to attain greater financial security whilst shifting childcare responsibilities away from them.²¹⁹⁷

On 28 September 2018, the Minister of Small Business and Export Promotion Mary Ng and the Minister of Status of Women Maryam Monsef introduced the Women Entrepreneurship Strategy Ecosystem Fund, which will use CAD85 million to fund organizations that support women entrepreneurs.²¹⁹⁸ The fund is part of the Canada's Women Entrepreneurship Strategy launched under Budget 2018.²¹⁹⁹

On 15 October 2018, the Minister of Status of Women Canada Maryam Monsef introduced the department's newest call for proposals as part of the "Women's Program," entitled the "Capacity-Building Fund."²²⁰⁰ The fund will use CAD100 million over five years to build the organisational capacity of women's organisations.²²⁰¹

On 19 October 2018, the Minister of Small Business and Export Promotion Mary Ng and the Minister of Public Services and Procurement and Accessibility Carla Qualtrough, announced the launch of the Women Entrepreneurship Fund, as part of Canada's Women Entrepreneurship Strategy.²²⁰² The Women Entrepreneurship Fund makes CAD20 million directly available to women-owned businesses that are pursuing markets abroad or scaling up.²²⁰³

²¹⁹⁵ New five week parental sharing to start in March 2019, Employment and Social Development Canada (Toronto) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/09/new-five-week-parental-sharing-to-start-in-march-2019.html>.

²¹⁹⁶ New five week parental sharing to start in March 2019, Employment and Social Development Canada (Toronto) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/09/new-five-week-parental-sharing-to-start-in-march-2019.html>.

²¹⁹⁷ New five week parental sharing to start in March 2019, Employment and Social Development Canada (Toronto) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/09/new-five-week-parental-sharing-to-start-in-march-2019.html>.

²¹⁹⁸ Minister Ng announces funding for women's entrepreneurship, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Toronto) 28 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2018/09/minister-ng-announces-funding-for-womens-entrepreneurship.html>.

²¹⁹⁸ Minister Monsef announces investment to ensure strong and vibrant women's movement, Status of Women Canada (Vancouver) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/10/minister-monsef-announces-investment-to-ensure-strong-and-vibrant-womens-movement.html>.

²¹⁹⁹ Minister Ng announces funding for women's entrepreneurship, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Toronto) 28 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2018/09/minister-ng-announces-funding-for-womens-entrepreneurship.html>.

²²⁰⁰ Minister Monsef announces investment to ensure strong and vibrant women's movement, Status of Women Canada (Vancouver) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/10/minister-monsef-announces-investment-to-ensure-strong-and-vibrant-womens-movement.html>.

²²⁰¹ Minister Monsef announces investment to ensure strong and vibrant women's movement, Status of Women Canada (Vancouver) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/10/minister-monsef-announces-investment-to-ensure-strong-and-vibrant-womens-movement.html>.

²²⁰² Minister Ng announces funding for women's entrepreneurship, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Delta) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2018/10/minister-ng-announces-funding-for-womens-entrepreneurship.html>.

²²⁰³ Women Entrepreneurship Fund, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/128.nsf/eng/h_00000.html.

On 29 October 2018, the Government of Canada Introduced the second Budget Implementation Act for Budget 2018, “Equality + Growth: Strong Middle Class.”²²⁰⁴ This act seeks to establish the Department for Women and Gender Equality (WAGE), which would be a formal department that is less vulnerable to change and a centre of gender expertise through Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+).²²⁰⁵

On 1 November 2018, Status of Women Canada announced the funding of the Young Women’s Christian Association of Canada (YWCA), as part of its ongoing Women’s Program call for proposals.²²⁰⁶ The YWCA will receive CAD1.25 million for a project that will improve access to jobs for Canadian women by identifying systemic barriers faced by marginalised women communities, and testing solutions across 20 YWCAs.²²⁰⁷

On 5 November 2018, the Honourable Maryam Monsef, Minister of Status of Women Canada announced an amount of CAD547,300 to be invested in a project led by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities that aims to increase women’s public and political participation.²²⁰⁸ Entitled “Towards Parity in Municipal Politics,” the project will introduce a national strategy to increase women’s participation and decision-making opportunities at a municipal level.²²⁰⁹

On 5 November 2018, the Minister of Small Businesses and Export Promotion Mary Ng announced further investments to be made under the Venture Capital Catalyst Initiative, a funding program for new companies with high potential.²²¹⁰ These investments are specifically focused on the creation of gender parity, by prioritising emerging women-owned businesses.²²¹¹

²²⁰⁴ Government continues effort to bring growth and equality to the middle class, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 29 October 2018. Access Date: 23 November 2018. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n18/18-100-eng.asp>.

²²⁰⁵ Statement by Minister Monsef on the introduction on Legislation to create the Department of Women and Gender Equality (WAGE), Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 29 October 2018. Access Date: 23 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/10/statement-by-minister-monsef-on-the-introduction-on-legislation-to-create-the-department-of-women-and-gender-equality-wage.html>.

²²⁰⁶ New federal funding will help vulnerable and marginalised women access job market, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 1 November 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-funding-will-help-vulnerable-and-marginalized-women-access-job-market.html>.

²²⁰⁷ New federal funding will help vulnerable and marginalised women access job market, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 1 November 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-funding-will-help-vulnerable-and-marginalized-women-access-job-market.html>.

²²⁰⁸ New federal funding investment will help more women run for elected office, Status of Women Canada (Montreal) 5 November 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-investment-will-help-more-women-run-for-elected-office.html>.

²²⁰⁹ New federal funding investment will help more women run for elected office, Status of Women Canada (Montreal) 5 November 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-investment-will-help-more-women-run-for-elected-office.html>.

²²¹⁰ Minister Ng announces federal funding venture capital investments focused on gender and diversity, Innovation, Science and Economic Development, (Montreal) 5 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2018/11/minister-ng-announces-federal-venture-capital-investments-focused-on-gender-and-diversity.html>.

²²¹¹ Minister Ng announces federal funding venture capital investments focused on gender and diversity, Innovation, Science and Economic Development, (Montreal) 5 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2018/11/minister-ng-announces-federal-venture-capital-investments-focused-on-gender-and-diversity.html>.

On 29 November 2018, Status of Women Canada announced the funding of the Canadian Institute of Forestry a total of CAD467,000 as part of its Women’s Program call for proposals.²²¹² The project to be funded is “Gender Equality in Forestry National Action Plan,” which will use the “gender-based analysis plus” analytical process to identify and resolve systemic barriers for women in the forestry industry.²²¹³

On 3 December 2018, the Government of Canada announced their investment of a total of CAD9 million over three years in the Women Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub (WEKH), as a part of Canada’s Women Entrepreneurship Strategy.²²¹⁴ The WEKH intends to become a “one-stop source of knowledge, data, and practices for women entrepreneurs.”²²¹⁵

On 8 March 2019, International Women’s Day, Minister of International Development and of Women and Gender Equality Maryam Monsef and Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Ahmed Hussen announced that the Capacity-Building Fund will be investing in over 250 projects from Canadian women’s organizations as well as from indigenous organizations that serve women.²²¹⁶

On 21 May 2019, Minister of International Development and Minister for Women and Gender Equality Maryam Monsef announced a new initiative with BMO Financial Group, in preparation for Canada’s hosting of the Women Deliver 2019 Conference on health, rights and wellbeing of women and girls.²²¹⁷ BMO Financial group aims to provide training to women’s organizations being funded by the Government of Canada, in order to improve their financial and strategic planning.²²¹⁸

Canada has only partially complied with its commitment to support women’s economic empowerment. Canada has taken efforts to support the development of finance programs that strive to advance women’s economic empowerment and gender equality with Canada’s launch and

²²¹² Backgrounder — New federal investment will help boost number of women in Canada’s forestry sector, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/backgrounder---new-federal-investment-will-help-boost-number-of-women-in-canadas-forestry-sector.html>.

²²¹³ Backgrounder — New federal investment will help boost number of women in Canada’s forestry sector, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/backgrounder---new-federal-investment-will-help-boost-number-of-women-in-canadas-forestry-sector.html>.

²²¹⁴ Minister Ng announces funding for research on women entrepreneurship, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2018/11/minister-ng-announces-funding-for-research-on-women-entrepreneurship.html>.

²²¹⁵ Minister Ng announces funding for research on women entrepreneurship, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2018/11/minister-ng-announces-funding-for-research-on-women-entrepreneurship.html>.

²²¹⁶ Toronto Government of Canada celebrates International Women’s Day by making historic investment in women’s movement, Status of Women Canada (Toronto) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 15 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-celebrates-international-womens-day-by-making-historic-investment-in-womens-movement.html>.

²²¹⁷ Government of Canada celebrates International Women’s Day by making historic investment in women’s movement, Status of Women Canada (Toronto) 21 May 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/05/in-lead-up-to-women-deliver-2019-government-of-canada-announces-innovative-cross-sector-partnerships-to-advance-gender-equality.html>.

²²¹⁸ Government of Canada celebrates International Women’s Day by making historic investment in women’s movement, Status of Women Canada (Toronto) 21 May 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/05/in-lead-up-to-women-deliver-2019-government-of-canada-announces-innovative-cross-sector-partnerships-to-advance-gender-equality.html>.

investment in several finance programs such as the Capacity-Building Fund, the WES Ecosystem Fund, the Women Entrepreneurship Fund, and the Venture Capital Catalyst Initiative. Additionally, Canada has supported the development of programs that provide further sources of capital, such as the introduction of WE Talk Business Schools, Employment Insurance parental sharing benefits, WAGE, and the WEKH. In addition, Canada is working with partner countries, Canada has supported women empowerment at an international level most notably through Minister of Foreign Affairs Chrystia Freeland's ministerial meeting and Minister of Finance Bill Morneau's participation as an IGC. However, Canada has not partnered with G7 members specifically for the provision of access to capital as outlined in its G7 commitment.

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Ridhwana Laloo

France: 0

France has partially complied with its commitment to support development finance programs that advance women's economic empowerment, whilst also reinforcing economic prosperity in partner countries, including through the provision of access to capital for women.

On 5 September 2018, France enacted the "For the Freedom to Choose One's Professional Future" law which will come into effect on 1 January 2019, for companies with more than 250 employees and on 1 January 2020, for companies with employees between 50 to 250 people.²²¹⁹ Under this law, companies must reveal information such as gender pay gaps and an obligation of equal pay.²²²⁰ Companies are also required to report on actions taken to combat gender pay gaps.²²²¹ Companies that do not follow this law will face financial penalties of up to 1 percent of the total payroll.²²²²

On 7 September 2018, the Board of directors and the Supervisory Board of French public limited companies and French limited partnerships passed a new decree that corporate governance reports must contain information on how a company plans to achieve a balanced representation of men and women on the executive committee if one is present.²²²³ Additionally, companies are to report what the gender balance among the 10 percent of positions with the highest responsibilities in the company.²²²⁴

²²¹⁹ New French Rules on Gender Pay Equality Enacted, Morgan Lewis & Bockius LPP (Pennsylvania) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 21 October, 2018. <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=d76e3d36-bbeb-4e2c-9aff-fa83b7ebbf2d>.

²²²⁰ New French Rules on Gender Pay Equality Enacted, Morgan Lewis & Bockius LPP (Pennsylvania) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 21 October, 2018. <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=d76e3d36-bbeb-4e2c-9aff-fa83b7ebbf2d>.

²²²¹ New French Rules on Gender Pay Equality Enacted, Morgan Lewis & Bockius LPP (Pennsylvania) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 7 December, 2018. <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=d76e3d36-bbeb-4e2c-9aff-fa83b7ebbf2d>.

²²²² New French Rules on Gender Pay Equality Enacted, Morgan Lewis & Bockius LPP (Pennsylvania) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 21 October, 2018. <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=d76e3d36-bbeb-4e2c-9aff-fa83b7ebbf2d>.

²²²³ New French Rules on Gender Pay Equality Enacted, Morgan Lewis & Bockius LPP (Pennsylvania) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 7 December, 2018. <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=d76e3d36-bbeb-4e2c-9aff-fa83b7ebbf2d>.

²²²⁴ New French Rules on Gender Pay Equality Enacted, Morgan Lewis & Bockius LPP (Pennsylvania) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 7 December, 2018. <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=d76e3d36-bbeb-4e2c-9aff-fa83b7ebbf2d>.

On 21 September 2018, the Minister of Culture Françoise Nussen, announced that in 2019 France will launch a funding bonus for production companies in which key crew members are women.²²²⁵ If the crew are women the production will be eligible for a 15 percent bonus. The purpose of this is for film companies to hire more women.

On 19 February 2019, human rights advocates met with the President in France to discuss methods on how countries can reduce violence against women, promote women's education and enhance women's entrepreneurship.²²²⁶ During this meeting, the President of France, Emmanuel Macron, declared that France was investing USD 136 million to help women across developing countries.²²²⁷

On 9-10 May 2019, France held a meeting for the G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council. The meeting focused on creating legislations to prevent gender-based violence and promote women's education and entrepreneurship.²²²⁸ The initiative called Biarritz Partnership is to be more focused with more concrete goals to enhance the education and entrepreneurship of women across the globe.²²²⁹

France has partially complied with their its commitment to support development finance programs that advance women's economic empowerment, whilst also reinforcing economic prosperity in partner countries, including through the provision of access to capital for women. France has taken efforts to support the development of finance programs by creating a fund for organizations to advance women's economic empowerment and gender equality and has taken effort to promote mutually reinforcing economic prosperity by providing access to capital that enhances economic opportunities for women. For example, France providing incentives for companies who usually do not hire women to hire women.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Cindy Lawrence

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to support development finance programs that advance women's economic empowerment, whilst also reinforcing economic prosperity in partner countries, including through the provision of access to capital for women.

Germany's Federal Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation (BMZ) has outlined the following strategies to advance women's economic empowerment: promote women's access to financial products; improving social protection systems for women; improving working conditions for women; improving women's vocational training; eliminating legal, social and culture discrimination for women; improving conditions for women's employment; and enhancing

²²²⁵ France launches gender parity production incentives, Melanie Goodfellow (London) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 21 October, 2018. <https://www.screendaily.com/news/france-launches-gender-parity-production-incentives/5132855.article>.

²²²⁶ Nobel Laureates, Advocates to Advise G-7 on Women's Rights (Paris) 19 February 2019. Access date 20 February 2019. https://www.theindependent.com/news/politics/nobel-laureates-advocates-to-advise-g--on-women-s/article_5a6d80d5-2cec-5376-a08c-b61d651ffe3a.html.

²²²⁷ Nobel Laureates, Advocates to Advise G-7 on Women's Rights (Paris) 19 February 2019. Access date 20 February 2019. https://www.theindependent.com/news/politics/nobel-laureates-advocates-to-advise-g--on-women-s/article_5a6d80d5-2cec-5376-a08c-b61d651ffe3a.html.

²²²⁸ Second Meeting of the Gender Advisory Council (France) 12 May 2019. Access date 10 June 2019. <https://www.elysee.fr/en/g7/2019/05/12/second-meeting-of-the-gender-equality-advisory-council>.

²²²⁹ Second Meeting of the Gender Advisory Council (France) 12 May 2019. Access date 10 June 2019. <https://www.elysee.fr/en/g7/2019/05/12/second-meeting-of-the-gender-equality-advisory-council>.

engagement with the private sector.²²³⁰ To do this BMZ plans on promoting the “access to financial products.”²²³¹ The timeframe to increase the participation of women in vocational training is 2030.²²³²

On 9 June 2018, Germany along with Canada, Britain, Japan, and the European Union contributed to a CAD3.8 billion investment to promote education for women and girls.²²³³ In partnership with the World Bank, this initiative is the largest investment in the education of women and girls around the world.²²³⁴ The funding will go towards providing women with essential skills that will help them with employability and job searching; improving training quality for teachers; gathering data on the education of women and girls; supporting innovative education methods, specifically for vulnerable groups; and ensuring developing countries encourage women and girls to get at least 12 years of quality education.²²³⁵

On 11 to 13 June 2018, Gender@International Bonn at the Global Media Forum held an organizing session with the intention to close the digital gender gap in order to empower women in the digital era.²²³⁶ This event was aimed at teaching women and girls how to close the digital gender gap.²²³⁷ The event aimed to showcase Asia and Africa’s best practices for promoting girls and women’s access to jobs in information and communications technologies, along with recommendations on how to overcome the digital gender gap.²²³⁸ The goal of the event was to promote access to technology jobs for women and girls by using best practices from Asia and Africa.²²³⁹

²²³⁰ Promoting the employment and economic empowerment of women, Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Germany) Access date: 21 October 2018.

https://www.bmz.de/en/issues/frauenrechte/arbeitsfelder_und_instrumente/wirtschaft/index.html.

²²³¹ Promoting the employment and economic empowerment of women, Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Germany) Access date: 7 December 2018.

https://www.bmz.de/en/issues/frauenrechte/arbeitsfelder_und_instrumente/wirtschaft/index.html.

²²³² Promoting the employment and economic empowerment of women, Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Germany) Access date: 7 December 2018.

https://www.bmz.de/en/issues/frauenrechte/arbeitsfelder_und_instrumente/wirtschaft/index.html.

²²³³ Girls’ education gets \$3.8 billion boost at G7, CBC (Quebec) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018.

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/politics/article-day-2-of-g7-opens-with-trumps-late-arrival-to-meeting-with-feminist/>.

²²³⁴ Girls’ education gets \$3.8 billion boost at G7, CBC (Quebec) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018.

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/politics/article-day-2-of-g7-opens-with-trumps-late-arrival-to-meeting-with-feminist/>.

²²³⁵ Canada and partners announce historic investment in education for women and girls in crisis and conflict situations, Government of Canada (Quebec) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018.

<https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/06/09/canada-and-partners-announce-historic-investment-education-women-and-girls-crisis>.

²²³⁶ Road Map 2018: Development Policy Action Plan on Gender Equality 2016-2018, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Germany) August 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018.

https://www.bmz.de/en/publications/type_of_publication/strategies/Strategiepapier450_08_2018.pdf.

²²³⁷ Road Map 2018: Development Policy Action Plan on Gender Equality 2016-2018, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Germany) August 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018.

https://www.bmz.de/en/publications/type_of_publication/strategies/Strategiepapier450_08_2018.pdf.

²²³⁸ Road Map 2018: Development Policy Action Plan on Gender Equality 2016-2018, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Germany) August 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018.

https://www.bmz.de/en/publications/type_of_publication/strategies/Strategiepapier450_08_2018.pdf.

²²³⁹ Road Map 2018: Development Policy Action Plan on Gender Equality 2016-2018, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Germany) August 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018.

https://www.bmz.de/en/publications/type_of_publication/strategies/Strategiepapier450_08_2018.pdf.

On 14 October 2018, Germany signed an agreement that pledged EUR50 million to the World Bank's Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (We-Fi).²²⁴⁰ We-Fi is a collaborative partnership between fourteen different governments, eight multilateral development banks, and public and private sector stakeholders hosted by the World Bank Group.²²⁴¹ We-Fi seeks to address financial and non-financial challenges facing women-owned/led SMEs in developing countries.²²⁴²

Germany has engaged in some activities to improve education and skills development for girls and women around the world. It has adequately reinforced economic prosperity and stability, including through the provision of access to capital for women via the We-Fi collaboration.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Cindy Lawrence

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to support development finance programs that strive to advance women's economic empowerment and gender equality while promoting mutually reinforcing economic prosperity and stability in partner countries, including by providing access to capital that enhances economic opportunities for women.

On 27 June 2018, the Italian Ministry of Labor and Social Policies, in agreement with the Italian Ministry of the Interior, announced the Recruitment Bonus for Women Victims of Gender Violence in the Official Gazette.²²⁴³ The Bonus aims to facilitate the job reintegration of women by providing monthly tax reliefs of up to EUR350 for social cooperatives that hire women victims of gender-based violence with a permanent contract. EUR1 million has been allocated yearly from 2018 to 2020.²²⁴⁴

On 19 July 2018, representatives from Italy's Project for Supporting Women's Education and Empowerment of women for inclusive local development (PAEF plus) met with the Senegal Minister of National Education to discuss greater support for the project.²²⁴⁵ Funded through Italian cooperation, PAEF plus contributes to gender equality in Senegal by eliminating inequalities in access to primary and secondary education, supporting the implementation of a gender policy, and providing financial support for women belonging to mothers' associations.²²⁴⁶

On 20 July 2018, the Italian National Labor Inspectorate and National Equality Advisor signed a draft agreement expressly aimed at promoting equal opportunities between men and women and

²²⁴⁰ Germany signs Agreement for EUR50 Million Contribution to We-Fi, Women Entrepreneurs Finance Institute 14 October 2018. Access Date: 21 August 2019. <https://we-fi.org/who-we-are/>.

²²⁴¹ Who We Are, Women Entrepreneurs Finance Institute 14 October 2018. Access Date: 21 August 2019. <https://we-fi.org/who-we-are/>.

²²⁴² Who We Are, Women Entrepreneurs Finance Institute 14 October 2018. Access Date: 21 August 2019. <https://we-fi.org/who-we-are/>.

²²⁴³ Gazzetta Ufficiale Della Repubblica Italiana Numero 147, Italian Istituto Poligrafico e Zecca dello Stato (Rome), 27 June 2018. Date of access: 2 November 2018. <http://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/gu/2018/06/27/147/sg/pdf>.

²²⁴⁴ Gazzetta Ufficiale Della Repubblica Italiana Numero 147, Italian Istituto Poligrafico e Zecca dello Stato (Rome), 27 June 2018. Date of access: 2 November 2018. <http://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/gu/2018/06/27/147/sg/pdf>.

²²⁴⁵ Tutte e tutti a scuola: madri, famiglie e comunità coinvolte per la parità genere tra i banchi, Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (Dakar), 19 July 2018. Date of access: 7 October 2018. <https://www.aics.gov.it/2018/24619/>.

²²⁴⁶ Tutte e tutti a scuola: madri, famiglie e comunità coinvolte per la parità genere tra i banchi, Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (Dakar), 19 July 2018. Date of access: 7 October 2018. <https://www.aics.gov.it/2018/24619/>.

fighting gender discrimination through several actions, including the organization of professional training on gender equality.²²⁴⁷

On 3 August 2018, the Directorate General for Development Cooperation of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (IACS) formed a new partnership with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia that launched an initiative to empower women refugees from Syria in Lebanon, Jordan, and Egypt.²²⁴⁸ Among other issues, this initiative will build on the capacity of women leaders among refugees from Syria with a specific focus on improving the socio-economic empowerment of women, through activities orientated to income generation.²²⁴⁹ The Government of Italy pledged EUR6 million to the overall initiative, beginning in August 2018 through September 2020.²²⁵⁰

On 25 September 2018, the Italian Parliament presented a bill for the creation of a Parliamentary Commission on Women's Rights and Gender Equality.²²⁵¹ The proposed Parliamentary Commission aims to promote gender equality and women's empowerment by striving to eliminate the gender gap, create employment opportunities for women, and eradicate female poverty.²²⁵² The budget of the Parliamentary Commission is proposed to be EUR100 thousand for 2018, and a half for the following year.²²⁵³

On 10 October 2018, the Deputy Prime Minister of Italy and Minister of Labor and Social Policies Luigi Di Maio pledged to extend the mandate of the women's option for the 2015 to 2018 period by including it in the Budget Law for the 2019 to 2021 period.²²⁵⁴ The women's option legislation provides women workers access to early retirement benefits at the age of 57 or 58 for self-employed women.²²⁵⁵

On 11 October 2018, the Italian Department for Equal Opportunities hosted a monitoring roundtable that identified ways to promote the development and growth of women's

²²⁴⁷ Draft agreement between the National Labor Inspectorate and the National Equality Advisor, European Commission (Brussels), 20 July 2018. Date of access: 7 October 2018. <https://www.equalitylaw.eu/downloads/4652-italy-draft-agreement-between-the-national-labour-inspectorate-and-the-national-equality-adviser-pdf-32-kb>.

²²⁴⁸ UN-ESCWA and Italy partner to support empowerment of women refugees from Syria, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (Beirut), 3 August 2018. Date of access: 7 October 2018. <https://www.unescwa.org/news/un-escwa-and-italy-partner-support-empowerment-women-refugees-syria>.

²²⁴⁹ UN-ESCWA and Italy partner to support empowerment of women refugees from Syria, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (Beirut), 3 August 2018. Date of access: 7 October 2018. <https://www.unescwa.org/news/un-escwa-and-italy-partner-support-empowerment-women-refugees-syria>.

²²⁵⁰ UN-ESCWA and Italy partner to support empowerment of women refugees from Syria, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (Beirut), 3 August 2018. Date of access: 7 October 2018. <https://www.unescwa.org/news/un-escwa-and-italy-partner-support-empowerment-women-refugees-syria>.

²²⁵¹ Nascita della Commissione dei diritti della donna e dell'uguaglianza di genere, Termolionline.it (Termoli), 24 September 2015. Date of access: 13 October 2018. <https://www.termolionline.it/news/flash-news/754512/commissione-dei-diritti-della-donna-e-delluguaglianza-di-genere-giuditta-lembo-a-roma>

²²⁵² Nascita della Commissione dei diritti della donna e dell'uguaglianza di genere, Termolionline.it (Termoli), 24 September 2015. Date of access: 13 October 2018. <https://www.termolionline.it/news/flash-news/754512/commissione-dei-diritti-della-donna-e-delluguaglianza-di-genere-giuditta-lembo-a-roma>.

²²⁵³ Cos'è la commissione parlamentare per la parità di genere, LetterDonna.it (Milan), 25 September 2018. Date of access: 13 October 2018. <https://www.letteradonna.it/it/articoli/politica/2018/09/25/commissione-parlamentare-diritti-donne/26667/>.

²²⁵⁴ Opzione donna per il triennio 2015/2018, Department of Labor and Social Policies (Rome), 10 October 2018. Date of access: 24 November 2018. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/stampa-e-media/Comunicati/Pagine/Opzione-donna-per-il-triennio-20152018.aspx>.

²²⁵⁵ Opzione donna per il triennio 2015/2018, Department of Labor and Social Policies (Rome), 10 October 2018. Date of access: 24 November 2018. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/stampa-e-media/Comunicati/Pagine/Opzione-donna-per-il-triennio-20152018.aspx>.

entrepreneurship.²²⁵⁶ At this event, the Italian Ministry of Economic Development presented an updated progress report on the Women's Special Entrepreneurship SME Fund for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and promoted wider access to the fund for women-owned companies.²²⁵⁷

On 9 November 2018, the Italian Ministry of Labor and Social Policies published its Interministerial Decree concerned with the 2019 Women Recruitment Bonus.²²⁵⁸ The Decree serves to identify sectors and professions characterized by a rate of male-female disparity that exceeds at least 25 percent of the average annual value, for the application of the 2019 Women Recruitment Bonus.²²⁵⁹ The Bonus provides a financial incentive for companies aimed at hiring women over 50 who have been unemployed for more than 12 months, women of any age who have been unemployed for at least 24 months, women residing in disadvantaged areas, or women employed in sectors with a high rate of gender inequality.²²⁶⁰

On 13 November 2018, the AICS branch in El Salvador, the UN Women branch in Honduras, and the Italian Embassy in Guatemala and Honduras launched the "Economic Empowerment of Women in Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador" project.²²⁶¹ The project aims to broaden economic opportunities for women in Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador by creating tools for women micro-entrepreneurs in rural areas to create entrepreneurial networks that open up markets and increase competitiveness for women-led businesses.²²⁶² The Government of Italy pledged EUR3.5 million towards the regional initiative.²²⁶³

On 23 November 2018, the Italian Ministry of Labor and Social Policies announced that EUR61 million was granted to fund new initiatives and projects of national importance in the year 2018.²²⁶⁴

²²⁵⁶ Imprenditoria femminile, riunione del tavolo di monitoraggio, Department for Equal Opportunities (Rome), 11 October 2018. Date of access: 19 October 2018. <http://www.pariopportunita.gov.it/news/impreditoria-femminile-riunione-del-tavolo-di-monitoraggio/>.

²²⁵⁷ Imprenditoria femminile, riunione del tavolo di monitoraggio, Department for Equal Opportunities (Rome), 11 October 2018. Date of access: 19 October 2018. <http://www.pariopportunita.gov.it/news/impreditoria-femminile-riunione-del-tavolo-di-monitoraggio/>.

²²⁵⁸ Il Ministero del Lavoro e delle Politiche Sociali di concerto con il Ministero dell' Economia e delle Finanze, Italian Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome), 9 November 2018. Date of access: 24 November 2018. <https://www.lavoroediritti.com/wp-content/files/Decreto-interministeriale-min-lavoro-MEF-09-11-2018.pdf>

²²⁵⁹ Il Ministero del Lavoro e delle Politiche Sociali di concerto con il Ministero dell' Economia e delle Finanze, Italian Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome), 9 November 2018. Date of access: 24 November 2018. <https://www.lavoroediritti.com/wp-content/files/Decreto-interministeriale-min-lavoro-MEF-09-11-2018.pdf>

²²⁶⁰ Il Ministero del Lavoro e delle Politiche Sociali di concerto con il Ministero dell' Economia e delle Finanze, Italian Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome), 9 November 2018. Date of access: 24 November 2018.

<https://www.lavoroediritti.com/wp-content/files/Decreto-interministeriale-min-lavoro-MEF-09-11-2018.pdf>

²²⁶¹ Più forza alle donne che lavorano nelle aree rurali, al via un nuovo programma regionale, Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (Tegucigalpa), 13 November 2018. Date of access: 24 November 2018. <https://www.aics.gov.it/2018/26942/>

²²⁶² Più forza alle donne che lavorano nelle aree rurali, al via un nuovo programma regionale, Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (Tegucigalpa), 13 November 2018. Date of access: 24 November 2018. <https://www.aics.gov.it/2018/26942/>

²²⁶³ Più forza alle donne che lavorano nelle aree rurali, al via un nuovo programma regionale, Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (Tegucigalpa), 13 November 2018. Date of access: 24 November 2018. <https://www.aics.gov.it/2018/26942/>

²²⁶⁴ Terzo settore: 61 milioni e 960.000 euro a disposizione per iniziative, progetti e sostegno degli Enti, Italian Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome), 23 November 2018. Date of access: 24 November 2018.

<http://www.lavoro.gov.it/stampa-e-media/Comunicati/Pagine/Terzo-settore-61-milioni-e-960-000-euro-a-disposizione-per-iniziativa-progetti-e-sostegno-degli-Enti.aspx>.

Of the thirteen objectives identified to gain access to funding, achieving gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls was promoted.²²⁶⁵

On 4 December 2018, the impact of the assistance and empowerment of Syrian refugee women and girls and host communities in Egypt, Jordan, and Lebanon initiative, funded by Italian cooperation, was presented in the Jordanian capital.²²⁶⁶ The Italian Ambassador to Jordan Fabio Cassese chaired the event and stressed that “gender equality and women’s rights are a central concern of Italian politics in development cooperation.”²²⁶⁷

On 30 January 2019, Italy, along with Luxembourg, and Sweden funded a five-year EUR5million loan to the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development’s Western Balkans Women in Business Programme II to Intesa San Paolaa Bank Albania that will be used to fund women-led small businesses in Albania.²²⁶⁸ The loan is designed to encourage female entrepreneurship and narrow the gender gap in accessing finance and business advisory services with the intent to increase greater economic inclusion for women in Albania.²²⁶⁹ The loan is the second of its type following a EUR2 million loan in 2015.²²⁷⁰

On 18 February 2019, the Committee for the planning and coordination of financial education activities under the Italian Ministry of Labor and Social Policies signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Italian National Institute of Pensions regarding the implementation of the National Strategy for Financial Education.²²⁷¹ This partnership will create new initiatives aimed at raising financial education awareness and measurably improving the skills of Italian citizens in the fields of savings, investments, social security, and insurance.²²⁷² In this MOU, particular attention is paid to the specific training needs of potentially vulnerable populations such as women.²²⁷³

²²⁶⁵ Terzo settore: 61 milioni e 960.000 euro a disposizione per iniziative, progetti e sostegno degli Enti, Italian Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome), 23 November 2018. Date of access: 24 November 2018.

<http://www.lavoro.gov.it/stampa-e-media/Comunicati/Pagine/Terzo-settore-61-milioni-e-960-000-euro-a-disposizione-per-iniziativa-progetti-e-sostegno-degli-Enti.aspx>.

²²⁶⁶ Crisi siriana, un programma regionale dedicato alle donne per promuovere sviluppo e diritti, Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (Amman), 4 December 2018. Date of access: 6 December 2018. <https://www.aics.gov.it/2018/27660/>

²²⁶⁷ Crisi siriana, un programma regionale dedicato alle donne per promuovere sviluppo e diritti, Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (Amman), 4 December 2018. Date of access: 6 December 2018. <https://www.aics.gov.it/2018/27660/>

²²⁶⁸ Boosting access to finance for women-led small businesses in Albania, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (London), 30 January 2019. Date of access: 20 February 2019.

<https://www.ebrd.com/news/2019/boosting-access-to-finance-for-womenled-small-businesses-in-albania.html>

²²⁶⁹ Boosting access to finance for women-led small businesses in Albania, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (London), 30 January 2019. Date of access: 20 February 2019.

<https://www.ebrd.com/news/2019/boosting-access-to-finance-for-womenled-small-businesses-in-albania.html>

²²⁷⁰ Boosting access to finance for women-led small businesses in Albania, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (London), 30 January 2019. Date of access: 20 February 2019.

<https://www.ebrd.com/news/2019/boosting-access-to-finance-for-womenled-small-businesses-in-albania.html>

²²⁷¹ Educazione finanziaria: siglato accord Comitato Edufin – INPS, Italian Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome), 18 February 2019. Date of access: 20 February 2019. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/stampa-e-media/Comunicati/Pagine/Educazione-finanziaria-siglato-accordo-Comitato-Edufin-INPS.aspx>

²²⁷² Educazione finanziaria: siglato accord Comitato Edufin – INPS, Italian Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome), 18 February 2019. Date of access: 20 February 2019. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/stampa-e-media/Comunicati/Pagine/Educazione-finanziaria-siglato-accordo-Comitato-Edufin-INPS.aspx>

²²⁷³ Educazione finanziaria: siglato accord Comitato Edufin – INPS, Italian Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome), 18 February 2019. Date of access: 20 February 2019. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/stampa-e-media/Comunicati/Pagine/Educazione-finanziaria-siglato-accordo-Comitato-Edufin-INPS.aspx>

On 4 March 2019, the Department for Equal Opportunities of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers launched the CL.E.A.R “Closing the Gender pension Gap by increasing women’s Awareness” project to narrow the gender pension gap in Italy.²²⁷⁴ The project aims to improve increase access to information and the awareness of women on how to determine their future pensions.²²⁷⁵

On 5 March 2019, the Minister of Economic Development and Labor Luigi Di Maio announced the creation of the National Innovation Fund (FNI) of approximately EUR1 billion with the objective to bring together and increase public and private resources dedicated to innovation.²²⁷⁶ The overall impact of the FNI is expected to include the positive rebalancing of inequalities, including gender inequality.²²⁷⁷

On 2 April 2019, the Department of Youth and National Civil Service under the Italian Presidency of the Council of Ministers announced the “Fermenti” call for applications with a total funding of EUR16 million.²²⁷⁸ The objective of “Fermenti” is to provide financial and technical support to projects that explore fundamental social challenges for young people, and “equality for all genders” is one of the five social challenges identifies as priorities by the call for applications.²²⁷⁹

From 4 – 5 April 2019, the President of the Council of Ministers Giuseppe Conte attended the Sustainable Economy Forum in Coriano and reaffirmed the commitment of the Government of Italy to foster sustainable development which includes, among other priorities, access to credit for SMEs and support for female entrepreneurship.²²⁸⁰

Italy has taken efforts to support the development of finance programs that strive to advance women’s economic empowerment and gender equality while promoting mutually reinforcing economic prosperity and stability in partner countries that include providing access to capital that enhance economic opportunities for women.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Foti Vito

²²⁷⁴ Roma 4 marzo 2019: Conferenza di lancio del progetto CL.E.A.R, Department for Equal Opportunities (Rome), 27 February 2019. Date of access: 6 June 2019. <http://www.pariopportunita.gov.it/news/roma-4-marzo-2019-conferenza-di-lancio-del-progetto-cl-e-a-r/>

²²⁷⁵ Roma 4 marzo 2019: Conferenza di lancio del progetto CL.E.A.R, Department for Equal Opportunities (Rome), 27 February 2019. Date of access: 6 June 2019. <http://www.pariopportunita.gov.it/news/roma-4-marzo-2019-conferenza-di-lancio-del-progetto-cl-e-a-r/>

²²⁷⁶ Il Fondo Nazionale Innovazione è realtà, Donna in Affari (Rome), 5 March 2019. Date of access: 7 June 2019. <http://www.donnainaffari.it/2019/03/il-fondo-nazionale-innovazione-e-realta/>

²²⁷⁷ Il Fondo Nazionale Innovazione è realtà, Donna in Affari (Rome), 5 March 2019. Date of access: 7 June 2019. <http://www.donnainaffari.it/2019/03/il-fondo-nazionale-innovazione-e-realta/>

²²⁷⁸ Bando “Fermenti”, l’uguaglianza per tutti i generi tra le sfide, Department for Equal Opportuntiiies (Rome), 2 April 2019. Date of access: 6 June 2019. <http://www.pariopportunita.gov.it/news/bando-fermenti-luguaglianza-per-tutti-i-generi-tra-le-sfide-sociali/>

²²⁷⁹ Bando “Fermenti”, l’uguaglianza per tutti i generi tra le sfide, Department for Equal Opportuntiiies (Rome), 2 April 2019. Date of access: 6 June 2019. <http://www.pariopportunita.gov.it/news/bando-fermenti-luguaglianza-per-tutti-i-generi-tra-le-sfide-sociali/>

²²⁸⁰ Il Forum dedicato al Nuovo modello di economia con tavole rotonde su finanze, tecnologie e smart cities, Donna in Affari (Rome), 5 April 2019. Date of access: 7 June 2019. <http://www.donnainaffari.it/2019/04/sustainable-economy-forum-a-san-patrignano/>

Japan: -1

Japan has not complied in its commitment to support development finance programs that strive to advance women's economic empowerment and gender equality while promoting mutually reinforcing economic prosperity and stability in partner countries, including by providing access to capital that enhances economic opportunities for women.

On 28 November 2018, the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the Vietnam Office and the Vietnam Women's Union signed agreements to promote "gender-responsive financial inclusion," through commercial banks and microfinance organizations.²²⁸¹ This project is planned to be implemented from March 2019 to March 2021.²²⁸² As per, the news source Vietnam Plus, "although the majority of customers of microfinance services are women, the types of financial products available to them are quite limited."²²⁸³

Japan has taken the effort to promote economic and stability in a partner country through agreeing to provide access to capital via commercial banks and microfinance organization that enhance economic opportunities for women. However, this action is not mutually reinforcing and involves finance programs carried out by private institutions, not the Japanese government. Therefore, Japan has not complied in its commitment to support development finance programs that strive to advance women's economic empowerment and gender equality while promoting mutually reinforcing economic prosperity and stability in partner countries, including by providing access to capital that enhances economic opportunities for women.

Thus, Japan receives a score of -1.²²⁸⁴

Analyst: Tyler Rae McMurdo

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied in its commitment to support development finance programs that strive to advance women's economic empowerment and gender equality while promoting mutually reinforcing economic prosperity and stability in partner countries, including by providing access to capital that enhances economic opportunities for women.

On 20 August 2018, Prime Minister Theresa May announced that the United Kingdom will be initiating a GBP 200 million "Women's Integrated Sexual Health" program to help the poorest, most marginalized women and girls in nineteen countries around the world gain access to birth control in effort to promote economic empowerment and gender equality.²²⁸⁵ The British government

²²⁸¹ Japan Helps to Promote Financial Services for Vietnamese Women, Vietnam Plus (Hanoi) 28 November 2018. <https://en.vietnamplus.vn/japan-helps-to-promote-financial-services-for-vietnamese-women/142690.vnp>; Japan, VN Cooperate to Promote Financial Service for Women, The Socialist Republic of Vietnam Online Newspaper of the Government (Hanoi) 30 November 2018. <http://news.chinhphu.vn/Home/Japan-VN-cooperate-to-promote-financial-service-for-women/201811/35309.vgp>

²²⁸² Japan Helps to Promote Financial Services for Vietnamese Women, Vietnam Plus (Hanoi) 28 November 2018. <https://en.vietnamplus.vn/japan-helps-to-promote-financial-services-for-vietnamese-women/142690.vnp>

²²⁸³ Japan Helps to Promote Financial Services for Vietnamese Women, Vietnam Plus (Hanoi) 28 November 2018. <https://en.vietnamplus.vn/japan-helps-to-promote-financial-services-for-vietnamese-women/142690.vnp>

²²⁸⁴ This non-compliance was determined after a deep search fo the following websitse: <https://www.japan.go.jp/>, <http://www.gender.go.jp>, <https://asia.nikkei.com/>, <https://www.japantimes.co.jp>, <https://www.scmp.com>, <https://www.channelnewsasia.com>, <https://www3.nhk.or.jp>, <http://www.asahi.com>,

²²⁸⁵ UK to Help Poorest Women Around the World Gain Access to Birth Control, The Telegraph (London) 30 August 2018. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/0/family-planning/>;

Kenyan President Rubukes Theresa May on Last Day of Africa Trip, The Guardian (London) 30 August 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/aug/30/kenya-president-rebuked-theresa-may-last-day-africa-trip>.

recognizes the link between access to birth control and economic empowerment and gender equality.²²⁸⁶ Through this initiative, the British government announced that through its “Leave No Girl Behind” program in Kenya, it will support 5000 girls to resume their education.²²⁸⁷

On 22 September 2018, the Minister for Women Victoria Atkins announced a new government start-up fund of GBP 489,050 for relevant organizations to help women returners to work get back into work and progress in their careers through investment in “training, refreshing skills and facilitating work placements.”²²⁸⁸ Atkins affirmed her goal of women’s economic empowerment and gender equality through this fund by stating, “for too long, taking time out of work to care for others has cut short careers and brilliant, talented women are unable to re-enter industries which will not support them to return ... By taking action on this issue we can grow the economy and achieve true equality in our workplaces.”²²⁸⁹

On 13 November 2018, the Government of the United Kingdom invested GBP200 million in the Wish program which will be implemented by the International Planned Parenthood Federation and Maria Stopes International.²²⁹⁰ This program will promote development and “increase the availability of contraceptives in twenty-seven countries across Africa and Asia” and aims to help empower women to “stay in education, forge a career, [and] stay healthy.”²²⁹¹

On 23 November 2018, the UK announced it will invest GBP50 million to provide funding for initiatives to end female genital mutilation (FGM) in Africa by 2030.²²⁹² As per the Guardian, the Department for International Development, approximately GBP15 million of this funding “will be allocated to Sudan, where an estimated 87 percent of women and girls aged 15 to 49 have undergone FGM.”²²⁹³ In Sudan, this money will be used to support the Saleema Initiative, which runs clubs at schools to discuss women and girls’ rights and FGM.²²⁹⁴

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment. The United Kingdom has taken efforts to support development of finance programs by creating a fund for organizations to advance women’s economic empowerment and gender equality and has taken effort to promote mutually

²²⁸⁶ Kenyan President Rubukes Theresa May on Last Day of Africa Trip, The Guardian (London) 30 August 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/aug/30/kenya-president-rebukes-theresa-may-last-day-africa-trip>.

²²⁸⁷ Kenyan President Rubukes Theresa May on Last Day of Africa Trip, The Guardian (London) 30 August 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/aug/30/kenya-president-rebukes-theresa-may-last-day-africa-trip>.

²²⁸⁸ £500,000 Awarded to Organisations Helping to Tackle Causes of the Gender Pay Gap, Government Equalities Office (London) 22 September 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/500000-awarded-to-organisations-helping-to-tackle-causes-of-the-gender-pay-gap>.

²²⁸⁹ £500,000 Awarded to Organisations Helping to Tackle Causes of the Gender Pay Gap, Government Equalities Office (London) 22 September 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/500000-awarded-to-organisations-helping-to-tackle-causes-of-the-gender-pay-gap>.

²²⁹⁰ UK Gives ‘Landmark’ £200m to Improve Contraceptive Access in Africa and Asia, The Guardian (London) 13 November 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2018/nov/13/uk-gives-landmark-200m-to-improve-contraceptive-access-in-africa-and-asia>.

²²⁹¹ UK Gives ‘Landmark’ £200m to Improve Contraceptive Access in Africa and Asia, The Guardian (London) 13 November 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2018/nov/13/uk-gives-landmark-200m-to-improve-contraceptive-access-in-africa-and-asia>.

²²⁹² UK Aid Makes Largest Ever Investment to Help End FGM, Department for International Development (London) 23 November 2018. <https://dfidnews.blog.gov.uk/2018/11/23/uk-aid-makes-largest-ever-investment-to-help-end-fgm/>. UK Pledges £50m to Help End FGM Across Africa by 2030, The Guardian (London) 23 November 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/nov/23/uk-funding-pledge-fgm-female-genital-mutilation-africa>.

²²⁹³ UK Pledges £50m to Help End FGM Across Africa by 2030, The Guardian (London) 23 November 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/nov/23/uk-funding-pledge-fgm-female-genital-mutilation-africa>.

²²⁹⁴ UK Pledges £50m to Help End FGM Across Africa by 2030, The Guardian (London) 23 November 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/nov/23/uk-funding-pledge-fgm-female-genital-mutilation-africa>.

reinforcing economic prosperity in partner countries (such as Kenya and Sudan) by providing access to capital that enhance economic opportunities and gender equality for women.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Tyler Rae McMurdo

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to supporting development finance programs that strive to advance women’s economic empowerment and gender equality while promoting mutually reinforcing economic prosperity and stability in partner countries, including by providing access to capital that enhances economic opportunities for women.

On 11 June 2018, the U.S. extended its “2X” initiative to G7 members, creating a new and collaborative goal of mobilizing USD 3 billion by 2020 for investment in business activities that will benefit women.²²⁹⁵ Development Finance Institutions from G7 countries will use innovative ways, including using blended finance, to support investments and initiatives that provide women in developing countries with access to leadership opportunities, quality employment, finance, enterprise support.²²⁹⁶

On 17 July 2018, U.S. Senate passed The Women’s Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act.²²⁹⁷ The Act develops a development cooperation policy for the United States to support women’s economic empowerment and financial inclusion.²²⁹⁸ Additionally, the Act authorizes USAID to support micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, particularly those owned, managed, and controlled by women.²²⁹⁹

On 18 July 2018, the U.S. House of Representatives approved a development finance bill called The Better Utilization of Investment Leading to Development (BUILD) Act.²³⁰⁰ This creates a new agency which will combine the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) and the U.S. Agency for International Development’s Development Credit Authority in order to expand U.S. development finance capabilities.²³⁰¹

²²⁹⁵ The Development Finance Institutes of the G7 Commit to Mobilise US\$3 Billion to Invest in the World’s Women, CDC (London), 11 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.cdcgroup.com/en/news-insight/news/the-development-finance-institutions-of-the-g7-commit-to-mobilise-us3-billion-to-invest-in-the-worlds-women/>

²²⁹⁶ The Development Finance Institutes of the G7 Commit to Mobilise US\$3 Billion to Invest in the World’s Women, CDC (London), 11 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.cdcgroup.com/en/news-insight/news/the-development-finance-institutions-of-the-g7-commit-to-mobilise-us3-billion-to-invest-in-the-worlds-women/>

²²⁹⁷ H.R. 5480, Women’s Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act, Republican Policy Committee (Washington, D.C.), 17 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://policy.house.gov/legislative/bills/hr-5480-women-s-entrepreneurship-and-economic-empowerment-act>

²²⁹⁸ H.R. 5480, Women’s Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act, Republican Policy Committee (Washington, D.C.), 17 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://policy.house.gov/legislative/bills/hr-5480-women-s-entrepreneurship-and-economic-empowerment-act>

²²⁹⁹ H.R. 5480, Women’s Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act, Republican Policy Committee (Washington, D.C.), 17 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://policy.house.gov/legislative/bills/hr-5480-women-s-entrepreneurship-and-economic-empowerment-act>

²³⁰⁰ US House of Representatives Approves Finance Development Bill, DEVEX (Washington, D.C.), 18 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://www.devex.com/news/us-house-of-representatives-approves-development-finance-bill-93132?utm_source=article&utm_medium=88888&utm_campaign=line

²³⁰¹ BUILD Act for New US Development Finance Corporation Sails through Senate Committee Vote, DEVEX (Washington, D.C.), 27 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://www.devex.com/news/build-act-for-new-us-development-finance-corporation-sails-through-senate-committee-vote-93015?utm_source=article&utm_medium=88888&utm_campaign=line

On 12 September 2018, OPIC CEO Ray Washburne said that OPIC will have more capital for initiatives that invest in women-owned businesses should The BUILD Act be passed by U.S. Congress.²³⁰² On 3 October 2018, U.S. Senate passed The BUILD Act legislation, creating a USD 60 billion agency called the U.S. International Development Finance Corp.²³⁰³ On 5 October 2018, President Donald Trump signed the BUILD Act into law.²³⁰⁴ The passing of the BUILD Act led to the creation of the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (USIDFC), which will take up to a year to operationalize.²³⁰⁵ The USIDFC will help the U.S. solidify the work of different U.S. agencies that assist in fostering the private sector abroad. It will also help the U.S. work better on development challenges with its allies such as Canada, Japan, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, and other partners with enhanced capabilities.²³⁰⁶ The USIDFC can also help with a series of national security and foreign policy challenges to better the current development finance instruments in the U.S.²³⁰⁷ The BUILD Act allows USIDFC to: make equity investments; provide technical assistance; increase the ability to take smart risks using local currency loans, first loss guarantees, and the provision of small grants; raise the spending cap of the USIDFC's investments to USD60 billion, more than doubling OPIC's current USD29 billion funding cap; provide a 7-year authorization; and create a "preference" for U.S. investors, rather than a requirement.²³⁰⁸ Another key aspect of USAID which will be transferred over to USIDFC is the Office of Private Capital and Microenterprise within the Bureau for Economic Growth, Education and Environment.²³⁰⁹

On 25 September 2018, Advisor to the President Ivanka Trump announces that The White House is planning on launching "an umbrella initiative" in 2019.²³¹⁰ The initiative will focus on economic empowerment of women for three pillars: vocational education and skills training, promotion of women entrepreneurs, and eliminating barriers and creating enabling environments so women in the developing world are able to freely and fairly participate in their local economies.²³¹¹

²³⁰² OPIC Chief: Agency's Focus on Women an Attractive Alternative to Chinese Investments, DEVEX (Washington, D. C.), 13 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.devex.com/news/opic-chief-agency-s-focus-on-women-an-attractive-alternative-to-chinese-investments-93426>

²³⁰³ Congress, Eyeing China, Votes to Overhaul Development Finance, Reuters (London), 3 October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-congress-development/congress-eying-china-votes-to-overhaul-development-finance-idUSKCN1MD2HJ>

²³⁰⁴ Trump Strikes A Blow In US-China Struggle with BUILD Act to Contain Xi's Belt and Road, South China Morning Post (Hong Kong), 20 October 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. <https://www.scmp.com/week-asia/geopolitics/article/2169441/trump-strikes-blow-us-china-struggle-build-act-contain-xis>

²³⁰⁵ The BUILD Act Has Passed: What's Next?, Center for Strategic and International Studies (Washington, D.C.), 12 October 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. <https://www.csis.org/analysis/build-act-has-passed-whats-next>

²³⁰⁶ The BUILD Act Has Passed: What's Next?, Center for Strategic and International Studies (Washington, D.C.), 12 October 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. <https://www.csis.org/analysis/build-act-has-passed-whats-next>

²³⁰⁷ The BUILD Act Has Passed: What's Next?, Center for Strategic and International Studies (Washington, D.C.), 12 October 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. <https://www.csis.org/analysis/build-act-has-passed-whats-next>

²³⁰⁸ The BUILD Act Has Passed: What's Next?, Center for Strategic and International Studies (Washington, D.C.), 12 October 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. <https://www.csis.org/analysis/build-act-has-passed-whats-next>

²³⁰⁹ The BUILD Act Has Passed: What's Next?, Center for Strategic and International Studies (Washington, D.C.), 12 October 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. <https://www.csis.org/analysis/build-act-has-passed-whats-next>

²³¹⁰ Ivanka Trump: White House to Launch Women's Empowerment 'Umbrella Initiative' in 2019, DEVEX (Washington, D.C.), 26 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.devex.com/news/ivanka-trump-white-house-to-launch-women-s-empowerment-umbrella-initiative-in-2019-93531>

²³¹¹ Ivanka Trump: White House to Launch Women's Empowerment 'Umbrella Initiative' in 2019, DEVEX (Washington), 26 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.devex.com/news/ivanka-trump-white-house-to-launch-women-s-empowerment-umbrella-initiative-in-2019-93531>

In October 2018, the Council on Foreign Affairs publishes a report introducing the “Women’s Workplace Equality Index” which ranks 189 countries on legal gender equality in the world place.²³¹² The United States ranks 20th out of 189 countries.²³¹³ On 7 February 2019, the White House launches the Women’s Global Development Prosperity (W-GDP) Initiative.²³¹⁴ The initiative will be led by the White House and the National Security Council in collaboration with USAID.²³¹⁵ The initiative is intended to bring women’s economic empowerment to the forefront of the U.S. Government’s development agenda by focusing on three pillars: advancing workforce development and vocation education; promoting women’s entrepreneurship and access to capital, markets, and technical assistance and networks; and, striving to remove the legal, regulatory, and cultural barriers which constrain women from participating in the economy.²³¹⁶ W-GDP works with the Women’s Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act passed by Congress in July 2018 to improve access to finance, reduce gender disparities, eliminate gender-based violence, support women’s property and land rights, and improve education.²³¹⁷

On 5 June 2019, Advisor to the President Ivanka Trump announces a deal between USAID and Mastercard. Within the partnership, Mastercard will increase its efforts to promote women’s economic empowerment in developing countries and improve women entrepreneur’s access to formal financial services through targeted programs such as skill training, business development, and advocacy.²³¹⁸

The United States has fully complied with its commitment. The United States has taken measures to support development programs for women through the passing of Acts. The United States has also promoted economic prosperity and stability in partner countries by collaborating with other G7 members — Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the European Union — and through its own national projects, in order to enhance access to capital for women, specifically by improving financial inclusion and opportunities for developing countries.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Tirtha Shah

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to support development finance programs that strive to advance women’s economic empowerment and gender equality while promoting mutually reinforcing economic prosperity and stability in partner countries, including by providing access to capital that enhances economic opportunities for women.

²³¹² New Interactive Reports on Women’s Economic Empowerment, Council on Foreign Relations (New York), 15 October 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. <https://www.cfr.org/blog/new-interactive-reports-womens-economic-empowerment>

²³¹³ New Interactive Reports on Women’s Economic Empowerment, Council on Foreign Relations (New York), 15 October 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. <https://www.cfr.org/blog/new-interactive-reports-womens-economic-empowerment>

²³¹⁴ Realizing Women’s Economic Potential, USAID (Washington, D.C.), 13 March 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/gender-equality-and-womens-empowerment/womens-economic-empowerment>

²³¹⁵ Realizing Women’s Economic Potential, USAID (Washington, D.C.), 13 March 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/gender-equality-and-womens-empowerment/womens-economic-empowerment>

²³¹⁶ Realizing Women’s Economic Potential, USAID (Washington, D.C.), 13 March 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/gender-equality-and-womens-empowerment/womens-economic-empowerment>

²³¹⁷ Realizing Women’s Economic Potential, USAID (Washington, D.C.), 13 March 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/gender-equality-and-womens-empowerment/womens-economic-empowerment>

²³¹⁸ Mastercard and USAID Extend Relationship to Support Women Entrepreneurs, Yahoo Finance (California), 5 June 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/mastercard-usaid-extend-relationship-support-152200392.html>

On 14 June 2018, the European Commission proposed a 30 percent funding increase for the external action budget of the European Union from EUR94.5 billion in the period 2014-2020 to EUR123 billion from 2021 to 2027.²³¹⁹ Among other features, an element of the new external budget proposal is the implementation of a streamlined Neighborhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument that will jointly address global challenges such as gender equality in external partner countries by promoting and financing greater external action programs.²³²⁰

On 19 June 2018, the European Commission organized the inaugural Digital4Her conference titled “More Women in Digital: A Strategy for Growth and Equality” that formed part of an initiative to foster women’s participation in the tech sector, as a means to boost the economy and bridge gender gaps within society.²³²¹ The online database European Network for Women in Digital was launched at the event and aims to promote greater participation of girls and women in digital studies and careers across the EU by facilitating partnerships between organizations and business to promote “women in digital.”²³²²

On 30 June 2018, the European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven Mimica, alongside the Chair of the African Union (AU) and President of Rwanda Paul Kagamé co-hosted the “Women in Power” side-event at the 31st African Union Summit.²³²³ Among other issues, the event promoted women’s empowerment and gender equality as a priority on the common AU-EU agenda and European Commissioner Mimica made specific reference to the promotion of women in entrepreneurship.²³²⁴

On 10-11 July 2018, the European Commission, the European Trading Foundation, and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development held the Working Group on SME and Entrepreneurship Policy event in Tunis under the framework of the OECD-MENA Competitiveness programme. Among other topics, this event re-affirmed a commitment to the entrepreneurship potential of women and the skill base of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and assessed that education, employment, and economic policies need to be re-evaluated in order to promote women entrepreneurship.²³²⁵

On 18 July 2018, the EP published a briefing titled “Women in the Western Balkans: Gender equality in the EU accession process” that reaffirms gender equality as part of the accession conditions that

²³¹⁹ EU budget: Making the EU fit for its role as strong global actor, Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (Brussels) 14 June 2018. Date of access: 30 September 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-budget-making-eu-fit-its-role-strong-global-actor_en.

²³²⁰ EU budget: Making the EU fit for its role as strong global actor, Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (Brussels) 14 June 2018. Date of access: 30 September 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-budget-making-eu-fit-its-role-strong-global-actor_en.

²³²¹ Digital4Her, European Commission (Brussels), 19 June 2018. Date of access: 27 October 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/digital4her>

²³²² European Network for Women in Digital, European Commission (Brussels), 19 June 2018. Date of access: 27 October 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/european-network-women-digital>

²³²³ Africa and Europe put women’s empowerment and gender equality at the top of their agenda, Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (Brussels) 30 June 2018. Date of access: 30 September 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/africa-and-europe-put-womens-empowerment-and-gender-equality-top-their-agenda_en.

²³²⁴ African Union Summit: Joint AU-EU Side event “Women in Power”, European Commission (Brussels) 30 June 2018. Date of access: 30 September 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2014-2019/mimica/announcements/african-union-summit-joint-au-eu-side-event-women-power-nouakchott-30062018_en.

²³²⁵ A more entrepreneurial drive in North Africa and the Middle East, European Trading Foundation (Turin), 31 July 2018. Date of access: 30 September 2018. <https://www.etf.europa.eu/en/news-and-events/news/more-entrepreneurial-drive-north-africa-and-middle-east>.

candidate and potential candidate countries from the Western Balkans have to comply.²³²⁶ The briefing promotes that the Western Balkans should strive to advance gender equality by investing in the potential and skills of women to underpin achievements such as economic growth, employment, and social cohesion.²³²⁷

On 24 July 2018, the European Commission launched the 2018-2020 Work Programme for Horizon Europe, a framework research and innovation program that aims to eliminate gender inequalities women face in fields of research and innovation.²³²⁸ This initiative will conduct an analysis of current gender gaps and biases in the allocation of grants in order to contribute to more gender equal research grant systems at the EU level.²³²⁹

On 27 July 2018, the European Investment Bank (EIB) signed a financial agreement worth EUR375 million with the National Bank of Egypt to fund investments by SMEs and mid-caps in Egypt under the EIB's Economic Resilience Initiative.²³³⁰ This agreement will enhance the prospects for more resilient and inclusive growth in Egypt through financial inclusion and the creation of sustainable employment opportunities, particularly for women and in less-developed areas.²³³¹ A percentage of the EIB's financing, which come from EU support, will target firms specifically owned or run by women.²³³²

On 28 August 2018, the European Parliament passed the resolution on “Gender Budgeting in the EU Budget — The way forward.”²³³³ This resolution affirms gender mainstreaming as an effective strategy towards realizing gender equality, which involves the integration of a gender perspective into the preparation, design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of policies, regulatory measures, and spending programs.²³³⁴ The resolution calls on the European Commission and the Council of the

²³²⁶ Women in the Western Balkans: Gender equality in the EU accession process, European Parliament (Brussels) 18 July 2018. Date of access: 27 October 2018.

[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2018/625139/EPRS_BRI\(2018\)625139_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2018/625139/EPRS_BRI(2018)625139_EN.pdf)

²³²⁷ Women in the Western Balkans: Gender equality in the EU accession process, European Parliament (Brussels) 18 July 2018. Date of access: 27 October 2018.

[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2018/625139/EPRS_BRI\(2018\)625139_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2018/625139/EPRS_BRI(2018)625139_EN.pdf)

²³²⁸ Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2018-2020, European Commission (Brussels), 24 July 2018. Date of access: 14 October 2018. http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2018-2020/main/h2020-wp1820-swfs_en.pdf.

²³²⁹ Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2018-2020, European Commission (Brussels), 24 July 2018. Date of access: 14 October 2018. http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2018-2020/main/h2020-wp1820-swfs_en.pdf.

²³³⁰ EIB signs EUR375 million financing agreement with NBE to support SMEs in Egypt, European Investment Bank, 27 July 2018. Date of access: 10 October 2018. <http://www.eib.org/en/infocentre/press/releases/all/2018/2018-208-eib-signs-eur-375-million-financing-agreement-with-nbe-to-support-smes-in-egypt>.

²³³¹ EIB signs EUR375 million financing agreement with NBE to support SMEs in Egypt, European Investment Bank, 27 July 2018. Date of access: 10 October 2018. <http://www.eib.org/en/infocentre/press/releases/all/2018/2018-208-eib-signs-eur-375-million-financing-agreement-with-nbe-to-support-smes-in-egypt>.

²³³² EIB signs EUR375 million financing agreement with NBE to support SMEs in Egypt, European Investment Bank, 27 July 2018. Date of access: 10 October 2018. <http://www.eib.org/en/infocentre/press/releases/all/2018/2018-208-eib-signs-eur-375-million-financing-agreement-with-nbe-to-support-smes-in-egypt>.

²³³³ European Parliament resolution on Gender Budgeting in the EU Budget — The Way forward, European Parliament (Brussels) 28 August 2018. Date of access: 10 October 2018. http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2014_2019/plmrep/COMMITTEES/FEMM/DV/2018/09-03/20180828DraftResolutionGenderBudgetingintheEUBudget-thewayforward_EN.pdf.

²³³⁴ European Parliament resolution on Gender Budgeting in the EU Budget — The Way forward, European Parliament (Brussels) 28 August 2018. Date of access: 10 October 2018. http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2014_2019/plmrep/COMMITTEES/FEMM/DV/2018/09-03/20180828DraftResolutionGenderBudgetingintheEUBudget-thewayforward_EN.pdf.

European Union to re-affirm their commitment to gender equality by a clear commitment on gender budgeting in the regulation of the multiannual financial framework for the years 2021 to 2027.²³³⁵

From 29 to 30 August 2018, the EU, in partnership with the UN Women and the International Labor Organization, launched the “Win-Win: Gender equality means good business” regional programme at the 2018 Women’s Empowerment Principles Forum.²³³⁶ This initiative will engage private sector companies, women’s business networks, women entrepreneurs and others to foster women’s economic empowerment and exchange good practices to advance gender equality and promote partnerships and innovation between women from Europe and Latin American region.²³³⁷ The initiative will be implemented across six countries over a period of three years: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Jamaica, and Uruguay.²³³⁸

On 30 August 2018, the EU through its “Support to SME Development in Armenia” and EU4Business initiative funded the second gathering of the Women Entrepreneurs’ Club in Yerevan.²³³⁹ This initiative was officially opened by the Head of the EU Delegation to Armenia Ambassador Piotr Switalski and brought women entrepreneurs together to exchange their experience, build new business connections and cooperation opportunities in order to promote more participation of women in entrepreneurship and narrow the gender gap.²³⁴⁰

On 5 September 2018, the High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the EC Frederica Mogherini announced a new EUR2 million programme that will train and educate Afghan women in Kazakhstan.²³⁴¹ This initiative strives to economically empower women to advance gender equality.²³⁴²

On 18 September 2018, the EU through its EU Initiative for Financial Inclusion supported the extension of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development’s Women in Business Programme to launch in Morocco.²³⁴³ This initiative will provide EUR35 million to support women-

²³³⁵ European Parliament resolution on Gender Budgeting in the EU Budget — The Way forward, European Parliament (Brussels) 28 August 2018. Date of access: 10 October 2018.

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2014_2019/plmrep/COMMITTEES/FEMM/DV/2018/09-03/20180828DraftResolutionGenderBudgetingintheEUBudget-thewayforward_EN.pdf.

²³³⁶ Gender equality is good for business, leaders say at 2018 WEPs Forum, UN Women (New York) 26 September 2018. Date of access: 13 October 2018. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2018/9/news-2018-weps-forum>.

²³³⁷ Gender equality is good for business, leaders say at 2018 WEPs Forum, UN Women (New York) 26 September 2018. Date of access: 13 October 2018. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2018/9/news-2018-weps-forum>.

²³³⁸ Gender equality is good for business, leaders say at 2018 WEPs Forum, UN Women (New York) 26 September 2018. Date of access: 13 October 2018. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2018/9/news-2018-weps-forum>.

²³³⁹ Armenian women entrepreneurs gather in Yerevan, EU4Business (Yerevan), 4 September 2018. Date of access: 13 October 2018. <http://eu4business.eu/news/armenian-women-entrepreneurs-gather-yerevan>.

²³⁴⁰ Armenian women entrepreneurs gather in Yerevan, EU4Business (Yerevan), 4 September 2018. Date of access: 13 October 2018. <http://eu4business.eu/news/armenian-women-entrepreneurs-gather-yerevan>.

²³⁴¹ EU supports Kazakh programme to educate women, EURACTIV.com (London), 7 September 2018. Date of access: 13 October 2018. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/central-europe/news/eu-supports-kazakh-programme-to-educate-afghan-women/>.

²³⁴² EU supports Kazakh programme to educate women, EURACTIV.com (London), 7 September 2018. Date of access: 13 October 2018. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/central-europe/news/eu-supports-kazakh-programme-to-educate-afghan-women/>.

²³⁴³ EBRD, backed by EU, launches Women in Business Programme in Morocco, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (London), 18 September 2018. Date of Access: 13 October 2018.

<https://www.ebrd.com/news/2018/ebrd-backed-by-eu-launches-women-in-business-programme-in-morocco.html>.

led SMEs and provide business advice, training, mentoring and network-building services to women entrepreneurs.²³⁴⁴

From 21 to 22 September 2018, the High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission Frederica Mogherini, alongside the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada Chrystia Freeland co-chaired the women foreign ministers' meeting.²³⁴⁵ Among other issues, the meeting included a discussion on ways to expand the global commitment to gender equality and the economic empowerment of women and girls and the co-chairs pledged their support to build a network of governments and civil society organizations to advance gender equality and women's rights.²³⁴⁶

On 27 September 2018, the EU in partnership with the United Nations announced a EUR50 million regional programme to end femicide in Latin America as part of the Spotlight Initiative, a partnership to promote gender equality and women and girl's empowerment by eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls, backed by an initial EUR500 million.²³⁴⁷

On 29 September 2018, the EU through its "Direct Action for Women — Reform, Inclusion and Confidence" funded the organization of gender equality training and round table discussions that focused on the importance of women economic empowerment in Lebanon.²³⁴⁸

On 9 October 2018, the EU supported the launch of the "Jobs, Skills and Finance for Women and Youth in The Gambia Programme."²³⁴⁹ This initiative will provide EUR15 million to stabilize the economic, social, and security situation of The Gambia by facilitating social inclusion and employment of youth and women, with a specific emphasis on promoting gender equality.²³⁵⁰

From 10 to 11 October, the EU supported the 2018 edition of the Women4Mediterranean Conference entitled "Women build inclusive societies in the Mediterranean" that gathered more than 300 high-level stakeholders from all sectors involved in gender equality and women's empowerment

²³⁴⁴ EBRD, backed by EU, launches Women in Business Programme in Morocco, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (London), 18 September 2018. Date of Access: 13 October 2018.

<https://www.ebrd.com/news/2018/ebrd-backed-by-eu-launches-women-in-business-programme-in-morocco.html>.

²³⁴⁵ The EU and Canada reiterate a shared commitment to advance gender equality and women's contributions to peace and security at the women Foreign Ministers' Meeting, European Union External Action (Montréal) 23 September 2018. Date of access: 13 October 2018. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/50954/eu-and-canada-reiterate-shared-commitment-advance-gender-equality-and-women-s-contributions_en.

²³⁴⁶ The EU and Canada reiterate a shared commitment to advance gender equality and women's contributions to peace and security at the women Foreign Ministers' Meeting, European Union External Action (Montréal) 23 September 2018. Date of access: 13 October 2018. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/50954/eu-and-canada-reiterate-shared-commitment-advance-gender-equality-and-women-s-contributions_en.

²³⁴⁷ EU-UN Spotlight Initiative — Latin America Regional Programme officially launched, European Union External Action (Brussels), 27 September 2018. Date of access: 13 October 2018. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/51262/eu-un-spotlight-initiative-latin-america-regional-programme-officially-launched_fr.

²³⁴⁸ The EU-funded project DAWRIC organises two events on gender equality in Lebanon, EU Neighbours (Brussels), 4 October 2018. Date of access: 19 October 2018. <https://www.euneighbours.eu/en/south/stay-informed/news/eu-funded-project-dawric-organises-two-events-gender-equality-lebanon>.

²³⁴⁹ ²³⁴⁹ The Jobs, Skills and Finance for Women and Youth Programme has Launched in The Gambia, UN Capital Development Fund (Banjul), 9 October 2018. Date of access: 19 October 2018. <http://www.uncdf.org/article/3967/the-jobs-skills-and-finance-for-women-and-youth-programme-has-launched-in-the-gambia>.

²³⁵⁰ The Jobs, Skills and Finance for Women and Youth Programme has Launched in The Gambia, UN Capital Development Fund (Banjul), 9 October 2018. Date of access: 19 October 2018. <http://www.uncdf.org/article/3967/the-jobs-skills-and-finance-for-women-and-youth-programme-has-launched-in-the-gambia>.

in the Euro-Mediterranean region, including the Secretary General of the European External Action Service Helga Schmid.²³⁵¹ The conference followed the declaration of the “Ministerial Conference on Strengthening the Role of Women in Society” that was sponsored by the European Union and attached great importance to the economic rights of women, including the entitlement of all women to freely earn decent living in the labor market with equal pay and equal access to economic resources.²³⁵²

On 15 October 2018, the Head of the EU Delegation to Serbia Ambassador Sem Fabrizi announced the implementation of a three-year project entitled “Priority Action for Gender Equality” in partnership with UN Women.²³⁵³ This initiative will strengthen administrative capacities for gender equality and contribute to the empowerment of women in the labour market, women’s entrepreneurship, and the empowerment of rural women, through awarding at least 30 financial grants to women’s civil society organizations in Serbia.²³⁵⁴

On 17 October 2018, the European Commission provided an additional EUR15 million in support of its pledge to assist Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, backed by an initial EUR65 million in humanitarian assistance.²³⁵⁵ The priority of this support package will focus on advancing gender equality by meeting the needs of female-headed households and families.²³⁵⁶

On 26 October 2018, the EC greenlighted the start of the implementation of the Instrument for Pre-accession for Rural Development II program for Albania.²³⁵⁷ The program enables Albanian farmers and agribusiness to have access to EUR71million of funding from the EU available for the period 2014-2020 for investment in agriculture and rural development, with particular emphasis on creating new employment opportunities for women in agriculture.²³⁵⁸

On 16 November 2018, the European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven Mimica participated in a Gender Equality panel alongside the United Nations,

²³⁵¹ EU behind the Women4Mediterranean Conference 2018, EU Neighbours (Brussels), 20 August 2018. Date of access: 13 October 2018. <https://www.euneighbours.eu/en/south/stay-informed/news/eu-behind-women4mediterranean-conference-2018>.

²³⁵² Adopted Declaration by Union for the Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Strengthening the Role of Women in Society, Union for the Mediterranean (Cairo), 27 November 2017. Date of access: 13 October 2018. <https://ufmsecretariat.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/FINAL-ADOPTED-Declaration-on-Strengthening-Women-in-Society.pdf>.

²³⁵³ Fabrizi: Priority Action for Gender Equality, The Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Serbia (Belgrade) 15 October 2018. Date of access: 19 October 2018. <https://europa.rs/fabrizi-priority-action-for-gender-equality/?lang=en>.

²³⁵⁴ Fabrizi: Priority Action for Gender Equality, The Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Serbia (Belgrade) 15 October 2018. Date of access: 19 October 2018. <https://europa.rs/fabrizi-priority-action-for-gender-equality/?lang=en>.

²³⁵⁵ Commission delivers on its pledge to support Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (Brussels), 17 October 2018. Date of access: 19 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/commission-delivers-its-pledge-support-rohingya-refugees-bangladesh_en.

²³⁵⁶ Commission delivers on its pledge to support Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (Brussels), 17 October 2018. Date of access: 19 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/commission-delivers-its-pledge-support-rohingya-refugees-bangladesh_en.

²³⁵⁷ EU greenlights the start of the implementation of IPARD II programme for Albania, Independent Balkan News Agency (Pomorie), 26 October 2018. Date of access: 27 October 2018. <https://balkaneu.com/eu-greenlights-the-start-of-the-implementation-of-ipard-ii-programme-for-albania/>

²³⁵⁸ EU greenlights the start of the implementation of IPARD II programme for Albania, Independent Balkan News Agency (Pomorie), 26 October 2018. Date of access: 27 October 2018. <https://balkaneu.com/eu-greenlights-the-start-of-the-implementation-of-ipard-ii-programme-for-albania/>

the Chinese government, and non-governmental organization representatives during the China-EU Development Conference. During the panel, Mimica highlighted the EU's interest to work more in and with China on advancing gender equality following a meeting with the chair of the newly established China International Development Cooperation Agency where both sides agreed to greater cooperation on sustainable development.²³⁵⁹

On 20 November 2018, the EU supported the launch of the BUSINESSMED's three thematic committees in Barcelona, Spain which promote economic integration in the Mediterranean as part of the EU-funded Enhancing Business Support Organizations and Business Networks in the Southern Neighbourhood project.²³⁶⁰ One of the three committees is focused on "Women and Youth Empowerment" and aims to promote "cutting-edge and strategic support in women and youth programming in all development contexts."²³⁶¹

On 26 November 2018, the EC announced an additional EUR5 million in support of the projects of 2018 Nobel Peace Prize laureates Nadia Murad and Doctor Denis Mukwege maintaining its commitment to eradicating violence against women and girls.²³⁶² The European support for the 2018 Nobel Peace Prize laureates is part of the EU's broader commitment to gender equality and women's empowerment globally and will ensure the continuity of respective support programmes for victims of sexual violence in Iraq and the Democratic Republic of Congo.²³⁶³

On 27 November 2018, the EC announced a financial package worth EUR474 million to support state building and public sector reforms in Afghanistan.²³⁶⁴ Among other issues, advancing gender equality is identified as at the core of this EU action financing Afghanistan's reform agenda.²³⁶⁵

On 29 November 2018, the European Union and the Mauritius Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare announced a Joint Monitoring Framework Agreement with the objective of tracking progress on the implementation of the Mauritius-EU Gender Action Plan.²³⁶⁶ The agreement underlines that a number of performance indicators relating to the promotion of

²³⁵⁹ EU and China step up their cooperation on sustainable development, European Commission (Brussels), 16 November 2018. Date of access: 25 November 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6408_en.htm

²³⁶⁰ BUSINESSMED's Launch of the 3 Employer Thematic Committees, EBSOMED (Barcelona), 20 November 2018. Date of access: 25 November 2018. <http://www.ebsomed.eu/en/content/activit-s/businessmeds-launch-3-thematic-committees>

²³⁶¹ BUSINESSMED's Launch of the 3 Employer Thematic Committees, EBSOMED (Barcelona), 20 November 2018. Date of access: 25 November 2018. <http://www.ebsomed.eu/en/content/activit-s/businessmeds-launch-3-thematic-committees>

²³⁶² EU supports the 2018 Nobel Peace Prize laureates, Nadia Murad and Dr Denis Mukwege, European Commission (Brussels), 26 November 2018. Date of access: 5 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6536_en.htm

²³⁶³ EU supports the 2018 Nobel Peace Prize laureates, Nadia Murad and Dr Denis Mukwege, European Commission (Brussels), 26 November 2018. Date of access: 5 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6536_en.htm

²³⁶⁴ New €474 million co-operation package for Afghanistan, European Commission (Geneva), 27 November 2018. Date of access: 5 December 2018. https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/IP-18-6565_EN.pdf

²³⁶⁵ New €474 million co-operation package for Afghanistan, European Commission (Geneva), 27 November 2018. Date of access: 5 December 2018. https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/IP-18-6565_EN.pdf

²³⁶⁶ Joint Monitoring Framework Agreement for tracking progress of Mauritius-EU Gender Action Plan, Republic of Mauritius (Port Louis), 29 November 2018. Date of access: 5 December 2018.

<http://www.govmu.org/English/News/Pages/Joint-Monitoring-Framework-Agreement-for-tracking-progress-of-Mauritius-EU-Gender-Action-Plan.aspx>

gender equality, elimination of gender-based violence, and economic empowerment of women will be more effectively monitored.²³⁶⁷

On 30 November 2018, the first regional Women Entrepreneurs Club (WE Club) was launched in Goris, Armenia, with the support of EU4Business and the EU-SMEDA project.²³⁶⁸ The WE Club aims to establish an effective platform for capacity building, business connections and networking for Armenian women entrepreneurs on a monthly basis and EU-SMEDA supports the improvement of the business and investment climate in Armenia, as well as providing access to finance for SMEs.²³⁶⁹

On 3 December 2018, the EU, with the Libyan Ministry of Labor and Rehabilitation, supported the organization of a training program for women under the framework of Libyan Women's Support Project in the Public Sector.²³⁷⁰ The program lasted eight days and about 70 women from 17 public sectors participated in the program aimed at the economic empowerment of women to enhance their role in society.²³⁷¹

On 4 December 2018, EUR17.2 million in co-financing from the EU through the Western Balkans Investment Framework was announced as part of the modernization of Kosovo's railway infrastructure.²³⁷² It was signed in the presence of the Head of the EU Office in Kosovo Bedri Hamza and supports equal opportunities with an emphasis on workforce diversity and gender equality.²³⁷³

On 5 December 2018, EU supported the launch of a new program under the Pacific Partnership to End Violence Against Women and Girls in Tonga.²³⁷⁴ The EUR19.5 million program is funded primarily by the EU (EUR12.7 million) to transform the social norms that allow violence against women and girls to continue, ensure survivors have access to quality response services, and support national and regional institutions to meet their commitments to gender equality in the Pacific region.²³⁷⁵

On 9 January 2019, the EIB gave a EUR22.3 million loan to Garanti Bank Romania to support businesses in Romania. EUR5 million of the loan amount is devoted to female entrepreneurs,

²³⁶⁷ Joint Monitoring Framework Agreement for tracking progress of Mauritius-EU Gender Action Plan, Republic of Mauritius (Port Louis), 29 November 2018. Date of access: 5 December 2018. <http://www.govmu.org/English/News/Pages/Joint-Monitoring-Framework-Agreement-for-tracking-progress-of-Mauritius-EU-Gender-Action-Plan.aspx>

²³⁶⁸ Women Entrepreneurs Club expands to Armenia's regions, EU4Business (Yerevan), 30 November 2018. Date of access: 5 December 2018. <http://eu4business.eu/news/women-entrepreneurs-club-expands-armenias-regions>

²³⁶⁹ Women Entrepreneurs Club expands to Armenia's regions, EU4Business (Yerevan), 30 November 2018. Date of access: 5 December 2018. <http://eu4business.eu/news/women-entrepreneurs-club-expands-armenias-regions>

²³⁷⁰ Libya: EU supports a training program for women, EU Neighbors (Brussels), 3 December 2018. Date of access: 5 December 2018. <https://www.euneighbours.eu/en/south/stay-informed/news/libya-eu-supports-training-program-women>

²³⁷¹ Libya: EU supports a training program for women, EU Neighbors (Brussels), 3 December 2018. Date of access: 5 December 2018. <https://www.euneighbours.eu/en/south/stay-informed/news/libya-eu-supports-training-program-women>

²³⁷² EU gives an additional 17.2 million Euro for rail project, GazetaExpress (Pristina), 4 December 2018. Date of access: 5 December 2018. <https://www.gazetaexpress.com/en/news/eu-gives-an-additional-17-2-million-euro-for-rail-project-174674/>

²³⁷³ EU gives an additional 17.2 million Euro for rail project, GazetaExpress (Pristina), 4 December 2018. Date of access: 5 December 2018. <https://www.gazetaexpress.com/en/news/eu-gives-an-additional-17-2-million-euro-for-rail-project-174674/>

²³⁷⁴ New Pacific Partnership program increases commitment to End Violence Against Women and Girls, Matangi Tonga (Nuku'alofa), 5 December 2018. Date of access: 5 December 2018. <https://matangitonga.to/2018/12/05/new-pacific-partnership-program-increases-commitment-end-violence-against-women-and-girls>

²³⁷⁵ New Pacific Partnership program increases commitment to End Violence Against Women and Girls, Matangi Tonga (Nuku'alofa), 5 December 2018. Date of access: 5 December 2018. <https://matangitonga.to/2018/12/05/new-pacific-partnership-program-increases-commitment-end-violence-against-women-and-girls>

matched by another EUR5 million from Garanti Bank, as part of the EIB's goal of fostering gender equality and diversity.²³⁷⁶ As the first EIB loan dedicated to female entrepreneurs in the EU, the loan will give female entrepreneurs representing SMEs and mid-caps access to more favourable financing.²³⁷⁷

On 26 February 2019, the EU and the UN announced a EUR50 million investment to tackle domestic and gender-based violence in the Pacific region, as part of the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative.²³⁷⁸ The investment will fund new programmes to support concrete measures to end domestic and gender-based violence such as supporting preventative measures and providing protection and quality services to victims.²³⁷⁹ Notably, it was announced that such measures will be accompanied by broader efforts to ensure women's economic empowerment and their participation in all aspects of society.²³⁸⁰

On 6 March 2019, the EU Initiative for Financial Inclusion supported the expansion of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development Women in Business programme in Morocco.²³⁸¹ The programme provides a total of EUR35 million in local currency to BMCE Bank of Africa and BMCI to support women-led SMEs in Morocco and aims to reach at least 200 women entrepreneurs with access to finance, advisory services, and trainings.²³⁸²

On 12 April 2019, the European Commission financed EUR4.2 million under the External Investment Plan (EIP) to help banks in Africa and the European neighbourhood to better assist underfinanced sectors such as small businesses, including young entrepreneurs and women.²³⁸³ This technical assistance will complement the EIP's "Small Loans and Guarantee Program (SLGP)" worth EUR42 million, which aims to encourage local banks to lend to small companies, which have had difficulty accessing finance to date, including women-owned SMEs.²³⁸⁴

From 24 to 26 April 2019, the EU co-financed the Tunis Forum on Gender Equality in Tunisia which explored the role of innovation and technology in encouraging women's economic empowerment and the role of women participating in local government.

²³⁷⁶ Investment Plan for Europe: EIB and Garanti Bank join forces to support businesses run by women in Romania, European Commission (Luxembourg/Bucharest), 9 January 2019. Date of access: 17 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eib-and-garanti-bank-join-forces-support-businesses-run-women-romania-2019-jan-09_en

²³⁷⁷ Investment Plan for Europe: EIB and Garanti Bank join forces to support businesses run by women in Romania, European Commission (Luxembourg/Bucharest), 9 January 2019. Date of access: 17 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eib-and-garanti-bank-join-forces-support-businesses-run-women-romania-2019-jan-09_en

²³⁷⁸ Spotlight Initiative – EU and UN fight against domestic violence in Pacific region, European Commission (Brussels), 26 February 2019. Date of access: 27 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1410_en.htm

²³⁷⁹ Spotlight Initiative – EU and UN fight against domestic violence in Pacific region, European Commission (Brussels), 26 February 2019. Date of access: 27 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1410_en.htm

²³⁸⁰ Spotlight Initiative – EU and UN fight against domestic violence in Pacific region, European Commission (Brussels), 26 February 2019. Date of access: 27 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1410_en.htm

²³⁸¹ EBRD extends Women in Business programme in Morocco, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (London), 6 March 2019. Date of access: 6 June 2019. <https://www.ebrd.com/news/2019/ebrd-extends-women-in-business-programme-in-morocco.html>

²³⁸² EBRD extends Women in Business programme in Morocco, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (London), 6 March 2019. Date of access: 6 June 2019. <https://www.ebrd.com/news/2019/ebrd-extends-women-in-business-programme-in-morocco.html>

²³⁸³ EU to facilitate financing for small businesses in Africa and the European Neighbourhood, European Commission (Brussels), 12 April 2019. Date of access: 12 April 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2112_en.htm

²³⁸⁴ EU to facilitate financing for small businesses in Africa and the European Neighbourhood, European Commission (Brussels), 12 April 2019. Date of access: 12 April 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2112_en.htm

The EU has taken extensive efforts to support the development of finance programs that strive to advance women's economic empowerment and gender equality by passing a resolution for gender budgeting while promoting mutually reinforcing economic prosperity and stability in multiple partner countries through funding external action programs that include providing access to capital that enhance economic opportunities for women.

Thus, the EU receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Foti Vito

10. Climate Change: Gender

“We encourage the collection, analysis, dissemination and use of gender-sensitive data to bridge gaps in understanding the way women and girls are impacted by risks and catastrophic events, and how they can be engaged in developing and implementing solutions.”

Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy	-1		
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States	N/A		
European Union			+1
Average		+0.71	

Background

In assuming the helm of the 2018 G7 presidency, Canada spearheaded five major themes to address pressing global issues.²³⁸⁵ This commitment embodies two such items by pertaining to gender equality/women’s empowerment and collaborative action on climate change.²³⁸⁶ The resulting documents of the Charlevoix Summit are comprised of 71 gender-based commitments and 12 commitments concerning climate change, which account for 23 percent and 3 percent of all commitments, respectively.²³⁸⁷ By threading gender issues and climate change into a cohesive directive, the G7 is better equipped to overcome obstacles to collective action.²³⁸⁸

A persistent problem plaguing climate change collaboration is the concept of burden sharing: those most afflicted by climate events and hazards are those who contributed the least.²³⁸⁹ Namely, impoverished and underdeveloped populations are the first victims of climate change.²³⁹⁰ This includes not only small island states threatened by sea level rise but poorer communities in affluent countries such as Native American tribes in Louisiana.^{2391,2392} Due to unrelenting gender inequalities,

²³⁸⁵ Canada’s G7 Themes, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/g7-presidency/themes/>.

²³⁸⁶ Canada’s G7 Themes, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/g7-presidency/themes/>.

²³⁸⁷ G7 2018 Charlevoix Summit Commitments, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 29 August 2018.

²³⁸⁸ Overview: Gender and Climate Change, United Nations Development Programme (New York) 2013. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/gender/Gender%20and%20Environment/PB1-AP-Overview-Gender-and-climate-change.pdf>.

²³⁸⁹ Burden Sharing and Fairness Principles in International Climate Policy, International Environmental Agreements: Politics, Law and Economics (Dordrecht) March 2002. Access Date: 29 August 2018. doi.org/10.1023/A:1015041613785.

²³⁹⁰ Burden Sharing and Fairness Principles in International Climate Policy, International Environmental Agreements: Politics, Law and Economics (Dordrecht) March 2002. Access Date: 29 August 2018. doi.org/10.1023/A:1015041613785.

²³⁹¹ Burden Sharing and Fairness Principles in International Climate Policy, International Environmental Agreements: Politics, Law and Economics (Dordrecht) March 2002. Access Date: 29 August 2018. doi.org/10.1023/A:1015041613785.

women and girls are at higher risk as both a political and economic minority.²³⁹³ Not only are women and girls subject to abridged political rights, but most of the world's poor are female.²³⁹⁴ Thus, the historical trend line has largely excluded half of the world's population from participating in tackling climate change.²³⁹⁵

Provided that collective action on myriad fronts is requisite for an efficacious climate change response, the inclusion of previously excluded groups is paramount. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) recognized the advantages of inviting women to the table due to their local knowledge of community practices and natural resources.²³⁹⁶ Enabling women leadership and participation in climate change efforts increases responsiveness to community needs, bridges cooperation across political and ethnic divides, and furnishes greater sustainable peace.²³⁹⁷ Such augmented factors catalyze more effective climate projects and policies.²³⁹⁸

Recognition of the substantial and widespread benefits stemming from gender-based climate action has increased significantly in the past two decades.²³⁹⁹ In December 2014, the 20th Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UNFCCC was held in Lima, Peru.²⁴⁰⁰ COP20 precipitated the creation of the Lima Work Programme on Gender, which pursues gender-responsive climate action.²⁴⁰¹ In November 2016, the progress and findings of the Working Programme and UNFCCC parties were

²³⁹² What Climate Change Means for Louisiana, United States Environmental Protection Association (Washington) August 2016. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <https://19january2017snapshot.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-09/documents/climate-change-la.pdf>.

²³⁹³ Overview: Gender and Climate Change, United Nations Development Programme (New York) 2013. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/gender/Gender%20and%20Environment/PB1-AP-Overview-Gender-and-climate-change.pdf>.

²³⁹⁴ Overview: Gender and Climate Change, United Nations Development Programme (New York) 2013. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/gender/Gender%20and%20Environment/PB1-AP-Overview-Gender-and-climate-change.pdf>.

²³⁹⁵ Overview: Gender and Climate Change, United Nations Development Programme (New York) 2013. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/gender/Gender%20and%20Environment/PB1-AP-Overview-Gender-and-climate-change.pdf>.

²³⁹⁶ Introduction to Gender and Climate Change, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 2018. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <https://unfccc.int/topics/gender/the-big-picture/introduction-to-gender-and-climate-change>.

²³⁹⁷ Introduction to Gender and Climate Change, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 2018. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <https://unfccc.int/topics/gender/the-big-picture/introduction-to-gender-and-climate-change>.

²³⁹⁸ Introduction to Gender and Climate Change, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 2018. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <https://unfccc.int/topics/gender/the-big-picture/introduction-to-gender-and-climate-change>.

²³⁹⁹ Overview: Gender and Climate Change, United Nations Development Programme (New York). 2013. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/gender/Gender%20and%20Environment/PB1-AP-Overview-Gender-and-climate-change.pdf>.

²⁴⁰⁰ COP20, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (New York) 13 December 2014. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/conferences/past-conferences/lima-climate-change-conference-december-2014/cop-20>.

²⁴⁰¹ COP20, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (New York) 13 December 2014. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/conferences/past-conferences/lima-climate-change-conference-december-2014/cop-20>.

reviewed at COP22 in Marrakech.²⁴⁰² Under Decision 21 on gender and climate change, parties agreed to continue the Working Programme’s mandate until COP25 in 2019.²⁴⁰³

The priorities of the G7 are often intertwined with the United Nations. While gender and climate change have previously been addressed as separate issue items by the G7, acknowledgment of gender-based climate action has increasingly diffused members’ independent decisions and language.²⁴⁰⁴ The past focus has primarily oriented around the more common intersection of economic gender equality and environmental policy, such as with the Environment Ministers’ 2017 Bologna Communiqué.²⁴⁰⁵ However, the Charlevoix agenda manifests significant leader-level acknowledgment of gender-based climate action.²⁴⁰⁶

On 9 June 2018, the G7 members adopted the Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities.²⁴⁰⁷ The document underscores the economic and social dependence on healthy oceans, and the human forces which influence them.²⁴⁰⁸ Under the adopted Blueprint, members “are pursuing global efforts towards a sustainable and climate-resilient future, in particular reducing emissions while stimulating innovation and economic growth, enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to the impacts of climate change while ensuring a just transition to the broad participation of women and girls, both at home and in our commitment to support developing countries.”²⁴⁰⁹ In order to achieve such aspirations, the Blueprint calls for the sharing of ocean knowledge via scientific research and data.²⁴¹⁰ This commitment explicitly directs accumulation of gender-sensitive data, thereby weaving two issues into a common aim.²⁴¹¹

It should be noted, however, that the United States is excluded from the analysis and assessment of Commitment 2018-261 due to the member’s planned withdrawal from the Paris Agreement and official reservations against climate-related language in the Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities.²⁴¹²

As the world’s largest advanced economies, the G7 is auspiciously positioned to set an example for including women and girls in battling climate change.²⁴¹³ Commitment 2018-261 echoes the

²⁴⁰² Decision 21/COP22, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Marrakech) 31 January 2017. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/cop22/eng/10a02.pdf#page=17>.

²⁴⁰³ Decision 21/COP22, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Marrakech) 31 January 2017. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/cop22/eng/10a02.pdf#page=17>.

²⁴⁰⁴ Make Gender Inequality History, G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council (Charlevoix) 4 June 2018. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/g7-presidency/gender-equality-advisory-council/recommendations/#planet>.

²⁴⁰⁵ Communiqué, G7 Environment Ministers (Bologna) 12 June 2017. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/g7-presidency/gender-equality-advisory-council/recommendations/#planet>.

²⁴⁰⁶ Canada’s G7 Themes, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/g7-presidency/themes/>.

²⁴⁰⁷ Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html#fn1>.

²⁴⁰⁸ Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html#fn1>.

²⁴⁰⁹ Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html#fn1>.

²⁴¹⁰ Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html#fn1>.

²⁴¹¹ Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html#fn1>.

²⁴¹² Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html#fn1>.

²⁴¹³ The Group of Seven (G7), Council on Foreign Relations (New York) 30 May 2017. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/group-seven-g7>.

endeavours of the Lima Working Programme, which is planned for review during COP25 in 2019.²⁴¹⁴ The aim also resonates with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals of gender equality and climate action, which depend on the efforts of the broader international community.²⁴¹⁵ As economic and political stewards of this forum, G7 members have a prerogative to pioneer global action on gender and climate change.²⁴¹⁶ Enhancing gender equality not only benefits women and girls but bolsters the international community in the collective force against climate change.²⁴¹⁷

Commitment Features

The G7 members commit to “[encouraging] the collection, analysis, dissemination, and use of gender-sensitive data to bridge gaps in understanding the way women and girls are impacted by risks and catastrophic events, and how they can be engaged in developing and implementing solutions.”²⁴¹⁸

To “encourage” does not imply strong measurability and is understood to be a soft commitment with no expected concrete action.²⁴¹⁹ “Encourage” is synonymous with stimulating and/or fostering. An example is the issuing of statements of support for the collection, analysis, dissemination, or use of gender-sensitive data. Four avenues of action are encouraged: collection, analysis, dissemination, and use.²⁴²⁰ This commitment resides under the sub-section “Ocean Knowledge: Science and Data” of the Charlevoix Blueprint with the express mandate of “[increasing] the availability and sharing of science and data.”²⁴²¹ Thus, collection, analysis, dissemination, and use are considered knowledge-sharing tactics in the public, private, and civil society spaces both domestically and internationally. Examples include researching gender-based consequences in communities afflicted by hazardous climate events and conferences dedicated to the exchange of results.²⁴²²

“Gender-sensitive data” is interpreted to mean findings disaggregated by gender.²⁴²³ Gender-sensitive or gender-disaggregated research accounts for the different experiences of genders across an array of topics.²⁴²⁴ Given the explicit acknowledgment of women and girls in this commitment, “gender-

²⁴¹⁴ Decision 21/COP22, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Marrakech) 31 January 2017.

Access date: 29 August 2018. <https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/cop22/eng/10a02.pdf#page=17>.

²⁴¹⁵ Sustainable Development Goals, United Nations (New York) 1 January 2016. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>.

²⁴¹⁶ The Group of Seven, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/g7-presidency/g7-summit/>.

²⁴¹⁷ Overview: Gender and Climate Change, United Nations Development Programme (New York) 2013. Access Date: 29 August 2018. <http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/gender/Gender%20and%20Environment/PB1-AP-Overview-Gender-and-climate-change.pdf>.

²⁴¹⁸ Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 30 August 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html#fn1>.

²⁴¹⁹ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 27 September 2017. Access Date: 30 August 2018.

²⁴²⁰ Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 30 August 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html#fn1>.

²⁴²¹ Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 30 August 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html#fn1>.

²⁴²² Gender Just Climate Solution, Women Gender Constituency (Utrecht) 2016. Access Date: 30 August 2018. <https://wedo.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/ENG-WGCSolutionsPubFINALWEB.pdf>.

²⁴²³ Overview of Resources on Gender-Sensitive Data Related to Water, United Nations Educational, Scientific, Cultural Organization (Paris) 2015. Access Date: 30 August 2018. http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/SC/pdf/Overview_of_resources_on_gender_sensitive_data_related_t_01.pdf.

²⁴²⁴ Overview of Resources on Gender-Sensitive Data Related to Water, United Nations Educational, Scientific, Cultural Organization (Paris) 2015. Access Date: 30 August 2018. http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/SC/pdf/Overview_of_resources_on_gender_sensitive_data_related_t_01.pdf.

sensitive data” in this context is understood to directly relate to implications affecting female-identifying populations.²⁴²⁵

The commitment highlights two outcomes dependent on the four courses of action: 1) “bridge gaps in understanding the way women and girls are impacted by risks and catastrophic events” and 2) “how they can be engaged in developing and implementing solutions” to such risks and events.²⁴²⁶

“Bridge gaps” is defined as: “to connect two things or to make the difference between them smaller.” In the context of this commitment, this is understood to mean closing a knowledge gap. “Risks and catastrophic events” are understood to mean climate-related occurrences as the commitment originates from the Charlevoix Blueprint sub-section “Ocean Knowledge,” thereby indicating ocean-specific risks and catastrophic events such as sea-level rise and extreme weather events (e.g. hurricanes, tropical storms).²⁴²⁷

Thus, in the second section of the commitment, encouragement to engage in “developing and implementing solutions” of the aforementioned four areas of data must pertain to: (a) better understanding of gender-based consequences of maritime climate risks and catastrophic events and/or (b) knowledge sharing of gender-sensitive solutions empowering women and girls. Examples include investigating the consequences faced by women and girls due to extreme weather events, leveraging women leadership at the local level, and inviting women voices at international forums.²⁴²⁸

To achieve full compliance, a G7 member must encourage at least one of the following actions: collection, analysis, dissemination, or use of gender-sensitive data. G7 member must also have the explicit intention to encourage 1) the engagement of these populations in solution development and implementation and 2) a better understanding of the ramifications of ocean-related risks and catastrophic events on women and girls.

The G7 members commit to “[encouraging] the collection, analysis, dissemination, and use of gender-sensitive data to bridge gaps in understanding the way women and girls are impacted by risks and catastrophic events, and how they can be engaged in developing and implementing solutions.”²⁴²⁹

Partial compliance earns a score of 0 if the G7 member must encourage at least one of the following actions: collection, analysis, dissemination, or use of gender-sensitive data. G7 member must also have the explicit intention to understand most and encourage 1) the engagement of these populations in solution development and implementation OR 2) a better understanding of the ramifications of ocean-related risks and catastrophic events on women and girls. The G7 member will receive a score of -1 for non-compliance if they do not encourage any of the four actions contributing to 1) a better understanding of the ramifications of ocean-related risks and catastrophic events on women and girls or 2) the engagement of these populations in solution development and implementation. Furthermore, a member fails to comply if it demonstrates obstruction and/or discouragement of gender-sensitive data collection, sharing, and use.

²⁴²⁵ Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 30 August 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html#fn1>.

²⁴²⁶ Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 30 August 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html#fn1>.

²⁴²⁷ Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 30 August 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html#fn1>.

²⁴²⁸ Overview of Resources on Gender-Sensitive Data Related to Water, United Nations Educational, Scientific, Cultural Organization (Paris) 2015. Access Date: 30 August 2018. http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/SC/pdf/Overview_of_resources_on_gender_sensitive_data_related_t_01.pdf.

²⁴²⁹ Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 30 August 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html#fn1>.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member does not encourage any of the four actions contributing to 1) a better understanding of the ramifications of ocean-related risks and catastrophic events on women and girls OR 2) the engagement of these populations in solution development and implementation.
0	The G7 member encourages 1) a better understanding of the ramifications of ocean-related risks and catastrophic events on women and girls OR 2) the engagement of these populations in solution development and implementation.
+1	The G7 member encourages 1) a better understanding of the ramifications of ocean-related risks and catastrophic events on women and girls AND 2) the engagement of these populations in solution development and implementation.

*Compliance Director: Tasnia Khan
Lead Analysts: Carey Davis and Joe Wu*

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to encourage the collection, analysis, dissemination, and use of gender-sensitive data to bridge gaps in understanding the way women and girls are impacted by risks and catastrophic events, and how they can be engaged in developing and implementing solutions.

On 28 August 2018, Canada co-chaired the meeting of the Climate Sustainability Working Group.²⁴³⁰ This meeting in Puerti Iguazú included members of the Group of 20 ahead of the 2018 G20 Buenos Aires summit.²⁴³¹ Canada has championed the importance of including a gender perspective in climate change action.²⁴³²

In September 2018, as part of the Impact Canada Challenge Platform, the Government of Canada selected five female finalists for the “Women in Cleantech Challenge.”²⁴³³ One grand prize winner will receive an additional CAD1 million to continue building her business. This challenge was issued by Natural Resources Canada for the purpose of identifying “top female innovators from across the country who are developing technologies to tackle the world’s most daunting energy and environmental challenges.”²⁴³⁴

On 5 September 2018, Canada announced a five-year, CAD4.8-million initiative aimed at strengthening feminist movements in the Caribbean through The MATCH International Women’s Fund.²⁴³⁵ This investment was in partnership with the Astrea Lesbian Foundation for Justice (Astrea)

²⁴³⁰ The G20 discusses climate action strategies in Puerto Iguazú, G20 (Puerto Iguazú) 28 August 2018. Access Date: 30 October 2018. <https://www.g20.org/en/news/g20-discusses-climate-action-strategies-puerto-iguazu>.

²⁴³¹ The G20 discusses climate action strategies in Puerto Iguazú, G20 (Puerto Iguazú) 28 August 2018. Access Date: 30 October 2018. <https://www.g20.org/en/news/g20-discusses-climate-action-strategies-puerto-iguazu>.

²⁴³² Canada and the G20, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. http://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/g20/index.aspx?lang=eng.

²⁴³³ Women in Cleantech Challenge, Impact Canada (Government of Canada) Sept 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://www.womenincleantech.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/APPLICANT-GUIDE_WIC-FINAL_EN_May31.pdf.

²⁴³⁴ Women in Cleantech Challenge, Impact Canada (Government of Canada) Sept 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://www.womenincleantech.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/APPLICANT-GUIDE_WIC-FINAL_EN_May31.pdf.

²⁴³⁵ Caribbean Feminist Activists and Groups to Set the Agenda in Leveraging Canada’s Women’s Voice and Leadership Funding in Their Region, The Match International Women’s Fund (Ottawa) 5 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <http://cdn.matchinternational.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Caribbean-WVL-Press-Release.pdf>.

as part of the Women’s Voice and Leadership Program.²⁴³⁶ Priorities of the Match Fund include “enhancing economic, social and environmental justice in the context of economic decline and exposure to climate change” and “supporting the leadership of young women and the diverse movements they are building.”²⁴³⁷

On 18-21 September 2018, Canada hosted the G7 Environment Ministers’ Meeting in Halifax, Canada.²⁴³⁸ G7 environment, oceans, and energy ministers met on the theme “Working Together on Climate Change, Oceans and Clean Energy.”²⁴³⁹ A focus on the critical role of women as leaders and girls as “agents of change” in meeting climate change goals was emphasized.²⁴⁴⁰ Additionally, ministers deliberated recommendations outlined by the G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council expressing the importance of accounting for the disproportionate impact of climate change on women and girls, and the need to support women’s leadership on climate and oceans issues.²⁴⁴¹

On 21-22 September 2018, Canada co-hosted the first formal Women Foreign Ministers’ Meeting. This initiative was driven by Canadian Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland and the European Union’s High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Federica Mogherini.²⁴⁴² The meeting in Montreal focused on formulating new initiatives and tangible commitments to support gender equality goals within the challenges of climate change.²⁴⁴³

On 22-25 October 2018, Canada in partnership with France via the Canada-France Climate and Environment Partnership (launched April 2018) held a workshop to train 15 francophone negotiators on climate negotiations in Dakar, Senegal.²⁴⁴⁴ In doing so, Canada supports the leadership of sub-Saharan African women in climate negotiations through funding and skill development.²⁴⁴⁵

On 11 December 2018, Canadian Minister of Environment and Climate Change Catherine McKenna met to discuss the imperative role of women in succeeding with climate change action with Franco-

²⁴³⁶ Caribbean Feminist Activists and Groups to Set the Agenda in Leveraging Canada’s Women’s Voice and Leadership Funding in Their Region, The Match International Women’s Fund (Ottawa) 5 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <http://cdn.matchinternational.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Caribbean-WVL-Press-Release.pdf>.

²⁴³⁷ Caribbean Feminist Activists and Groups to Set the Agenda in Leveraging Canada’s Women’s Voice and Leadership Funding in Their Region, The Match International Women’s Fund (Ottawa) 5 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <http://cdn.matchinternational.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Caribbean-WVL-Press-Release.pdf>.

²⁴³⁸ Chair’s Summary: G7 Environment Ministers’ Meeting, G7 2018 Charlevoix (Halifax) 19 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. https://g7.gc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/ChairsSummary_Env_19092018.pdf.

²⁴³⁹ Chair’s Summary: G7 Environment Ministers’ Meeting, G7 2018 Charlevoix (Halifax) 19 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. https://g7.gc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/ChairsSummary_Env_19092018.pdf.

²⁴⁴⁰ Chair’s Summary: G7 Environment Ministers’ Meeting, G7 2018 Charlevoix (Halifax) 19 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. https://g7.gc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/ChairsSummary_Env_19092018.pdf.

²⁴⁴¹ Make Gender Inequality History. Recommendations from the Gender Equality Advisory Council for Canada’s G7 Presidency, G7 2018 Charlevoix (Ottawa) 26 April 2018. Access Date: 21 November 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Executive-Summary-Recommendations-by-the-Gender-Equality-Advisory-Council.pdf>.

²⁴⁴² Mesdames Secretaries, Open Canada (Montreal) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.opencanada.org/features/mesdames-secretaries/>.

²⁴⁴³ Mesdames Secretaries, Open Canada (Montreal) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.opencanada.org/features/mesdames-secretaries/>.

²⁴⁴⁴ The Government of Canada Invests to Support the Leadership of Sub-Saharan African Women in Climate Negotiations, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/the-government-of-canada-invests-to-support-the-leadership-of-sub-saharan-african-women-in-climate-negotiations-698029591.html>.

²⁴⁴⁵ The Government of Canada Invests to Support the Leadership of Sub-Saharan African Women in Climate Negotiations, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 20 November 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/the-government-of-canada-invests-to-support-the-leadership-of-sub-saharan-african-women-in-climate-negotiations-698029591.html>.

African women climate negotiations at the United Nations Climate Change conference 2018 (COP24) in Katowice, Poland²⁴⁴⁶.

On 12 December 2018, Minister Catherine McKenna, acknowledged women leading on climate action in Canada's national statement at COP24 in Katowice, Poland.²⁴⁴⁷

On 1 March 2019, Canadian Minister for Women and Gender Equality Maryam Monsef took on responsibilities as Minister of International Development with a focus on continuing the government's commitment to Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy.²⁴⁴⁸ Based on the Feminist International Assistance Policy, Minister Monsef will focus on the acknowledgement and collection of data related to the challenges of climate change that women and girls face and actions that they can take to combat these challenges.²⁴⁴⁹

On 2 - 3 May 2019, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau hosted 300 young Canadian leaders as part of the National Youth Summit in Ottawa, Canada.²⁴⁵⁰ Priorities identified at the summit included gender equality and environment and climate change related themes.²⁴⁵¹

On 3 - 6 June 2019, Canada hosted the Women Deliver 2019 Conference.²⁴⁵² The event served as a platform for Canada to endorse gender equality with events and discussions that included both the empowerment of women and girls in fighting climate change as well as understanding the effects of climate change on these populations nationally and internationally.²⁴⁵³

On 7 June 2019, Canada in partnership with France under the Canada-France Climate and Environment Partnership, Canada's International Development Research Centre, and the Institut de la Francophonie pour le développement durable announced support for a second workshop to train Francophone women climate negotiators from Africa who will be attending the 25th Conference of Parties (COP25) in Santiago, Chile.²⁴⁵⁴ As part of this initiative, Canada will invest CAD150,000.²⁴⁵⁵

²⁴⁴⁶ Minister McKenna discusses fight against climate change with women climate negotiations during COP24, Environment and Climate Change (Ottawa) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 14 January 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/12/minister-mckenna-discusses-fight-against-climate-change-with-women-climate-negotiators-during-cop24.html>.

²⁴⁴⁷ Canada's National Statement at COP24: Speech by Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna, Environment and Climate Change (Ottawa) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 14 January 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/12/canadas-national-statement-at-cop24-speech-by-minister-of-environment-and-climate-change-catherine-mckenna.html>.

²⁴⁴⁸ The Honourable Maryam Monsef MP (Ottawa) 6 June 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/government/ministers/maryam-monsef.html>

²⁴⁴⁹ Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy (Ottawa) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 22 April 2019. https://international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/priorities-priorites/policy-politique.aspx?lang=eng

²⁴⁵⁰ Canada Youth Summit (Ottawa) 6 May 2019. Access Date: 10 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/youth/services/canada-youth-summit.html>

²⁴⁵¹ Canada Youth Summit (Ottawa) 6 May 2019. Access Date: 10 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/youth/services/canada-youth-summit.html>

²⁴⁵² Women Deliver 2019 Conference – Vancouver, B.C. – June 3 – 6, 2019 (Vancouver) 6 June 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. https://www.international.gc.ca/gac-amc/campaign-campagne/women_deliver/index.aspx?lang=eng

²⁴⁵³ Women Deliver 2019 Conference (Vancouver) 6 June 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://wd2019.org/>

²⁴⁵⁴ Canada Provides Training to Franco-African Women Climate Leaders (Ottawa) 7 June 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/06/canada-provides-training-to-franco-african-women-climate-leaders.html>

²⁴⁵⁵ Canada Provides Training to Franco-African Women Climate Leaders (Ottawa) 7 June 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/06/canada-provides-training-to-franco-african-women-climate-leaders.html>

Canada continues to play a leadership role in promoting gender equality and understanding ramifications of climate change on gender through “Canada’s National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2017-2022.”²⁴⁵⁶ The directive is a “gender-responsive, human rights-based whole-of-government approach to peace and security intervention and the situation of women and girls.”²⁴⁵⁷ In addition, the Government of Canada is using the gender-based analysis plus (GBA+) analytical process to measure and address the impacts of climate change on women, which assesses how “diverse groups of women, men and gender-diverse people might experience government initiatives differently.”²⁴⁵⁸

Canada has taken measures to promote and better understand how women and girls are affected by climate change, as demonstrated by initiatives like the G7 Ministerial Meeting in Halifax. It has fully complied with this commitment through development, implementation and continuation of financial and leadership opportunities for these populations, as seen through actions such as the “Women in Cleantech Challenge.”

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Matthew Kivell

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to encourage the collection, analysis, dissemination and use of gender-sensitive data to bridge gaps in understanding the way women and girls are impacted by risks and catastrophic events, and how they can be engaged in developing and implementing solutions.

On 10-11 September 2018, the High Level Ocean and Climate Conference took place in Paris, France, at the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).²⁴⁵⁹ The conference gathered input from multiple stakeholders, including the French Minister of Higher Education Research and Innovation, Frédérique Vidal.²⁴⁶⁰ The global ocean community collected and analyzed data to deliver “the ocean we need for the future we want.”²⁴⁶¹ Vidal stressed the commitment of France to support the synergies between ocean and climate, declaring “we need facts to design

²⁴⁵⁶ Canada’s National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2017-2020 — Theory of Change, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 30 November 2017. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/gender_equality-egalite_des_genres/theory_of_change-theorie_de_changement.aspx?lang=eng.

²⁴⁵⁷ Canada’s National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2017-2020 — Theory of Change, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 30 November 2017. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/gender_equality-egalite_des_genres/theory_of_change-theorie_de_changement.aspx?lang=eng.

²⁴⁵⁸ Women and Climate Change, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 3 August 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/climate-change/women.html>.

²⁴⁵⁹ Conference Considers Ways to Move from Science to Action during Ocean Science Decade, International Institute for Sustainable Development (Paris) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://sdg.iisd.org/news/conference-considers-ways-to-move-from-science-to-action-during-ocean-science-decade/>.

²⁴⁶⁰ Conference Considers Ways to Move from Science to Action during Ocean Science Decade, International Institute for Sustainable Development (Paris) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://sdg.iisd.org/news/conference-considers-ways-to-move-from-science-to-action-during-ocean-science-decade/>.

²⁴⁶¹ Conference Considers Ways to Move from Science to Action during Ocean Science Decade, International Institute for Sustainable Development (Paris) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://sdg.iisd.org/news/conference-considers-ways-to-move-from-science-to-action-during-ocean-science-decade/>.

solutions.”²⁴⁶² Vital attended a special session convening on gender equality in ocean-related sciences and opportunities to advance women’s issues and priorities in the context of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030).²⁴⁶³ Debates included the members’ commitments to providing strong role models for women in science, building capacities of women in natural sciences and engineering and supporting the unique contributions of women to advance sustainable development.²⁴⁶⁴ Panelists discussed tools to empower women in science through ocean-focused community-based science and local knowledge initiatives, as well as methods to improve ocean literacy.²⁴⁶⁵

On 25 September 2018, French President Emmanuel Macron delivered a speech in front of the United Nations General Assembly.²⁴⁶⁶ He acknowledged that women and girls are the first to be affected by the consequences of global warming, and encouraged the fight against these gender-linked inequalities.²⁴⁶⁷

On 26 September 2018, President Macron attended the Goalkeepers 2018 event, hosted by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.²⁴⁶⁸ He participated in interactive sessions with participants, alongside experts in data collection and analysis.²⁴⁶⁹ He announced that France’s G7 presidency will focus on inequalities within the challenges of climate change, which lie at the core of the G7’s agenda.²⁴⁷⁰

On 30 November 2018, the French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian had a meeting with the Foreign Minister of China and the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Buenos Aires.²⁴⁷¹ They reaffirmed their strong determination to work together to

²⁴⁶² High Level Ocean and Climate Conference Bulletin, International Institute for Sustainable Development Reporting Services (Paris) 12 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://enb.iisd.org/download/pdf/sd/enbplus186num14e.pdf>.

²⁴⁶³ Conference Considers Ways to Move from Science to Action during Ocean Science Decade, International Institute for Sustainable Development (Paris) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://sdg.iisd.org/news/conference-considers-ways-to-move-from-science-to-action-during-ocean-science-decade/>.

²⁴⁶⁴ High Level Ocean and Climate Conference Bulletin, International Institute for Sustainable Development Reporting Services (Paris) 12 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://enb.iisd.org/download/pdf/sd/enbplus186num14e.pdf>.

²⁴⁶⁵ High Level Ocean and Climate Conference Bulletin, International Institute for Sustainable Development Reporting Services (Paris) 12 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://enb.iisd.org/download/pdf/sd/enbplus186num14e.pdf>.

²⁴⁶⁶ United Nations General Assembly: Speech by President Emmanuel Macron, France Diplomatie (Paris) 25 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/events/united-nations-general-assembly-sessions/unga-s-73rd-session/article/united-nations-general-assembly-speech-by-president-emmanuel-macron-25-09-18>.

²⁴⁶⁷ United Nations General Assembly: Speech by President Emmanuel Macron, France Diplomatie (Paris) 25 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/events/united-nations-general-assembly-sessions/unga-s-73rd-session/article/united-nations-general-assembly-speech-by-president-emmanuel-macron-25-09-18>.

²⁴⁶⁸ Goalkeepers Event Explores Keys to Movement Building, International Institute for Sustainable Development (New York City) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://sdg.iisd.org/news/goalkeepers-event-explores-keys-to-movement-building/>.

²⁴⁶⁹ Goalkeepers Event Explores Keys to Movement Building, International Institute for Sustainable Development (New York City) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://sdg.iisd.org/news/goalkeepers-event-explores-keys-to-movement-building/>.

²⁴⁷⁰ Goalkeepers Event Explores Keys to Movement Building, International Institute for Sustainable Development (New York City) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://sdg.iisd.org/news/goalkeepers-event-explores-keys-to-movement-building/>.

²⁴⁷¹ Official Speeches and Statements of December 5, 2018, France Diplomatie (Paris) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://basedoc.diplomatie.gouv.fr/vues/Kiosque/FranceDiplomatie/kiosque.php?fichier=baen2018-12-05.html>.

combat climate change and reduce gender inequalities.²⁴⁷² They recognized that these inequalities require a profound transformation of their economies and societies in order to build a sustainable world.²⁴⁷³

On 18 December 2018, Minister le Drian delivered a speech concerning the main priorities of the upcoming French G7 Presidency.²⁴⁷⁴ He declared that their Presidency will “combat inequalities linked to the climatic and environmental emergency.”²⁴⁷⁵ Le Drian highlighted the fight against gender inequalities and acknowledged that the most disadvantaged people are often those most vulnerable to climate change.²⁴⁷⁶

On 14 March 2019, President Macron attended the One Planet Summit in Nairobi, Kenya.²⁴⁷⁷ The objective of the summit was to accelerate and step-up climate action to deliver high-impact outcomes for African populations and to protect biodiversity in Africa.²⁴⁷⁸ The summit celebrated the most innovative and impactful initiatives, including women entrepreneurship in the field of climate change.²⁴⁷⁹

On 22 March 2019, Minister le Drian participated in the third meeting of the National Council for Development and International Solidarity.²⁴⁸⁰ He consulted with non-state actors in development policy on the draft framework legislation relating to solidarity-based development and the fight against global inequalities.²⁴⁸¹ The draft legislation reflects President Macron’s desire to revise France’s development policy in terms of the priorities of the French G7 Presidency.²⁴⁸² This new

²⁴⁷² Official Speeches and Statements of December 5, 2018, France Diplomatie (Paris) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://basedoc.diplomatie.gouv.fr/vues/Kiosque/FranceDiplomatie/kiosque.php?fichier=baen2018-12-05.html>.

²⁴⁷³ Official Speeches and Statements of December 5, 2018, France Diplomatie (Paris) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://basedoc.diplomatie.gouv.fr/vues/Kiosque/FranceDiplomatie/kiosque.php?fichier=baen2018-12-05.html>.

²⁴⁷⁴ French G7 Presidency Priorities – Speech by Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian (Biarritz, 18 December 2018), France Diplomatie (Paris) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/french-g7-presidency/article/french-g7-presidency-priorities-speech-by-minister-jean-yves-le-drian-biarritz>.

²⁴⁷⁵ French G7 Presidency Priorities – Speech by Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian (Biarritz, 18 December 2018), France Diplomatie (Paris) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/french-g7-presidency/article/french-g7-presidency-priorities-speech-by-minister-jean-yves-le-drian-biarritz>.

²⁴⁷⁶ French G7 Presidency Priorities – Speech by Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian (Biarritz, 18 December 2018), France Diplomatie (Paris) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/french-g7-presidency/article/french-g7-presidency-priorities-speech-by-minister-jean-yves-le-drian-biarritz>.

²⁴⁷⁷ 3rd Edition of the One Planet Summit: Africa’s Pledge (Nairobi, 14 March 2019), Gouvernement Francais (Paris) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/climate/one-planet-summit/article/3rd-edition-of-the-one-planet-summit-africa-s-pledge-nairobi-14-03-19>

²⁴⁷⁸ 3rd Edition of the One Planet Summit: Africa’s Pledge (Nairobi, 14 March 2019), Gouvernement Francais (Paris) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/climate/one-planet-summit/article/3rd-edition-of-the-one-planet-summit-africa-s-pledge-nairobi-14-03-19>

²⁴⁷⁹ 3rd Edition of the One Planet Summit: Africa’s Pledge (Nairobi, 14 March 2019), Gouvernement Francais (Paris) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/climate/one-planet-summit/article/3rd-edition-of-the-one-planet-summit-africa-s-pledge-nairobi-14-03-19>

²⁴⁸⁰ Jean-Yves Le Drian’s participation in the extraordinary session of the National Council for Development and International Solidarity, France in the United States (Paris) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://franceintheus.org/IMG/html/briefing/2019/DDB-2019-03-21.html>

²⁴⁸¹ Jean-Yves Le Drian’s participation in the extraordinary session of the National Council for Development and International Solidarity, France in the United States (Paris) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://franceintheus.org/IMG/html/briefing/2019/DDB-2019-03-21.html>

²⁴⁸² Jean-Yves Le Drian’s participation in the extraordinary session of the National Council for Development and International Solidarity, France in the United States (Paris) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://franceintheus.org/IMG/html/briefing/2019/DDB-2019-03-21.html>

policy focuses on combatting global inequalities by undertaking more effective action on key issues such as gender equality, climate and biodiversity.²⁴⁸³

The French government issued statements of support for understanding the unequal ways in which women and girls are affected by climate change, invited women voices at international forums on climate change and attended a conference focusing on engaging women and girls in developing and implementing solutions to climate change.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Amanda Burns

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to encourage the collection, analysis, dissemination and use of gender-sensitive data to bridge gaps in understanding the way women and girls are impacted by risks and catastrophic events, and how they can be engaged in developing and implementing solutions.

On 21 August 2018, Plan International, the Stockholm Environment Institute, and the Sustainable Mekong Research Network released a report entitled “Climate Change, Young Women, and Girls: Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation in Northern Thailand.”²⁴⁸⁴ This report was part of the International Climate Initiative (IKI), which is funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU).²⁴⁸⁵ The report discusses the effects of climate change-induced extreme weather events on women and includes recommendations for gender-based adaptation.²⁴⁸⁶ These recommendations include encouraging girls and young women to take on leadership roles in mitigating the consequences of climate change.²⁴⁸⁷

On 18-19 October 2018, the Gender into Urban Climate Change Initiative (GUCCI), funded by the BMU as part of the IKI, held a kick-off meeting in Mexico City to mark the program’s expansion into Mexico.²⁴⁸⁸ GUCCI’s aim is to “explore options for integrating gender and social aspects into climate policies.”²⁴⁸⁹ The initiative in Mexico is in partnership with Equidad de Género and GenderCC.²⁴⁹⁰

²⁴⁸³ Jean-Yves Le Drian’s participation in the extraordinary session of the National Council for Development and International Solidarity, France in the United States (Paris) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://franceintheus.org/IMG/html/briefing/2019/DDB-2019-03-21.html>

²⁴⁸⁴ Climate Change, Young Women, and Girls: Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation in Northern Thailand, Plan International (New York) 21 August 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. <https://plan-international.org/publication/climate-change-girls-thailand>.

²⁴⁸⁵ Climate Change, Young Women, and Girls: Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation in Northern Thailand, Plan International (New York) 21 August 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. <https://plan-international.org/publication/climate-change-girls-thailand>.

²⁴⁸⁶ Climate Change, Young Women, and Girls: Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation in Northern Thailand, Plan International (New York) 21 August 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. <https://plan-international.org/publication/climate-change-girls-thailand>.

²⁴⁸⁷ Climate Change, Young Women, and Girls: Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation in Northern Thailand, Plan International (New York) 21 August 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. <https://plan-international.org/publication/climate-change-girls-thailand>.

²⁴⁸⁸ Gender into Urban Climate Initiative (GUCCI), International Climate Initiative (Berlin) November 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <https://www.international-climate-initiative.com/en/details/project/439/>.

²⁴⁸⁹ Gender into Urban Climate Change Initiative, Gender CC: Women for Climate Justice (Berlin) 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <https://gendercc.net/our-work/current-projects/gender-into-urban-climate-change-initiative.html>.

²⁴⁹⁰ Gender into Urban Climate Change Initiative, Gender CC: Women for Climate Justice (Berlin) 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <https://gendercc.net/our-work/current-projects/gender-into-urban-climate-change-initiative.html>.

On 26 October 2018, the Federal Ministry for the BMU hosted expert workshops in Berlin entitled “Better Climate Policy through Gender Justice: Instruments, examples, synergies and trade-offs”²⁴⁹¹ and “Successful anchoring of the gender perspective in climate policy – instruments, implementation and exploitation.”²⁴⁹² Both workshops hoped to educate and connect experts in climate policy to experts in the field of gendered climate research.²⁴⁹³ The workshops formed part of the BMU’s larger research project, “The contribution of gender justice to successful climate politics: impact assessment, interdependencies with other social categories, methodological issues and options for shaping climate policy,” which aims to “examine the added value of a gender perspective for climate protection and adaptation and develop recommendations for taking action” while “supporting the integration of gender dimensions into climate policy, in particular in Germany.”²⁴⁹⁴

On 12 December 2018, at Climate Change Summit Conference (COP 24) in Katowice, Poland, Germany announced an increase in its contribution to the United Nations Development Programme’s support for nationally determined contributions (NDCs) by EUR68 million.²⁴⁹⁵ Federal Development Minister Dr Gerd Müller noted the importance of contributing to NDC partnerships and stated, “It is people in poorer countries that suffer most from climate change ... through the NDC Partnership, we have chosen to help developing countries implement their national climate plans and invest in climate-friendly technologies of the future.”²⁴⁹⁶

On 19 December 2018, the NDC Support programme hosted a workshop in Kenya to assist experts in their in-depth gender-based analysis of NDC commitments.²⁴⁹⁷ The programme hosted webinars on mainstreaming gender-inclusive research within NDCs, with specific instruction on applying gendered data and analysis to climate problems and taught statistical techniques for sex-disaggregation when assessing the effects of climate change.²⁴⁹⁸ The webinars highlighted gender-

²⁴⁹¹ The contribution of gender justice to successful climate politics, Gender CC: Women for Climate Justice (Berlin) 2018. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://gendercc.net/our-work/current-projects/ufoplan.html>.

²⁴⁹² Specialist Workshops, ZtG Blog at Humboldt University (Berlin) 5 October 2018. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://www2.gender.hu-berlin.de/ztg-blog/2018/10/fachworkshops-bessere-klimapolitik-durch-geschlechtergerechtigkeit-instrumente-beispiele-synergien-und-tradeoffs-26-oktober-2018-berlin/>.

²⁴⁹³ Specialist Workshops, ZtG Blog at Humboldt University (Berlin) 5 October 2018. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://www2.gender.hu-berlin.de/ztg-blog/2018/10/fachworkshops-bessere-klimapolitik-durch-geschlechtergerechtigkeit-instrumente-beispiele-synergien-und-tradeoffs-26-oktober-2018-berlin/>.

²⁴⁹⁴ The contribution of gender justice to successful climate politics, Gender CC: Women for Climate Justice (Berlin) 2018. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://gendercc.net/our-work/current-projects/ufoplan.html>.

²⁴⁹⁵ Germany helps developing countries and emerging economies implement climate targets, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 12 February 2019. https://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2018/dezember/181212_pm_059_Germany-helps-developing-countries-and-emerging-economies-implement-climate-targets/index.html.

²⁴⁹⁶ Germany helps developing countries and emerging economies implement climate targets, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 12 February 2019. https://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2018/dezember/181212_pm_059_Germany-helps-developing-countries-and-emerging-economies-implement-climate-targets/index.html.

²⁴⁹⁷ Kenya Inception Workshop on In-depth Gender Analysis for NDC Process, NDC Support Programme (New York) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <http://www.ndcs.undp.org/content/ndc-support-programme/en/home/ndc-events/country-level/kenya-inception-workshop-on-in-depth-gender-analysis-for-ndc-pro0.html>.

²⁴⁹⁸ Mainstreaming Gender in the NDCs: Gender Data and Indicators (Webinar), NDC Support Programme (New York) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 12 February 2019. <http://www.ndcs.undp.org/content/ndc-support-programme/en/home/ndc-events/virtual-events/mainstreaming-gender-equality-in-ndcs--session-2--gender-data-an.html>.

based policy frameworks used in Ghana to increase adaptation and resilience to climate change²⁴⁹⁹ and provided recommendations for how to fill the gaps in gender-based climate research.²⁵⁰⁰

On 26-28 February 2019, GUCCI, funded by the BMU, held a meeting in Mumbai, India. This meeting brought together representatives from Germany, India, South Africa, and Indonesia to exchange ideas about integrating a gendered lens into climate change solutions.²⁵⁰¹ The meeting specifically highlighted the promising results of the “Gender Assessment and Monitoring of Mitigation and Adaptation” methodology, which informs research and policy on gender-sensitive data collection in the context of efforts to respond to climate change.²⁵⁰²

The German government has funded reports and initiatives, and webinars that promote the collection, analysis, and dissemination of gender-sensitive data regarding climate change, and suggests plans for engaging women and girls in solution implementation.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Emma Schwartz

Italy: -1

Italy has failed to comply with its commitment to encourage the collection, analysis, dissemination, and use of gender-sensitive data to bridge gaps in understanding the way women and girls are impacted by risks and catastrophic events, and how they can be engaged in developing and implementing solutions.

On 28 January 2019, Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte opened the “Africa Centre for Climate and Sustainable Development” in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome.²⁵⁰³ The purpose of the centre is to promote and fund sustainable development goals in Africa related to climate action and gender equality, among others.²⁵⁰⁴

²⁴⁹⁹ Antwi-Boasiako Amoah, Relevance of Key Findings from GH-NDC Gender Analysis, NDC Support Programme (New York) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 12 February 2019.

<http://www.ndcs.undp.org/content/dam/LECB/events/2018/20181219-ndc-gender-webinar-genderanalysis-session1/undp-ndcsp-ndc-gender-webinar-Ghana-EPA.pdf>.

²⁵⁰⁰ Cate Owren, Enabling Action, Unlocking Resilience: the importance of gender data & information for NDCs, NDC Support Programme (New York) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 12 February 2019.

<http://www.ndcs.undp.org/content/dam/LECB/events/2019/20190131-ndc-gender-webinar-data-indicators-session2/undp-ndcsp-gender-ndc-webinar-session2-presentations/undp-ndcsp-gender-ndc-webinar-session2-iucn.pdf>.

²⁵⁰¹ The Gender into Urban Climate Change Initiative meets in Mumbai, Gender CC: Women for Climate Justice (Berlin) February 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://gendercc.net/our-work/current-projects/gender-into-urban-climate-change-initiative/2019-international-meeting.html>.

²⁵⁰² The Gender into Urban Climate Change Initiative meets in Mumbai, Gender CC: Women for Climate Justice (Berlin) February 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://gendercc.net/our-work/current-projects/gender-into-urban-climate-change-initiative/2019-international-meeting.html>.

²⁵⁰³ UNDP, FAO, Italy Launch Center to Accelerate Climate Action, Sustainable Development in Africa, United Nations Development Programme (Rome) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/news-centre/news/2018/Italy-PM-Conte-Opens-Africa-Centre-for-Climate-Sustainable-Development.html>.

²⁵⁰⁴ UNDP, FAO, Italy Launch Center to Accelerate Climate Action, Sustainable Development in Africa, United Nations Development Programme (Rome) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/news-centre/news/2018/Italy-PM-Conte-Opens-Africa-Centre-for-Climate-Sustainable-Development.html>.

However, Italy has yet to show evidence of encouraging the collection, analysis, dissemination, or use of gender-sensitive data to bridge gaps in understanding the way women and girls are impacted by risks and catastrophic events.

Thus, Italy receives a score of -1 .²⁵⁰⁵

Analyst: Matthew Kivell

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to encourage the collection, analysis, dissemination, and use of gender-sensitive data to bridge gaps in understanding the way women and girls are impacted by risks and catastrophic events, and how they can be engaged in developing and implementing solutions.

In July 2018, Japan Women's Network for Disaster Risk Reduction (JWNDRR) participated in the 8th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.²⁵⁰⁶ To prepare for this conference, the JWNDRR contributed to the report, "Progress Review & Way Forward: Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Implementing the Sendai Framework in Asia."²⁵⁰⁷ Initiated by the Gender Stakeholder Group of ISDR Asian Partnership, this document outlined avenues of improvement for gender-based disaster solutions.²⁵⁰⁸ Additionally, the JWNDRR made contributions to the AMCDRR outcome document which specifically committed attendees to promote gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction policies.²⁵⁰⁹

On 11 October 2018, the Government of Japan officially contributed USD1 million to enhance the resilience of drought- and flood-affected communities in Zimbabwe through health, nutrition, food security, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) interventions.²⁵¹⁰ The project helps to safeguard

²⁵⁰⁵ This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites: www.governo.it, <https://teamdigitale.governo.it/en>, <https://amblusaka.esteri.it>, www.agid.gov.it, www.unescwa.org, <https://ec.europa.eu>, www.politico.eu, www.bbc.com, www.thelocal.it, www.euronews.com, www.theguardian.com

²⁵⁰⁶ Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR), Japan Women's Network for Disaster Risk Reduction (China) September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <https://jwndrr.org/allnews/report/1429/>.

²⁵⁰⁷ Progress Review & Way Forward Gender Equality and Social Inclusion for Implementing the Sendai Framework in preparation for AMCDRR 2018, UN Women Asia and the Pacific (Bangkok) July 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://www2.unwomen.org/-/media/field%20office%20eseasia/images/2018/07/amcdrr-progress-review-way-forward-675px.jpg?la=en&vs=426>.

²⁵⁰⁸ Progress Review & Way Forward Gender Equality and Social Inclusion for Implementing the Sendai Framework in preparation for AMCDRR 2018, UN Women Asia and the Pacific (Bangkok) July 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://www2.unwomen.org/-/media/field%20office%20eseasia/images/2018/07/amcdrr-progress-review-way-forward-675px.jpg?la=en&vs=426>.

²⁵⁰⁹ Ulaanbaatar Declaration, Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (Ulaanbaatar) 6 July 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. https://www.preventionweb.net/files/56219_ulaanbaatardeclarationfinal.pdf.

²⁵¹⁰ Japan Gives US\$1 Million for Food Security, Nutrition and Health Project, UNICEF (Tsholotsho) October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Japan%20WFP%20UNICEF%20PR%20Japan%20%241m%20handover.pdf>.

the resilience of the most vulnerable, especially women and children.²⁵¹¹ The Ambassador of Japan to Zimbabwe, Toshiyuki Iwado, emphasized the role of women in Zimbabwe's rural areas.²⁵¹²

On 15 October 2018, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's Cabinet approved a supplementary budget bill of JPY935.6 billion for the fiscal year of 2018, of which JPY727.5 billion will be allocated to support the reconstruction work as a result of recent natural disasters.²⁵¹³ The Government of Japan also plans to allocate JPY 82.2 billion to install air conditioners in 170,000 classrooms in public and specialty schools across Japan to prevent children from suffering heatstroke.²⁵¹⁴

On 29-31 October 2018, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) supported the Coordination Centre for the Disaster Prevention in Central America and Dominican Republic to hold the Mitch+20 event in Tegucigalpa City, Honduras in commemoration of the 20th anniversary of Hurricane Mitch's passing. The event aimed to promote and raise awareness about disaster risk reduction (DRR) and disaster vulnerabilities.²⁵¹⁵ The event had engaged 1,300 junior high school students, residents, companies and organizations related to DRR.²⁵¹⁶ Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Honduras, Norio Fukuta emphasized importance of a culture of DRR to address and tackle natural disasters.²⁵¹⁷

On 17 January 2019, JICA held the annual DRR event in the JICA Kansai Centre (JICA Kansai) to promote lessons learned from the Hanshin earthquake of 1995.²⁵¹⁸ JICA Kansai provides participants with DRR training course in a fun and engaging manner, while explaining the cultural role of DRR in Japanese education. The event also encourages participants to take DRR lessons learnt at the event and adapt it to their own cultures and customs.²⁵¹⁹

In January 2019, JICA started "The Project for Development of Regional Disaster Risk Resilience Plan in Central Sulawesi" in response to a request for assistance from the Indonesian government in

²⁵¹¹ Japan Gives US\$1 Million for Food Security, Nutrition and Health Project, UNICEF (Tsholotsho) October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018.

<https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Japan%20WFP%20UNICEF%20PR%20Japan%20%241m%20handover.pdf>.

²⁵¹² Japan Gives US\$1 Million for Food Security, Nutrition and Health Project, UNICEF (Tsholotsho) October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018.

<https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Japan%20WFP%20UNICEF%20PR%20Japan%20%241m%20handover.pdf>.

²⁵¹³ Cabinet Oks Supplementary Budget Bill to Support Disaster Recovery, Air Con in Schools, Mainichi Japan (Tokyo) 16 October 2018. Access Date: 6 June 2019. <https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20181016/p2a/00m/0na/023000c>.

²⁵¹⁴ Japan Gives US\$1 Million for Food Security, Nutrition and Health Project, UNICEF (Tsholotsho) October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018.

<https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Japan%20WFP%20UNICEF%20PR%20Japan%20%241m%20handover.pdf>.

²⁵¹⁴ Cabinet Oks Supplementary Budget Bill to Support Disaster Recovery, Air Con in Schools, Mainichi Japan (Tokyo) 16 October 2018. Access Date: 6 June 2019. <https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20181016/p2a/00m/0na/023000c>.

²⁵¹⁵ Learning from Disaster Experience "Hurricane Mitch 20 Years Event", JICA (Tokyo) 31 October 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2018/181031_01.html.

²⁵¹⁶ Learning from Disaster Experience "Hurricane Mitch 20 Years Event", JICA (Tokyo) 31 October 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2018/181031_01.html.

²⁵¹⁷ Learning from Disaster Experience "Hurricane Mitch 20 Years Event", JICA (Tokyo) 31 October 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2018/181031_01.html.

²⁵¹⁸ 10th Annual "Iza! Mikaeru Dai Caravan!" to Be Held in Kobe on Jan. 27; Fun Events for Learning About Disaster Risk Reduction Spread Worldwide, JICA (Tokyo) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019.

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2018/190117_01.html.

²⁵¹⁹ 10th Annual "Iza! Mikaeru Dai Caravan!" to Be Held in Kobe on Jan. 27; Fun Events for Learning About Disaster Risk Reduction Spread Worldwide, JICA (Tokyo) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2018.

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2018/190117_01.html.

2018.²⁵²⁰ JICA dispatched a mission to survey the local situation and engaged with Indonesia's National Development Planning Agency to formulate a plan for disaster-resistant infrastructure, revival of regional industries and community rehabilitation.²⁵²¹

On 1 March 2019, the Government of Japan confirmed an voluntary contribution of USD 10 million to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).²⁵²² These funds would facilitate the implementation of 19 humanitarian and emergency support projects in the Middle East, North Africa, and Asia to help advance food security in partner countries and to strengthen livelihoods in areas impacted by social, environmental, and economic crises.²⁵²³

On 4 March 2019, UNESCO and Japan have signed an agreement for USD1.7 million in support of the project "Water Disaster Platform to Enhance Climate Resilience in Africa."²⁵²⁴ The project will establish early flood warning systems and build capacity for better risk management of recurrent flood events in the region.²⁵²⁵

On 8 March 2019, the Government of Japan and the World Bank held a launch event to commemorate the renewal of the "Japan-World Bank Program for Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management in Developing Countries."²⁵²⁶ The renewed program will focus on resilient infrastructure; risk identification, risk reduction, and preparedness; and disaster financing and insurance.²⁵²⁷

Overall, Japan has encouraged the collection, analysis, dissemination, and use of gender-sensitive data in regard to risks and catastrophic events. The member's full compliance is exhibited through its participation in AMCDRR and WASH.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Michelle Zhong

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to encourage the collection, analysis, dissemination, and use of gender-sensitive data to bridge gaps in understanding the way women and

²⁵²⁰ Sharing the Great East Japan Earthquake Experience in Indonesia: Supporting Sulawesi's Reconstruction Plan, JICA (Tokyo) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 6 June 2019. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2018/190311_01.html.

²⁵²¹ Sharing the Great East Japan Earthquake Experience in Indonesia: Supporting Sulawesi's Reconstruction Plan, JICA (Tokyo) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 6 June 2019. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2018/190311_01.html

²⁵²² Government of Japan Makes Significant Additional Contribution to FAO, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Italy) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 6 June 2019. <http://www.fao.org/partnerships/resource-partners/news/news-article/en/c/1185879/>.

²⁵²³ Government of Japan Makes Significant Additional Contribution to FAO, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Italy) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 6 June 2019. <http://www.fao.org/partnerships/resource-partners/news/news-article/en/c/1185879/>.

²⁵²⁴ Water Disaster Platform to Enhance Climate Resilience in Africa, UNESCO (Paris) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://en.unesco.org/news/water-disaster-platform-enhance-climate-resilience-africa>.

²⁵²⁵ Water Disaster Platform to Enhance Climate Resilience in Africa, UNESCO (Paris) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://en.unesco.org/news/water-disaster-platform-enhance-climate-resilience-africa>.

²⁵²⁶ 20th Disaster Risk Management Seminar "Japan-World Bank Program for Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management in Developing Countries Program: Partnership between Japan and the World Bank in mainstreaming disaster risk management", World Bank (Tokyo) 8 March, 2018. Access Date: 6 June 2019. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/events/2019/03/08/drmhbtokyo-20th-seminar>.

²⁵²⁷ 20th Disaster Risk Management Seminar "Japan-World Bank Program for Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management in Developing Countries Program: Partnership between Japan and the World Bank in mainstreaming disaster risk management", World Bank (Tokyo) 8 March, 2018. Access Date: 6 June 2019. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/events/2019/03/08/drmhbtokyo-20th-seminar>.

girls are impacted by risks and catastrophic events, and how they can be engaged in developing and implementing solutions.

In June 2018, the UK continued its efforts in supporting the Sustainable Energy for Women and Girls Programme.²⁵²⁸ Collaborating with the United Nations, the UK aims to “[improve] access to and awareness of clean energy options, supporting health, safety and economic opportunities for women and girls in developing countries.”²⁵²⁹ Funded by the UK’s International Climate Finance commitment, the UN has been able to power 62 clinics in Uganda and Ghana using solar power.²⁵³⁰

In July 2018, the UK-funded Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters program hosted debates on the impact of climate change on different genders.²⁵³¹ Experts discussed “how gender-based inequalities can contribute to the disproportionate exposure of women and girls to the effects of climate change.”²⁵³²

On 15-19 October 2018, the UK, under Her Majesty’s Government, celebrated “Green GB week,” an initiative to promote clean growth and environmental awareness.²⁵³³ On 17 October 2017, the agenda included “a full day programme ... including sessions on women in sustainable finance” and “integrating climate risk into investment decisions and building capacity in emerging markets.”²⁵³⁴

On 13 December 2018, at the COP 24 summit held in Katowice, Poland, the UK, along with other nations, committed to a new goal of preventing global warming from reaching 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels.²⁵³⁵ The UK also placed a bid to host the 2020 UN Climate Change Conference, known as COP 26 “as part of the government’s aim to be seen as a green leader.”²⁵³⁶

On 15 March 2019, the UK Environment Agency chair, Emma Howard Boyd, delivered a speech explaining the importance of diversity in climate change policy making. She stated that “organisations who embrace gender diversity get better ... environmental outcomes.”²⁵³⁷ Agency Chair Boyd announced that the UK Environmental Agency aims to have at least 30% female representation by 2030.²⁵³⁸

²⁵²⁸ International Climate Finance, GOV.UK (United Kingdom) 13 June 2018. Access Date: 4 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/international-climate-finance>.

²⁵²⁹ International Climate Finance, GOV.UK (United Kingdom) 13 June 2018. Access Date: 4 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/international-climate-finance>.

²⁵³⁰ International Climate Finance, GOV.UK (United Kingdom) 13 June 2018. Access Date: 4 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/international-climate-finance>.

²⁵³¹ How does gender stand in the way of adapting to climate change?, BRACED (United Kingdom) 12 July 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. <http://www.braced.org/discussions/i/?id=82fd5c32-8ec9-44d9-bc1c-5b09c6392ecb>.

²⁵³² How does gender stand in the way of adapting to climate change?, BRACED (United Kingdom) 12 July 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. <http://www.braced.org/discussions/i/?id=82fd5c32-8ec9-44d9-bc1c-5b09c6392ecb>.

²⁵³³ Green GB & NI, GOV.UK. (London) 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://greengb.campaign.gov.uk/>.

²⁵³⁴ Driving ambition in green finance, GOV.UK (London) 17 October 2018. Access Date: 06 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/driving-ambition-in-green-finance>.

²⁵³⁵ UK bids to host 2020 UN climate change summit, the Guardian (Katowice) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 27 December 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/dec/13/uk-bids-to-host-2020-un-climate-change-summit>.

²⁵³⁶ UK bids to host 2020 UN climate change summit, the Guardian (Katowice) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 27 December 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/dec/13/uk-bids-to-host-2020-un-climate-change-summit>.

²⁵³⁷ It’s raining men: gender diversity and climate change, GOV.UK (United Kingdom) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 02 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/its-raining-men-gender-diversity-and-climate-change>.

²⁵³⁸ It’s raining men: gender diversity and climate change, GOV.UK (United Kingdom) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 02 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/its-raining-men-gender-diversity-and-climate-change>.

On 25 April 2019, the organization Girlguiding, the British Minister for Women and other governmental leaders published a report encouraging young women to tackle climate change by fulfilling “their potential as the next generation of female politicians, influencers and activists.”²⁵³⁹

On 30 April 2019, the UK House of Commons published a report titled “UK Aid for Combating Climate Change.”²⁵⁴⁰ This report “recognizes gender as a social barrier to sustainable development” and recommends that the national government “adopt the model of the International Development (Gender Equality) Act 2014 for climate change.”²⁵⁴¹

Overall, the UK has fully complied by educating women and girls on clean energy alternatives through initiatives like “Green GB week” and encouraging gender-based climate solution discussions through programs such as the Sustainable Energy for Women and Girls Programme.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kevin Zuo

United States: N/A

The United States is excluded from the scoring of Commitment 2018-261 due to the member’s planned withdrawal from the Paris Agreement and official reservations against climate-related language in the *Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities*. However, analysis of country activity was still conducted. The United States has fully complied with its commitment to encourage the collection, analysis, dissemination and use of gender-sensitive data to bridge gaps in understanding the way women and girls are impacted by risks and catastrophic events, and how they can be engaged in developing and implementing solutions.

On 18 June 2018, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) co-hosted a webinar with the Green Livelihoods Alliance (GLA) exploring the connection between gender and the environment and the importance of gender mainstreaming in programming.²⁵⁴² The webinar incorporated gender-based analysis in promoting sustainability initiatives. It was hosted on the Gender and Renewable Energy (G-REEN) platform, which is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).²⁵⁴³

On 26 June 2018, the IUCN conducted a webinar about the role of gender in climate resilience for Shared Resource, Joint Solutions (SRJS).²⁵⁴⁴

²⁵³⁹ Girlguiding has launched Future Girl, its major new manifesto for girl-led change, Girlguiding.org (United Kingdom) 25 April 2019. Access Date: 29 May 2019. <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/what-we-do/our-stories-and-news/news/biggest-ever-girls-manifesto/>.

²⁵⁴⁰ UK aid for combating climate change, House of Commons International Development Committee (London) 30 April 2019. Access Date: 09 June 2019. <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmintdev/1432/1432.pdf>.

²⁵⁴¹ UK aid for combating climate change, House of Commons International Development Committee (London) 30 April 2019. Access Date: 09 June 2019. <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmintdev/1432/1432.pdf>.

²⁵⁴² GLA and gender webinar: Gender and environment 101, IUCN Global Gender Office (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 12 February 2019. <http://genderandenvironment.org/resource/gla-and-gender-webinar-gender-and-environment-101/>.

²⁵⁴³ G-REEN: The Gender and Renewable Energy Platform, IUCN Global Gender Office (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 12 February 2019. <http://genderandenvironment.org/energy/>.

²⁵⁴⁴ From knowledge to action: Gender mainstreaming experiences from SRJS partners in Uganda and the Guianas, IUCN Global Gender Office (Washington D.C.) 26 June 2018. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <http://genderandenvironment.org/resource/from-knowledge-to-action-gender-mainstreaming-experiences-from-srjs-partners-in-uganda-and-the-guianas/>.

On 14 August 2018, the IUCN again partnered with GLA to deliver a webinar on the gendered effects of environmental degradation and climate change.²⁵⁴⁵

In September 2018, Advancing Gender in the Environment (AGENT) conducted a survey to examine the linkages between gender-based violence and environmental issues.²⁵⁴⁶ AGENT is an initiative funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in partnership with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).²⁵⁴⁷ The survey built on a call for case studies by USAID examining the intersection between violence against women and environmental degradation, that was conducted in early 2018.²⁵⁴⁸ The project examines issues including gender-based violence related to women's access to resources or experienced due to "limitations or changes in access, use, and control over natural resources which increases due to climate change."²⁵⁴⁹ The goal of this research is to "increase understanding on the intersection between gender-based violence, including prevention and response measures, and environmental issues," with the aim of "recognizing their linkages and considering proactive, cohesive responses may improve outcomes for both interventions related to gender-based violence and environmental efforts."²⁵⁵⁰ The call for case studies received over 100 responses, and the survey received over 350 responses.²⁵⁵¹ With this data, preparations are underway for a paper to be published in 2019 that will provide recommendations on GBV prevention and an analysis on the link between climate change and GBV.²⁵⁵²

In April 2019, AGENT published a brief examining gender-responsive opportunities to the environmental effects of urbanization.²⁵⁵³ The report highlights the importance of sex-disaggregated

²⁵⁴⁵ GLA and gender webinar: Mainstreaming gender in the project cycle, IUCN Global Gender Office (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 19 February 2019. <http://genderandenvironment.org/resource/gla-and-gender-webinar-mainstreaming-gender-in-the-project-cycle/>.

²⁵⁴⁶ Linkages between gender-based violence and environmental issues — SURVEY, ENERGIA (The Hague) 11 September 2018. Access Date: 23 November 2018. <https://www.energia.org/linkages-between-gender-based-violence-and-environmental-issues-survey/>.

²⁵⁴⁷ Survey — Linkages Between Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and the Environment, Global Gender Office (Washington D.C.) September 2018. Access Date: 23 November 2018. <http://genderandenvironment.org/2018/08/survey-linkages-between-gender-based-violence-gbv-and-the-environment/>.

²⁵⁴⁸ Call for Case Studies — Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and the Environment, Global Gender Office (Washington D.C.) 2018. Access Date: 23 November 2018. <http://genderandenvironment.org/2018/04/call-for-case-studies-gender-based-violence-gbv-and-the-environment/>.

²⁵⁴⁹ Strengthening Knowledge on the Linkage Between Gender-Based Violence and Environmental Issues: Call for Case Studies, Google Docs (Washington D.C.) 2018. Access Date: 23 November 2018.

²⁵⁵⁰ Strengthening Knowledge on the Linkage Between Gender-Based Violence and Environmental Issues: Call for Case Studies, Google Docs (Washington D.C.) 2018. Access Date: 23 November 2018. <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfh6mvWRjHT3aucdkDB0pgETFgsYZNHZ5nwqOKmGICK30JecQ/viewform>.

²⁵⁵¹ 16 Days of Activism to shine a spotlight on gender-based violence (GBV) and the environment, IUCN Global Gender Office (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 19 February 2019. <http://genderandenvironment.org/2018/11/16-days-of-activism-to-shine-a-spotlight-on-gender-based-violence-and-the-environment/>.

²⁵⁵² Advancing Gender in the Environment: Gender-Based Violence and the Environment, IUCN Global Gender Office (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 19 February 2019. <http://genderandenvironment.org/agent-gender-based-violence-and-the-environment/>.

²⁵⁵³ Advancing Gender in the Environment: Gender and Urban Services, ClimateLinks (Washington D.C.) April 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://www.climatelinks.org/resources/advancing-gender-environment-gender-and-urban-services>.

data in understanding and crafting responses to natural disasters and other climate effects, particularly as they affect urban populations.²⁵⁵⁴

In June 2019, two USAID funded reports were published that focused on evaluating the impact of climate information services on social and economic outcomes using gender-sensitive data.²⁵⁵⁵ The project in Senegal focused on “addressing the impacts of climate change on rural agrarian livelihoods,” and paid particular attention to disaggregating data by gender in order to make climate information more gender-responsive.²⁵⁵⁶ In Rwanda, researchers examined how demographic indicators such as gender affect individuals’ “varying needs for and ability to act upon weather and climate information,” including in the context of a changing climate.²⁵⁵⁷

The United States government has funded, conducted, and implemented research and webinars aimed at gathering and using gender-sensitive data regarding climate change.

Analyst: Emma Schwartz

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with the commitment to prioritize to encourage the collection, analysis, dissemination, and use of gender-sensitive data to bridge gaps in understanding the way women and girls are impacted by risks and catastrophic events, and how they can be engaged in developing and implementing solutions.

On 21-22 September 2018, the EU co-hosted the first formal Women Foreign Ministers’ Meeting — an initiative driven by Canadian Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland and High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Federica Mogherini.²⁵⁵⁸ The meeting in Montreal focused on formulating new initiatives and tangible commitments to support gender equality goals within the challenges of climate change.²⁵⁵⁹

On 27 September 2018, the EU and the United Nations released a joint statement on their renewed partnership in development.²⁵⁶⁰ This partnership aims to promote gender equality, including plans of

²⁵⁵⁴ Advancing Gender in the Environment: Gender and Urban Services, ClimateLinks (Washington D.C.) April 2019. Access Date: 2 June 2019. <https://www.climatelinks.org/resources/advancing-gender-environment-gender-and-urban-services>.

²⁵⁵⁵ Improving the Evaluation of Climate Information Services and their Impacts in Africa: Assessments in Rwanda and Senegal, ClimateLinks (Washington D.C.) June 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.climatelinks.org/resources/improving-evaluation-climate-information-services-and-their-impacts-africa-assessments>.

²⁵⁵⁶ Edward R. Carr et. al. Senegal’s Multidisciplinary Working Group CIS Model: A Qualitative Assessment of CIS Users and Their Needs. ClimateLinks (Washington D.C.) June 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. https://www.climatelinks.org/sites/default/files/2019_USAID_Mercy%20Corps_HURDL%20Senegal%20Report.pdf.

²⁵⁵⁷ Sheila N. Onzere et. al. Rwanda’s Climate Services for Agriculture Initiative and the Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture: A Qualitative Assessment of CIS Users and Their Needs, ClimateLinks (Washington D.C.) June 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. https://www.climatelinks.org/sites/default/files/2019_USAID_Mercy%20Corps_HURDL%20Rwanda%20Report.pdf.

²⁵⁵⁸ Mesdames Secretaries, Open Canada (Montreal) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.opencanada.org/features/mesdames-secretaries/>.

²⁵⁵⁹ Mesdames Secretaries, Open Canada (Montreal) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.opencanada.org/features/mesdames-secretaries/>.

²⁵⁶⁰ Joint Communiqué between the European Union and the United Nations: A renewed partnership in development, European Commission Press Release Database (New York) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-5927_en.htm.

action for women's and girls' empowerment at national levels.²⁵⁶¹ Achieving this level of empowerment will include the avenues of quality education and training.²⁵⁶² Further, they intend to promote climate action and implementation through advocating for a gender-responsive transformation and adaptation of climate change data.²⁵⁶³ This adjustment will occur within the context of the Paris Agreement and will focus on supporting national level implementation.²⁵⁶⁴

On 28 September 2018, negotiations began on a new partnership with Africa, the Caribbean, and the Pacific (ACP).²⁵⁶⁵ The EU acknowledged that a large number of island nations and their maritime territories make the Pacific countries an important player in tackling global challenges, particularly with respect to their vulnerability to natural disasters and climate change.²⁵⁶⁶ The partnership prioritized gender equality and inclusive sustainable growth as two keys to mitigating these dangers to women and girls in the region.²⁵⁶⁷

On 26 February 2019, the EU and the ACP renewed their commitment to addressing climate change in the Pacific and Caribbean regions.²⁵⁶⁸ They recognized that island nations are particularly vulnerable to climate change and encouraged investment in gender equality and inclusive sustainable growth.²⁵⁶⁹

On 6 March 2019, Commissioner Neven Mimica arrived in Australia on a two-day visit to strengthen cooperation on climate action and gender equality.²⁵⁷⁰ Commissioner Mimica held high-level bilateral

²⁵⁶¹ Joint Communique between the European Union and the United Nations: A renewed partnership in development, European Commission Press Release Database (New York) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-5927_en.htm.

²⁵⁶² Joint Communique between the European Union and the United Nations: A renewed partnership in development, European Commission Press Release Database (New York) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-5927_en.htm.

²⁵⁶³ Joint Communique between the European Union and the United Nations: A renewed partnership in development, European Commission Press Release Database (New York) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-5927_en.htm.

²⁵⁶⁴ Joint Communique between the European Union and the United Nations: A renewed partnership in development, European Commission Press Release Database (New York) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-5927_en.htm.

²⁵⁶⁵ Factsheet: Political negotiations on a new ACP-EU Partnership to start today in New York, European Commission Press Release Database (New York) 28 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-18-5903_en.htm.

²⁵⁶⁶ Factsheet: Political negotiations on a new ACP-EU Partnership to start today in New York, European Commission Press Release Database (New York) 28 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-18-5903_en.htm.

²⁵⁶⁷ Factsheet: Political negotiations on a new ACP-EU Partnership to start today in New York, European Commission Press Release Database (New York) 28 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-18-5903_en.htm.

²⁵⁶⁸ Questions and answers - New ACP-EU Partnership: EU and Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific Leaders intensify the regional talks in Samoa, European Commission (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-18-5903_en.htm.

²⁵⁶⁹ Questions and answers - New ACP-EU Partnership: EU and Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific Leaders intensify the regional talks in Samoa, European Commission (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-18-5903_en.htm.

²⁵⁷⁰ EU to strengthen cooperation with Australia on private sector investment and infrastructure, climate action and gender equality, European Commission (Brussels) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-19-1572_en.htm

meetings to explore closer cooperation between the EU and Australia in the field of development in sectors such as climate resilience and gender equality.²⁵⁷¹

On 17 April 2019, the EU announced it was strengthening its partnership with Latin America and the Caribbean by focusing on improving climate resilience and fighting against gender inequality in the region.²⁵⁷² The strategic partnership between the EU, Latin America and the Caribbean is based on a commitment to support fundamental freedoms, sustainable development and a strong rules-based international system.²⁵⁷³

On 3-6 June 2019, the Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership (PEUMP) organized a training workshop in Suva, Fiji to integrate gender and human rights-based approaches into sound ocean governance.²⁵⁷⁴ Funded by the EU, this program underscores the negative impacts of climate change and highlights the need for a greater recognition of gender issues within this context.²⁵⁷⁵ This year's theme of "Oceans and Gender" provided an opportunity to explore the gender dimension of society's relationship with the ocean and to discover ways to promote gender equality in ocean-related activities such as marine scientific research, fisheries, policy-making and management.²⁵⁷⁶ The outcomes of the PEUMP will guide the development of a Gender and Human Rights plan for the program, while the training workshop also provided an opportunity to present relevant findings, accurate data and recommendations from existing gender and fisheries assessments to inform programming and enhance evidence-based approaches.²⁵⁷⁷

The European Union co-hosted an international meeting focused on leveraging female voices in the fight against climate change. The G7 member also negotiated multiple partnerships agendas, which include a commitment to gender equality, quality training for women and a transformation of the data to account for gender differences within climate change action. The EU funded reports and initiatives that promote the collection, analysis, and dissemination of gender-sensitive data regarding climate change and suggests plans for engaging women and girls in solution implementation.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Amanda Burns

²⁵⁷¹ EU to strengthen cooperation with Australia on private sector investment and infrastructure, climate action and gender equality, European Commission (Brussels) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019.

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-19-1572_en.htm

²⁵⁷² EU, Latin America and the Caribbean: Partnering for prosperity, democracy, resilience and global governance, European Commission (Brussels) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2137_en.htm

²⁵⁷³ EU, Latin America and the Caribbean: Partnering for prosperity, democracy, resilience and global governance, European Commission (Brussels) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2137_en.htm

²⁵⁷⁴ Integrating Gender and Human Rights-based Approaches, Pacific Scoop (Suva) 7 June 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <http://pacific.scoop.co.nz/2019/06/integrating-gender-and-human-rights-based-approaches/>

²⁵⁷⁵ Integrating Gender and Human Rights-based Approaches, Pacific Scoop (Suva) 7 June 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <http://pacific.scoop.co.nz/2019/06/integrating-gender-and-human-rights-based-approaches/>

²⁵⁷⁶ Integrating Gender and Human Rights-based Approaches, Pacific Scoop (Suva) 7 June 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <http://pacific.scoop.co.nz/2019/06/integrating-gender-and-human-rights-based-approaches/>

²⁵⁷⁷ Integrating Gender and Human Rights-based Approaches, Pacific Scoop (Suva) 7 June 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <http://pacific.scoop.co.nz/2019/06/integrating-gender-and-human-rights-based-approaches/>

11. Climate Change: Paris Agreement

“Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the European Union reaffirm their strong commitment to implement the Paris Agreement, through ambitious climate action; in particular through strengthening and financing resilience and reducing vulnerability.”

G7 Charlevoix Summit Communiqué

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States	N/A		
European Union			+1
Average		+1.00	

Background

Climate change is one of the most complex, multi-dimensional, and challenging global issues facing the world today. In December 2015, world leaders gathered together at the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to acknowledge this global problem and address the challenges brought by climate change. In response, the Paris Agreement was adopted by consensus on 12 December 2015, and it came into force on 4 November 2016.²⁵⁷⁸ The purpose of the Paris Agreement is to mitigate climate change and reduce emissions by keeping the global temperature rise to well below 2° Celsius above pre-industrial levels, further aiming to limit the increase to 1.5° Celsius.²⁵⁷⁹ The agreement also seeks to help countries adapt to the impacts of climate change and align climate action with their own national objectives and capacities. Although this agreement is legally binding in holding governments accountable to the 1.5–2° Celsius limit, the commitments to curb greenhouse gas emissions under this goal are not.

There are three main elements to the Paris Agreement. The first is Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), which are national climate action plans outlining how countries intend to lower their respective greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change. NDCs take into account the individual country’s capacities and contexts and require regular reporting on emissions and implementation efforts to decarbonise domestic economies. It is expected that countries submit updated NDCs over a five-year cycle, and demonstrate more ambitious action and targets to mitigate and deal with climate change as time progresses. The second aspect of the Paris Agreement refers to the pledge of developed countries to mobilise USD 100 billion per year in public and private finance by 2020 for climate mitigation and adaptation activities in developing countries. The third element of the Paris Agreement refers to climate adaptation as articulated in Article 7 of the agreement, which

²⁵⁷⁸ The Paris Agreement: Essential Elements, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Access Date: 7 September 2018. http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9485.php

²⁵⁷⁹ The Paris Agreement: Essential Elements, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Access Date: 7 September 2018. http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9485.php

states that the “parties hereby establish the global goal of enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change.”²⁵⁸⁰

Following COP21 in December 2015, COP22 and COP23 were held in Morocco and Germany in November 2016 and November 2017 respectively, both of which served to accelerate climate action and inform preparations for the next NDCs due in 2020. At COP23, a facilitative dialogue known as the Talanoa Dialogue was launched, which served as the first global stock-taking exercise of NDCs as mandated by the Paris Agreement. Ultimately, the goal of such dialogue is to help countries achieve greater ambition in implementing and improving their individual NDCs, and thus to collectively achieve the climate goals of the Paris Agreement.

On 1 June 2017, U.S. president Donald Trump signed an executive order which withdrew the United States from the Paris Agreement. Although the US remains a part of the UNFCCC, it will not implement the Paris Agreement.²⁵⁸¹

In December 2018, COP24 will be hosted by Poland, a meeting some perceive as “Paris 2.0. According to the UN Climate Change Executive Secretary Patricia Espinosa, “COP21 saw the birth of the Agreement. In Poland, as I call it Paris 2.0, we will put together the pieces, directions, and guidelines in order to make the framework really operate.”²⁵⁸² In this regard, COP24 is a negotiation between the Parties to develop guidelines on how to ensure full implementation of the Paris Agreement, in order to keep global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. The meeting will also take stock of the collective achievements made thus far to meet the objectives agreed to in the Paris Agreement.

As major democratic powers, the G7 has been involved in the global governance of climate change since the early stages of its summitry. In fact, this notion was coined by G7 leaders at their fifth annual summit in Tokyo, 1979.²⁵⁸³ G7 members have a positive track record of compliance with climate commitments, averaging 73 percent compliance (close to the G7’s all-issue compliance average of 75 percent).²⁵⁸⁴ For more information regarding the G7’s global governance of climate change, please refer to the following source: *The Global Governance of Climate Change G7, G20, and UN Leadership*, authored by John Kirton and Ella Kokotsis.²⁵⁸⁵

Commitment Features

At Charlevoix, all G7 members except for the United States “reaffirm[ed] their strong commitment to implement the Paris Agreement, through ambitious climate action; in particular through strengthening and financing resilience and reducing vulnerability.” In this commitment, the G7 has agreed to focus efforts on climate adaptation (as opposed to climate mitigation). Specifically, G7 members have agreed to implement the Paris Agreement by 1) strengthening and financing climate resilience; and 2) by reducing vulnerability.

²⁵⁸⁰ “The Paris Agreement”. UNFCCC. Access Date: 27 January 2018.

http://unfccc.int/files/essential_background/convention/application/pdf/english_paris_agreement.pdf

²⁵⁸¹ Paris Climate Agreement: World reacts as Trump pulls out of global accord. The Guardian, 2 June 2017. Access Date: 8 September 2017. <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/live/2017/jun/01/donald-trump-paris-climate-agreement-live-news>

²⁵⁸² Interview "COP24 Will be Paris 2.0", 21 December 2018, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 21 December 2018. Access Date: 8 September 2018. <https://unfccc.int/news/cop24-will-be-paris-20>

²⁵⁸³ Controlling Climate Change through G7-G20-UN Leadership, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 19 May 2016. Access Date: 13 October 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton-climate-g7-g20-2016.pdf>

²⁵⁸⁴ Controlling Climate Change through G7-G20-UN Leadership, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 19 May 2016. Access Date: 13 October 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton-climate-g7-g20-2016.pdf>

²⁵⁸⁵ The Global Governance of Climate Change: G7, G20 and UN Leadership, Political Science, University of Toronto (Toronto) Access Date: 13 October 2018.

To define the key terms in this commitment: “to strengthen” is interpreted to mean “to make or become stronger.”²⁵⁸⁶ “Resilience” is defined by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change as the “capacity of social, economic, and environmental systems to cope with a hazardous event or trend or disturbance, responding or reorganizing in ways that maintain their essential function, identity, and structure, while also maintaining the capacity for adaptation, learning, and transformation.”²⁵⁸⁷ To “reduce” is interpreted to mean to “make something smaller or less in amount, degree, or size.”²⁵⁸⁸ “Vulnerability to climate change” refers to “the degree to which geophysical, biological and socio-economic systems are susceptible to and unable to cope with, adverse impacts of climate change.”²⁵⁸⁹ Issues relating to climate vulnerability include extreme weather conditions and events, land degradation, and biodiversity loss.²⁵⁹⁰ Examples of solutions to reduce climate vulnerability include conducting vulnerability assessments to develop resilience plans, monitoring and evaluating the progress of NDCs and National Adaptation Plans, scaling successful adaptation interventions, implementing strategies and engaging in partnerships to address intersectional effects of climate change (such as poverty resulting from climate vulnerability).²⁵⁹¹

In the first part of the commitment, G7 members “reaffirm” their support for the implementation of the Paris Agreement. This means that all parties (excluding the United States) recognize their individual roles in keeping the global temperature rise to well below two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. “Reaffirm” is defined as “affirm again, whereby affirm is to assert strongly, state as fact, confirm or ratify a judgment.”²⁵⁹² Pledging support for “ambitious climate action” during the current compliance cycle indicates a “strong” commitment to the Paris Agreement. This means that climate action must be more than a verbal recognition of the Paris Agreement. Examples of actions that count as ambitious climate action include pledging substantial financial contributions to support developing countries, enacting national laws to limit greenhouse gas emission and more.

Moreover, the commitment of G7 members to implement the Paris Agreement entails a recognition of the need to improve their respective NDCs, in order to reflect more ambitious climate mitigation and adaptation activities. NDCs are of central importance to the Paris Agreement, serving as a national-level mechanism to communicate and maintain successive plans such as domestic mitigation measures.²⁵⁹³ Actions to implement the Paris Agreement can also include scaling up climate finance contributions to meet the target of mobilizing USD 100 billion per year in public and private finance

²⁵⁸⁶ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 24 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>

²⁵⁸⁷ Annex I — Glossary, Acronyms and Chemical Symbols, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (Geneva) 2014. Access Date: 13 October 2018. http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar5/wg3/ipcc_wg3_ar5_annex-i.pdf

²⁵⁸⁸ Reduce, Oxford Living Dictionaries (Oxford) Access Date: 13 October 2018. <https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/reduce>

²⁵⁸⁹ 19.1.2 Conceptual framework for the identification and assessment of key vulnerabilities, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (Geneva) 2007. Access Date: 13 October 2018. https://www.ipcc.ch/publications_and_data/ar4/wg2/en/ch19s19-1-2.html

²⁵⁹⁰ Least Developed Countries — Reducing Vulnerability to climate change, climate variability and extremes, land degradation and loss of biodiversity: Environmental and Developmental Challenges and Opportunities, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) May 2011. Access Date: 13 October 2018. https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/ldc_reducingvulnerability.pdf

²⁵⁹¹ Strategies for reducing vulnerability and building resilience to environmental and natural disasters in developing countries, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Division of Social Policy and Development (New York) 8 May 2017. Access Date: 13 October 2018. https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/wp-content/uploads/sites/22/2017/04/Moushumi-Chaudhury-Strategies-to-Reduce-Vulnerability-Paper_WRI_Final.pdf

²⁵⁹² Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 24 September 2018.

²⁵⁹³ Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), United Nations Climate Change (New York) Access Date: 13 October 2018. <https://unfccc.int/process/the-paris-agreement/nationally-determined-contributions/ndc-registry>

by 2020, in order to help developing and emerging economies that are particularly vulnerable to climate change. Actions in this regard also count toward compliance in the first half of the commitment.

According to the second aspect of this commitment, the climate finance pledged and/or disbursed by G7 members (excluding the United States) should be directed towards improving climate resilience and reducing vulnerability to the effects of climate change. In other words, resources spent should specifically support countries that are implementing new initiatives or building on existing measures to cope with or adapt to climate change. Examples of measures include building infrastructure such as flood defenses, shifting to drought-resistant crops, rainwater harvesting, and water conservation techniques, improvements in irrigation efficiency. Another example is planning for extreme heat and its impact on public health, for which adaptation measures have been implemented in regions that combine weather monitoring, early warning, and response measures.²⁵⁹⁴ Any funding from G7 members used to support and implement such actions to address climate resilience and vulnerability count towards this part of the commitment.

With regards to the latter half of the commitment, “strengthen” indicates that G7 members must fulfill a certain threshold of action. “Strengthen” means that the G7 member must have increased or acted more than before in the fields of financing climate resilience and reducing climate vulnerability. If the contribution of a G7 member is less or the same as before (for instance, a reiteration or renewal of previous financial contributions), the G7 member has not fulfilled this section of the commitment to strengthen its actions.

To achieve full compliance, the G7 must reaffirm its strong commitment to implement the Paris Agreement by acting and committing to ambitious climate action, while strengthening and financing programs to improve climate resilience and reduce vulnerability. Partial compliance will be scored if the G7 member only fulfilled the former part of the commitment ie. its climate action does not have a focus on resilience and vulnerability. A score of 0 for partial compliance will also be assigned if the G7 member does not meet the threshold of policy actions constituting “strong” commitment and/or “strengthen[ing]” climate action as defined above in the former or latter part of the commitment, even if some action has been taken. If the G7 member does not comply with either part of this commitment, it will receive a score of -1 for non-compliance.

This United States is not a part of this commitment. Therefore, its compliance will not be scored and accounted for the average. However, a report outlining the United States climate action will be included below without a compliance score.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member does NOT reaffirm its strong commitment to implement the Paris Agreement, through ambitious climate action; NOR strengthens and finances resilience and reducing vulnerability.
0	The G7 member reaffirms its strong commitment to implement the Paris Agreement, through ambitious climate action; OR strengthens and finances resilience and reducing vulnerability.
+1	The G7 member reaffirms its strong commitment to implement the Paris Agreement, through ambitious climate action; AND in particular through strengthening and financing resilience and reducing vulnerability.

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Lead Analyst: David Manocchio*

²⁵⁹⁴ IPCC Fourth Assessment Report: Climate Change 2007: Working Group II: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability, IPCC. Access Date: 7 September 2018. https://www.ipcc.ch/publications_and_data/ar4/wg2/en/ch17s17-2-2.html

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to reaffirm its strong commitment to implement the Paris Agreement, through ambitious climate action; in particular through strengthening and financing resilience and reducing vulnerability.

On 21 June 2018, the government adopted the “Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act,” which imposes a national carbon-pricing mechanism on fossil fuels and carbon emissions in any province or territory that has yet to implement its own carbon pricing strategies.²⁵⁹⁵ The act is an important element of the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change, and it is a part of Canada’s Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) “to reduce GHG [greenhouse gas] emissions by 30% below 2005 levels by 2030.”²⁵⁹⁶

On 25 June 2018, respectively on behalf of the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Catherine McKenna and Nova Scotia’s Minister of Energy Geoff Maclean, member of Parliament for Dartmouth-Cole Harbour Darren Fisher and Nova Scotia’s Minister of Public Service Commission Tony Ince announced the “SolarHomes” program. This program will subsidize the cost of solar power in the households of Nova Scotia through “rebates of up to 30 percent off the purchase and installation costs of rooftop solar-electricity systems.”²⁵⁹⁷ This funding is part of the “\$2 billion Low Carbon Economy Fund to support new provincial and territorial actions to reduce emissions by 2030 in line with Canada’s NDC to the Paris Agreement.”²⁵⁹⁸

On 10 July 2018, Minister Catherine McKenna and Nova Scotia’s Minister of Energy and Mines Derek Mombourquette announced “the expansion of the Home Energy Assessment, Green Heat, and Efficient Products Installation programs for homeowners who use non-electrical sources of heat.”²⁵⁹⁹ These programs are part of the government’s Low Carbon Economy Fund, and they are designed to give financial incentives such as rebates to homeowners for the installation and retrofitting of energy-efficient appliances such as heating systems and showerheads.²⁶⁰⁰

On 20 August 2018, the government published a discussion paper in preparation for consultations on the mid-term evaluation of Canada’s light-duty vehicle greenhouse gas emission regulations for

²⁵⁹⁵ How we’re putting a price on carbon pollution, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 2 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/climate-change/pricing-pollution-how-it-will-work/putting-price-on-carbon-pollution.html>

²⁵⁹⁶ How we’re putting a price on carbon pollution, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 2 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/climate-change/pricing-pollution-how-it-will-work/putting-price-on-carbon-pollution.html>

²⁵⁹⁷ The governments of Canada and Nova Scotia announce funding to help Nova Scotia homeowners save money on solar power, Government of Canada (Dartmouth) 25 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/06/the-governments-of-canada-and-nova-scotia-announce-funding-to-help-nova-scotia-homeowners-save-money-on-solar-power.html>

²⁵⁹⁸ Canada’s 2017 Nationally Determined Contribution Submission to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change NDC Registry (Ottawa) 11 May 2017. Access Date: 10 October 2018.

<http://www4.unfccc.int/ndcregistry/PublishedDocuments/Canada%20First/Canada%20First%20NDC-Revised%20submission%202017-05-11.pdf>

²⁵⁹⁹ News release: The governments of Canada and Nova Scotia help homeowners fund energy efficiency upgrades, Government of Canada (Dartmouth) 10 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/07/the-governments-of-canada-and-nova-scotia-help-homeowners-fund-energy-efficiency-upgrades.html>

²⁶⁰⁰ News release: The governments of Canada and Nova Scotia help homeowners fund energy efficiency upgrades, Government of Canada (Dartmouth) 10 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/07/the-governments-of-canada-and-nova-scotia-help-homeowners-fund-energy-efficiency-upgrades.html>

the 2022–2025 model years. Canada will monitor the actions of other global jurisdictions that are also developing measures to address greenhouse gas emissions from light-duty vehicles.²⁶⁰¹

On 10 September 2018, as a part of the government’s Low Carbon Economy Fund, Minister McKenna announced a federal investment of CAD12 million in support of energy-efficient retrofitting and the installation of heating systems in communities and public housing in Nunavut.²⁶⁰²

On 13 September 2018, the government joined various state governments of the United States to issue a joint statement on “North American Climate Leadership” at the Global Climate Action Summit in San Francisco, California.²⁶⁰³ At this summit, the government reaffirmed its commitment made at the North America Leaders’ Summit to “[achieve] 50% of zero-carbon power generation by 2025 collectively across North America.”²⁶⁰⁴ The statement further underscored market-based strategies for emission reductions through innovation, economic growth, and existing platforms to incorporate the cost of carbon pollution into decision-making. The Global Climate Action Summit provided an opportunity for signatories of the Paris Agreement to assess their climate action as a midway point till 2020.²⁶⁰⁵

On 13 September 2018, during the same meeting, the government accepted the U.S. Climate Alliance’s Shot-Lived Climate Pollutants Challenge.²⁶⁰⁶ The goal of this challenge is to develop reduction strategies that mitigate the effect and concentration of “short-lived climate pollutants,” such as ground-level ozone and methane.²⁶⁰⁷

On 19 September 2018, at the G7 Ministerial Meeting on Working Together on Climate Change, Oceans, and Clean Energy, Minister Catherine McKenna announced CAD2million in new funds for the National Adaptation Plan Global Network. This fund will be managed by the International Institute for Sustainable Development, and it seeks to help developing countries adapt to the impacts of climate change.²⁶⁰⁸

²⁶⁰¹ News release: Canada begins consultations on vehicle emission standards, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 August 2018. Access Date: 2 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/08/canada-begins-consultations-on-vehicle-emission-standards.html>

²⁶⁰² News release: The governments of Canada and Nunavut announce investments in energy efficiency upgrades that help residents save energy and money, Government of Canada (Gatineau) 10 September 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/09/the-governments-of-canada-and-nunavut-announce-investments-in-energy-efficiency-upgrades-that-help-residents-save-energy-and-money.html>

²⁶⁰³ Joint Statement on North American Climate Leadership, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 13 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/09/joint-statement-on-north-american-climate-leadership1.html>

²⁶⁰⁴ Joint Statement on North American Climate Leadership, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 13 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/09/joint-statement-on-north-american-climate-leadership1.html>

²⁶⁰⁵ Joint Statement on North American Climate Leadership, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 13 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/09/joint-statement-on-north-american-climate-leadership1.html>

²⁶⁰⁶ Canada joins with international partners to make progress on fighting climate change, Cision (San Francisco) 13 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/canada-joins-with-international-partners-to-make-progress-on-fighting-climate-change-693212471.html>

²⁶⁰⁷ Joint Statement on North American Climate Leadership, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 13 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/09/joint-statement-on-north-american-climate-leadership1.html>

²⁶⁰⁸ G7 environment meetings in Halifax focus on climate action, and the \$26 trillion opportunity of clean growth and tackling air pollution, Government of Canada (Halifax) 19 September 2018. Access Date: 3 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/09/g7-environment-meetings-in-halifax-focus-on-climate-action-and-the-26-trillion-opportunity-of-clean-growth-and-tackling-air-pollution.html>

On 20 September 2018, at the Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities meeting, Minister McKenna and Minister of Natural Resources Amarjeet Sohi launched the G7 initiative on Earth and Observation and Integrated Coastal Zone Management alongside other G7 Environment, Energy and Oceans Ministers. This initiative seeks to improve the availability and accessibility of data and services that are critical to better understanding the current state of oceans coasts.”²⁶⁰⁹ The goal of this initiative is to reduce the vulnerabilities brought forth by extreme weather events affecting coastal communities.²⁶¹⁰

On 20 September 2018, during the same meeting, the government announced funding of CAD60 million to support clean energy development and ensure equitable access to employment and energy resources for females in Small Island Developing States.²⁶¹¹

On 20 September 2018, during the same meeting, the government also announced funding of CAD5.6 million to deploy the “Argo Ocean Array” floats. This contribution strives to monitor changes in salinity and ocean temperatures of international oceans, and “make this data publicly available.”²⁶¹² The goal of this action is to improve developing countries’ understanding of oceans and reduce related risks.²⁶¹³

On 28 September 2018, during the same meeting, Minister of Natural Resources Amarjeet Sohi announced CAD29.8 million in funding for Halagonia Tidal Energy Ltd.²⁶¹⁴ This funding is a “part of Natural Resources Canada’s Emerging Renewable Power Program plan for promoting clean

²⁶⁰⁹ News release: Environment, Ocean and Energy Ministers ready to take action on our oceans and seas; conclude G7 joint meeting on Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, Government of Canada (Halifax) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/09/environment-oceans-and-energy-ministers-ready-to-take-action-on-our-oceans-and-seas-conclude-g7-joint-meeting-on-healthy-oceans-seas-and-resilient-.html>

²⁶¹⁰ News release: Environment, Ocean and Energy Ministers ready to take action on our oceans and seas; conclude G7 joint meeting on Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, Government of Canada (Halifax) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/09/environment-oceans-and-energy-ministers-ready-to-take-action-on-our-oceans-and-seas-conclude-g7-joint-meeting-on-healthy-oceans-seas-and-resilient-.html>

²⁶¹¹ News release: Environment, Ocean and Energy Ministers ready to take action on our oceans and seas; conclude G7 joint meeting on Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, Government of Canada (Halifax) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/09/environment-oceans-and-energy-ministers-ready-to-take-action-on-our-oceans-and-seas-conclude-g7-joint-meeting-on-healthy-oceans-seas-and-resilient-.html>

²⁶¹² News release: Environment, Ocean and Energy Ministers ready to take action on our oceans and seas; conclude G7 joint meeting on Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, Government of Canada (Halifax) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/09/environment-oceans-and-energy-ministers-ready-to-take-action-on-our-oceans-and-seas-conclude-g7-joint-meeting-on-healthy-oceans-seas-and-resilient-.html>

²⁶¹³ News release: Environment, Ocean and Energy Ministers ready to take action on our oceans and seas; conclude G7 joint meeting on Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, Government of Canada (Halifax) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/09/environment-oceans-and-energy-ministers-ready-to-take-action-on-our-oceans-and-seas-conclude-g7-joint-meeting-on-healthy-oceans-seas-and-resilient-.html>

²⁶¹⁴ Minister Sohi Announces Major Investment in Renewable Tidal Energy That Will Power 2,500 homes in Nova Scotia, Cision (Halifax) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/minister-sohi-announces-major-investment-in-renewable-tidal-energy-that-will-power-2500-homes-in-nova-scotia-693881551.html>

growth and fighting climate change.”²⁶¹⁵ The goal of this action is to harness energy from deep and shallow produce and generate clean electricity for Nova Scotia.²⁶¹⁶

On 28 September 2018, as a part of the EfficiencyBC program, the government and the Province of British Columbia announced CAD24 million in funding for the provision of financial incentives and guidance to homes and businesses that make energy-efficient retrofits.²⁶¹⁷ This funding is a part of the government’s Low Carbon Economy Fund.²⁶¹⁸

On 10 October 2018, on behalf of Minister McKenna, member of Parliament for Fundy-Royal Alaina Lockhart announced a federal investment of CAD1.19 million in support of community projects to protect and restore freshwater resources in Atlantic Canada.²⁶¹⁹ The goal of this investment is to “enhance degraded shore areas, develop tools for sharing knowledge to improve water quality, educate the population [of Atlantic Canada], and study the impact of microplastic pollution.”²⁶²⁰

On 11 October 2018, Minister McKenna, Minister of Infrastructure of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories Wally Schumann, and Minister of Environment and Natural Resources of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories Robert C. McLeod jointly announced a federal investment of CAD 23 million. This funding seeks to “support energy efficiency retrofits, renewable energy, and forest regeneration” in the Northwest Territories and originates from the government’s Low Carbon Economy Fund.²⁶²¹

On 11 October 2018, Minister McKenna announced CAD4.3 million to support 58 new EcoAction Community Funding Program projects across Canada. These funds will support local action to fight

²⁶¹⁵ Minister Sohi Announces Major Investment in Renewable Tidal Energy That Will Power 2,500 homes in Nova Scotia, Cision (Halifax) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/minister-sohi-announces-major-investment-in-renewable-tidal-energy-that-will-power-2500-homes-in-nova-scotia-693881551.html>

²⁶¹⁶ Minister Sohi Announces Major Investment in Renewable Tidal Energy That Will Power 2,500 homes in Nova Scotia, Cision (Halifax) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/minister-sohi-announces-major-investment-in-renewable-tidal-energy-that-will-power-2500-homes-in-nova-scotia-693881551.html>

²⁶¹⁷ News release: New program makes saving energy more affordable, Government of British Columbia (Victoria) 28 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2018EMPR0052-001891>

²⁶¹⁸ News release: New program makes saving energy more affordable, Government of British Columbia (Victoria) 28 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2018EMPR0052-001891>

²⁶¹⁹ News release: The Government of Canada invests in the protection and restoration of freshwater resources in Atlantic Canada, Government of Canada (Sackville) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/10/the-government-of-canada-invests-in-the-protection-and-restoration-of-freshwater-resources-in-atlantic-canada.html>

²⁶²⁰ News release: The Government of Canada invests in the protection and restoration of freshwater resources in Atlantic Canada, Government of Canada (Sackville) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/10/the-government-of-canada-invests-in-the-protection-and-restoration-of-freshwater-resources-in-atlantic-canada.html>

²⁶²¹ News release: Governments of Canada and Northwest Territories announce funding to fight climate change and save money for homeowners, businesses, and communities, Government of Canada (Yellowknife) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/10/governments-of-canada-and-northwest-territories-announce-funding-to-fight-climate-change-and-save-money-for-homeowners-businesses-and-communities.html>

and adapt to climate change and educate and engage Canadians in preserving and conserving water resources.²⁶²²

On 25 October 2018, Minister McKenna and Prime Minister of the Netherlands Mark Rutte announced Canada's participation in the Global Commission on Adaptation. The Global Commission on Adaptation is an initiative led by the Netherlands to support solutions that enhance climate change resilience. Canada will contribute CAD7.5 million in support of the work of the Global Commission on Adaptation.²⁶²³

On 1 November 2018, Minister McKenna and Minister of Ecology and Environment of the People's Republic of China Li Ganjie signed a memorandum of understanding on climate change cooperation between Canada and China. The memorandum lays the foundation for the bilateral exchange of information on national climate change policy measures and cooperation on climate change related projects.²⁶²⁴

On 16 November 2018, Member of Parliament for Vancouver Quadra Joyce Murray and Parliament Secretary for Emergency Preparedness British Columbia Jennifer Rice announced federal and provincial funding of CAD16.5 million to help construct new projects as a part of the National Disaster Mitigation Program. The program is a government initiative to mitigate the effects, risks, and costs of flooding in Canada.²⁶²⁵

On 3 December 2018, Minister McKenna released a draft of the 2019–2022 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy for public consultation and presented the government's 2018 Progress Report of the 2016–2019 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy. The draft outlines the government's sustainability priorities, establishes goals and targets, and identifies actions that 42 departments and agencies across the government will take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from their operations. The Canadian public will have 120 days to provide feedback and comments regarding how to strengthen the country's sustainability priorities.²⁶²⁶

On 12 December 2018, the government of Canada announced that it will phase out electricity production from traditional coal-fired facilities by 2030. The goal of such regulations is to reduce

²⁶²² News release: The Government of Canada supports climate action in communities to protect the environment and grow the economy, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 3 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/10/the-government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-in-communities-to-protect-the-environment-and-grow-the-economy.html>

²⁶²³ News release: Canada joins the Netherlands in new Global Commission on Adaptation to build resilience to the effects of climate change, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 25 October 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/10/canada-joins-the-netherlands-in-new-global-commission-on-adaptation-to-build-resilience-to-the-effects-of-climate-change.html>

²⁶²⁴ News release: Canada and China strengthen partnership on climate and environment, Government of Canada (Beijing) 1 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/11/canada-and-china-strengthen-partnership-on-climate-and-environment.html>

²⁶²⁵ News release: Government of Canada contributes to resilient communities in British Columbia, Government of Canada (Vancouver) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2018/11/government-of-canada-contributes-to-resilient-communities-in-british-columbia.html>

²⁶²⁶ Government of Canada releases the draft 2019–2022 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy for public consultation and the 2018 Progress Report, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 21 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/12/government-of-canada-releases-the-draft-2019-2022-federal-sustainable-development-strategy-for-public-consultation-and-the-2018-progress-report.html>

health-related concerns from coal emissions, minimize the carbon footprint of electricity generation, and transition to a clean energy economy.²⁶²⁷

On 12 December 2018, Environment and Climate Change Canada released new greenhouse gas regulations for natural gas and coal-fueled electricity. These regulations will support the conversion of coal-powered plants to natural gas-powered plants to reduce the emissions of electricity generation.²⁶²⁸

On 13 December 2018, at COP24 in Katowice, Poland, the government of Canada welcomed the nations of Israel, Senegal, Scotland, the cities of Sydney and Melbourne, and the energy supplier ScottishPower, to the Power Past Coal Alliance.²⁶²⁹ Initiated by the governments of Canada and the United Kingdom, the Powering Past Coal Alliance is an effort to facilitate the phase-out of coal power and support clean growth in various private, public and government entities.²⁶³⁰

On 18 December 2018, Minister McKenna “signed the new Agreement on Environmental Cooperation among the governments of Canada, the United States of America, and the United Mexican States.”²⁶³¹ The agreement involves trilateral cooperation in several areas, including low-carbon economies and clean growth.²⁶³²

On 20 December 2018, Minister McKenna initiated the Partnership stream of the Low Carbon Economy Challenge, valued at CAD50 million. The stream will fund projects focusing on emission reduction and clean growth for various civil society groups, including aboriginal communities and small to medium-sized enterprises (MSEs).²⁶³³ The Low Carbon Economy Challenge is a part of the government of Canada’s Low Carbon Economy Fund.²⁶³⁴

²⁶²⁷ News release: Canada’s coal power phase-out reaches another milestone, government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/12/canadas-coal-power-phase-out-reaches-another-milestone.html>

²⁶²⁸ Canada’s plan to reduce emissions from the electricity sector, government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/12/canadas-plan-to-reduce-emissions-from-the-electricity-sector.html>

²⁶²⁹ News release: The government of Canada welcomes new Powering Past Coal members and announces support for phasing out coal at home and abroad, government of Canada (Katowice) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/12/the-government-of-canada-welcomes-new-powering-past-coal-members-and-announces-support-for-phasing-out-coal-at-home-and-abroad.html>

²⁶³⁰ Powering Past Coal Alliance Declaration, government of Canada (Ottawa) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/weather/climatechange/canada-international-action/coal-phase-out/alliance-declaration.html>

²⁶³¹ News release: government of Canada signs environmental cooperation agreement with the United States and Mexico, government of Canada (Ottawa) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/12/government-of-canada-signs-environmental-cooperation-agreement-with-the-united-states-and-mexico.html>

²⁶³² News release: government of Canada signs environmental cooperation agreement with the United States and Mexico, government of Canada (Ottawa) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/12/government-of-canada-signs-environmental-cooperation-agreement-with-the-united-states-and-mexico.html>

²⁶³³ News release: government of Canada supporting Canadian ingenuity through the Low Carbon Economy Challenge, government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/12/government-of-canada-supporting-canadian-ingenuity-through-the-low-carbon-economy-challenge.html>

²⁶³⁴ Low Carbon Economy Challenge, government of Canada (Ottawa) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/climate-change/low-carbon-economy-fund/challenge.html>

On 10 January 2019, as part of the Low Carbon Economy Challenge’s Champions Stream, Minister McKenna announced award funding of CAD10 million to Enwave Energy Corporation’s deep lake water cooling system. The cooling system uses water from Lake Ontario to cool down buildings in the downtown Toronto area, thus reducing energy-related emissions.²⁶³⁵

On 25 January 2019, on behalf of Minister McKenna, Minister of Indigenous Services Seamus O’Regan and the Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador Dwight Ball announced that Newfoundland and Labrador will receive a total of CAD89 million in funding to improve residential energy savings and energy efficiency. This funding will support “the Home Energy Savings Program and Energy Efficiency and the new Fuel Switching in Public Buildings Program,” and it is part of the government of Canada’s Low Carbon Economy Fund.²⁶³⁶

On 12 February 2019, as part of the collaboration between the Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium and the Canadian Centre for Climate Services, the government of Canada announced funding of CAD1.25 million for the regional climate service centre at the University of Victoria. This investment and collaboration will support the propagation of climate research across Canada in order to build capacity from climate change related vulnerabilities.²⁶³⁷

On 12 February 2019, on behalf of Minister McKenna, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Ralph Goodale announced an investment of CAD1.3 million in scaling Regina’s landfill-gas-collection system. This system prevents the release of landfill emissions, notably greenhouse gas methane. The funding is part of the government of Canada’s Low Carbon Economy Fund.²⁶³⁸

On 15 February 2019, Minister McKenna announced funding through the Climate Action Fund to Ecology Ottawa for its Youth Climate Ambassadors program. The program will train 40 young Canadians in climate-related expertise and foster the next generation of environmental leaders.²⁶³⁹

On 20 February 2019, Minister McKenna announced CAD496,333 in funding for the Canada Green Building Council. This funding will facilitate awareness of climate change and support for the “design,

²⁶³⁵ News release: government of Canada supporting Canadian Innovation through the Low Carbon Economy Challenge, government of Canada (Toronto) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-supporting-canadian-innovation-through-the-low-carbon-economy-challenge.html>

²⁶³⁶ News release: Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador announce funding to fight climate change, help homeowners save money, and improve energy efficiency in public buildings, government of Canada (St. Johns) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/01/canada-and-newfoundland-and-labrador-announce-funding-to-fight-climate-change-help-homeowners-save-money-and-improve-energy-efficiency-in-public-bu.html>

²⁶³⁷ government of Canada Collaborates with British Columbia’s Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium to bring climate expertise to Canadians, government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-collaborates-with-british-columbias-pacific-climate-impacts-consortium-to-bring-climate-expertise-to-canadians.html>

²⁶³⁸ News release: government of Canada supports climate action by City of Regina, government of Canada (Regina) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-city-of-regina.html>

²⁶³⁹ government of Canada supports climate action to help Ottawa youth become environment leaders, government of Canada (Ottawa) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 14 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-to-help-ottawa-youth-become-environment-leaders.html>

adoption, and application of zero carbon buildings.”²⁶⁴⁰ This funding is a part of the government of Canada’s Climate Action Fund, which provides financial assistance to projects that improve climate change awareness and further Canada’s climate goals.²⁶⁴¹

On 22 February 2019, Minister McKenna announced an investment of CAD1.25 million over the span of five years as part of the collaboration between Ouranos, a consortium of climate-scientists from Quebec, and the Canadian Centre for Climate Services. This collaboration and investment will support Ouranos in sharing climate change-related research and data throughout Canada, thereby building national capacity.²⁶⁴²

On 11 March 2019, on behalf of Minister McKenna, Member of Parliament for Dartmouth-Cole Harbour Darren Fisher announced financial support for the Clean Foundation’s Clean Climate Action School in Nova Scotia. The school provides Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) and scientific-based teachings on climate change, encouraging students to take climate action and make energy-efficient choices. The funding is part of the government of Canada’s Climate Action Fund.²⁶⁴³

On 12 March 2019, on behalf of Minister McKenna, the leader of the government in the House of Commons and Member of Parliament for Waterloo Bardish Chagger announced CAD1.5 million in funding to help the region of Waterloo increase gas collection efficiency at the Waterloo Landfill facility. This project will further reduce carbon pollution and increase the generation of renewable electricity. This funding is part of Canada’s Low Carbon Economy Fund.²⁶⁴⁴

On 13 March 2019, on behalf of Minister McKenna, Member of Parliament for Calgary Centre Kent Hehr announced funding of CAD5.9 million to increase landfill gas collection and thereby reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the city of Calgary’s Waste & Recycling Services. This funding is part of the government of Canada’s Low Carbon Economy Fund.²⁶⁴⁵

On 13 March 2019, on behalf of Minister McKenna, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Ralph Goodale announced funding of CAD1.5 million to enhance energy efficiency in

²⁶⁴⁰ News release: government of Canada announces support to accelerate transition to zero carbon buildings, government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-announces-support-to-accelerate-transition-to-zero-carbon-buildings.html>

²⁶⁴¹ News release: government of Canada announces support to accelerate transition to zero carbon buildings, government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-announces-support-to-accelerate-transition-to-zero-carbon-buildings.html>

²⁶⁴² News release: government of Canada collaborates with Quebec’s Ouranos to bring climate expertise to Canadians, government of Canada (Montreal) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-collaborates-with-quebecs-ouranos-to-bring-climate-expertise-to-canadians.html>

²⁶⁴³ News release: government of Canada supports climate education by Clean Foundation’s Clean Climate Action School, government of Canada (Dartmouth) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-supports-climate-education-by-clean-foundations-clean-climate-action-school.html>

²⁶⁴⁴ government of Canada supports climate action by Region of Waterloo, government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-region-of-waterloo.html>

²⁶⁴⁵ News release: government of Canada supports climate action by City of Calgary, government of Canada (Calgary) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-city-of-calgary.html>

ventilation, cooling, and heating systems in campus buildings at the University of Saskatchewan. This funding is part of the government of Canada's Low Carbon Economy Fund.²⁶⁴⁶

On 15 March 2019, on behalf of Minister McKenna, Member of Parliament for St. John's East announced funding of CAD11.4 million for Newfoundland and Labrador's Freight Transportation Fuel Efficiency Program and Climate Change Challenge Fund. An additional CAD8.6 million for the Energy Efficiency and Fuel Switching in Public Buildings Program was also announced. These initiatives will incentivize emission reductions from heavy-duty vehicles, fund projects to lower greenhouse gas emissions, and facilitate retrofits in schools and hospitals in the province.²⁶⁴⁷

On March 27, the Bank of Canada announced that it joined the Central Banks' and Supervisors Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS).²⁶⁴⁸ Established in December 2017 at the One Planet Summit, the NGFS promotes best practices in "climate risk management for the financial sector" and analyzes green finance.

On 1 April 2019, Environment and Climate Change Canada released Canada's Changing Climate Report, the first stand-alone assessment detailing the causes, consequences, and future projections for Canada's changing climate. The report confirms that Canada has been warming at twice the global rate due to anthropogenic human emissions.²⁶⁴⁹

On 4 April 2019, Ministers of Seniors and Member of Parliament for Hamilton West-Ancaster-Dundas Filomena Tassi underscored funding of up to CAD262,000 for the Centre for Climate Change at Mohawk College. This funding intends to spur action and increase awareness about climate change in the Bay area. This funding is a part of the government of Canada's Climate Action Fund.²⁶⁵⁰

On 8 April 2019, Minister McKenna announced an investment of CAD12 million to help Loblaw's reduce emissions from its refrigeration systems. This funding is a part of the Low Carbon Economy Challenge's Champions Stream.²⁶⁵¹

On 9 April 2019, Minister McKenna announced the creation of the Pan-Canadian Expert Collaboration, an independent and policy-oriented national climate institute focused on clean growth and climate change. This institute will receive up to CAD20 million over five years to "generate,

²⁶⁴⁶ News release: government of Canada supports climate action by the University of Saskatchewan, government of Canada (Saskatoon) 13 March 2019. Access Date: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-the-university-of-saskatchewan.html>

²⁶⁴⁷ News release: Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador announce funding to help tackle climate change with industry, municipalities, not-for-profit and Indigenous communities, government of Canada (St. Johns) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/03/canada-and-newfoundland-and-labrador-announce-funding-to-help-tackle-climate-change-with-industry-municipalities-not-for-profit-and-indigenous-comm.html>.

²⁶⁴⁸ Bank of Canada joins Central Banks' and Supervisors' Network for Greening the Financial System, Bank of Canada (Ottawa) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 21 August 2019. <https://www.bankofcanada.ca/2019/03/bank-canada-joins-central-banks-supervisors-network/>.

²⁶⁴⁹ News release: Canada's climate is warming twice as fast as global average, government of Canada (Ottawa) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/04/canadas-climate-is-warming-twice-as-fast-as-global-average.html>

²⁶⁵⁰ News release: government of Canada supports climate action by Mohawk College to empower young people and reduce carbon pollution, government of Canada (Hamilton) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-mohawk-college-to-empower-young-people-and-reduce-carbon-pollution.html>

²⁶⁵¹ News release: government of Canada supports climate action by Loblaw, government of Canada (Ottawa) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-loblaw.html>

communicate, and mobilize trusted information, policy advice, and best practices for Canadians, governments, and stakeholders.”²⁶⁵²

On 16 April 2019, on behalf of Minister McKenna, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Matt DeCoursey announced investment in New Brunswick’s Science East Science Centre to increase awareness of climate change and environmental issues. This investment is funded through the government of Canada’s Climate Action Fund.²⁶⁵³

On 18 April 2019, on behalf of Minister McKenna, Minister of International Development and Minister for Women and Gender Equality Maryam Monsef announced funding of up to CAD200,000 in support of a mobile application by Random Acts of Green. This funding will enable users to better understand the impacts of their everyday choices on climate change. This funding is part of the government of Canada’s Climate Action Fund.²⁶⁵⁴

On 18 April 2019, Minister McKenna and British Columbia’s Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy George Heyman announced CAD10 million in federal funding for British Columbia’s Organic Infrastructure Program and CAD140 million for its Forest Carbon Initiative. This funding is part of the government of Canada’s Low Carbon Economy Fund, and it will help British Columbia improve carbon sequestration and reduce organic material decomposition in landfills.²⁶⁵⁵

On 29 April 2019, Minister McKenna announced new funding of up to CAD3 million for the Climate Action Fund for 2019-20. This funding will encourage Canadians to take action and support projects that raise awareness about climate change and clean growth.²⁶⁵⁶

On 10 May 2019, on behalf of Minister McKenna, Member of Parliament for Northwest Territories Michael McLeod and Minister of Infrastructure and Industry, Tourism and Investment for the government of the Northwest Territories, Wally Schumann, announced funding of CAD8 million to reduce emissions from transportation, electricity, and heating. This funding for the government of the Northwest Territories’ Greenhouse Gas Grant Program for Buildings and Industry is a part of the government of Canada’s Low Carbon Economy Fund.²⁶⁵⁷

²⁶⁵² government of Canada announces winning bid to create new independent climate institute, government of Canada (Ottawa) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-announces-winning-bid-to-create-new-independent-climate-institute.html>

²⁶⁵³ News release: Canada supports climate education by New Brunswick’s Science East Science Centre, government of Canada (Fredericton) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/04/canada-supports-climate-education-by-new-brunswicks-science-east-science-centre.html>

²⁶⁵⁴ News release: Canada supports climate action by Random Acts of Green, government of Canada (Peterborough) 18 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/04/canada-supports-climate-action-by-random-acts-of-green.html>

²⁶⁵⁵ News release: Canada and British Columbia announce funding to help tackle climate change and reduce emissions, government of Canada (Vancouver) 18 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/04/canada-and-british-columbia-announce-funding-to-help-tackle-climate-change-and-reduce-emissions.html>

²⁶⁵⁶ Climate Action Fund launches new call for applications for 2019-2020, government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 April 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/04/climate-action-fund-launches-new-call-for-applications-for-2019-2020.html>

²⁶⁵⁷ News release: Canada and Northwest Territories announce climate action to reduce industrial and commercial pollution, government of Canada (Yellowknife) 10 May 2019. Access Date: 3 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/05/canada-and-northwest-territories-announce-climate-action-to-reduce-industrial-and-commercial-pollution.html>

On 22 May 2019, on behalf of Minister McKenna, Member of Parliament for Ottawa-Vanier Mona Fortier announced funding of up to CAD468,000 for the University of Ottawa's Smart Prosperity Institute and Institute of Environment. This investment will support the university's Clean Growth Summit and its research on how policies can help Canada meet its climate targets.²⁶⁵⁸

On 6 June 2019, on behalf of Minister McKenna, Member of Parliament for Guelph Lloyd Longfield announced federal funding for the National Farmers Union Ontario. This funding will improve farmers' climate awareness and provide education on climate change to encourage climate action. This funding is part of the government of Canada's Climate Action Fund.²⁶⁵⁹

On 7 June 2019, Minister McKenna, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations Carolyn Bennett, and Minister of Indigenous Services Seamus O'Regan jointly announced an investment of CAD1 million to implement the National Inuit Climate Change Strategy (NICCS). Some of the outcomes of this collaboration between the government of Canada and the Inuit are to support Inuit community projects on energy, reduce the vulnerability of Inuit food systems to changing climates, and improve Inuit knowledge in climate change-related decision-making.²⁶⁶⁰

On 7 June 2019, on behalf of Minister McKenna, Member of Parliament for Yukon Larry Bagnell, Deputy Premier and Minister of Energy Mines and Resources Ranj Pillai, and Minister of Environment and Minister responsible for Yukon Housing Corporation Pauline Frost jointly announced funding of up to CAD31 million for the government of Yukon. This funding will support energy efficient retrofits in public and private buildings.²⁶⁶¹

On 7 June 2019, Canada announced funding of CAD115,000 for a second workshop under the Canada-France Climate and Environment Partnership. This workshop will provide training for Francophone women climate negotiators from sub-Saharan Africa and support their efforts in international discussions, decision-making, and the development of climate change policies at the 25th Conference of Parties (COP24) in Santiago, Chile.²⁶⁶²

On 10 June 2019, on behalf of Minister McKenna, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Member of Parliament for Winnipeg South Terry Duguid joined the Minister of Sustainable Development for the government of Manitoba Rochelle Squires to

²⁶⁵⁸ News release: government of Canada supports climate action by Smart Prosperity Institute and the Institute of the Environment at the University of Ottawa, government of Canada (Ottawa) 22 May 2019. Access Date: 3 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-smart-prosperity-institute-and-the-institute-of-the-environment-at-the-university-of-ottawa.html>

²⁶⁵⁹ News release: government of Canada supports climate education and awareness by National Farmers Union – Ontario, government of Canada (Guelph) 6 June 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/06/government-of-canada-supports-climate-education-and-awareness-by-national-farmers-union--ontario.html>

²⁶⁶⁰ News release: government of Canada supports Inuit-led climate change strategy, government of Canada (Inuvik) 7 June 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/06/government-of-canada-supports-inuit-led-climate-change-strategy.html>

²⁶⁶¹ News release: Canada and Yukon announce climate action to help families, businesses, and industry reduce pollution, government of Canada (Whitehorse) 7 June 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/06/canada-and-yukon-announce-climate-action-to-help-families-businesses-and-industry-reduce-pollution.html>

²⁶⁶² Canada Provides Training to Franco-African Women Climate Leaders, government of Canada (Ottawa) 7 June 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/06/canada-provides-training-to-franco-african-women-climate-leaders.html>

announce federal funding of up to CAD5.9 million. This funding aims to improve the fuel efficiency of heavy-duty vehicles.²⁶⁶³

Canada has taken ambitious climate action to implement the Paris Agreement through enacting regulations, such as the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act, the phase-out of coal-powered electricity by 2030, and pledging funds at national and international levels to support mitigation and adaptation activities. Canada has also pledged additional funding for the National Adaptation Plan Global Network and the Global Commission on Adaptation to help developing countries identify resilience solutions and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Vibhor Rohatgi

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to reaffirm its strong commitment to implement the Paris Agreement, through ambitious climate action; in particular through strengthening and financing resilience and reducing vulnerability.

On 12 June 2018, at a meeting of European Energy Ministers in Luxembourg to finalize reforms of the European energy policy within the framework “clean energy,” Secretary of State to the Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition Brune Poirson stated that France will continue to ensure a sustainable energy transition that is compatible with the European Union’s commitments under the Paris Agreement.²⁶⁶⁴

On 25 June 2018, Environment Minister Nicolas Hulot and Secretary of State to the Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition Brune Poirson signed a declaration calling upon Europe to raise its climate ambition ahead of 24th Conference to the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in December 2018, and go beyond the stated goal of a 40 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. Hulot and Poirson also underscored the need to bring the European Union’s trade policy into line with the objectives of the Paris Agreement, calling upon EU member states to include binding elements of the Paris Agreement in trade agreements.²⁶⁶⁵

On 27 June 2018, France indicated its support for an EU proposal to increase its binding renewable energy target from 27 percent to 32 percent by 2030 while limiting the use of biofuels.²⁶⁶⁶

On 26 September 2018, during the One Planet Summit, France launched the Joint Pacific Initiative for Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Resilience alongside the EU, Australia and New Zealand. The EUR21 million initiative received EUR10 million each from France and the EU, with the remaining

²⁶⁶³ Canada and Manitoba announce climate action in the transportation sector, government of Canada (Winnipeg) 10 June 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/06/canada-and-manitoba-announce-climate-action-in-the-transportation-sector.html>

²⁶⁶⁴ Conseil des Ministres européens de l’Énergie, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 12 June 2018. Access Date: 3 November 2018. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/conseil-des-ministres-europeens-lenergie>

²⁶⁶⁵ Conseil des ministres européens de l’environnement: La France emmène l’Europe sur la voie de l’ambition, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 25 June 2018. Access Date: 2 November 2018. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/conseil-des-ministres-europeens-lenvironnement-france-emmene-leurope-sur-voie-lambition>

²⁶⁶⁶ Directive sur les énergies renouvelables: la France se rejouit de l’accord intervenu au Conseil de l’Union européenne, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 27 June 2018. Access Date: 3 November 2018. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/directive-sur-energies-renouvelables-france-se-rejouit-laccord-intervenu-au-conseil-lunion>

EUR2 million provided by Australia and New Zealand. The aim of this initiative is to build an international coalition for climate action and biodiversity protection.²⁶⁶⁷

On 3 October 2018, Secretary of State to the Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition Brune Poirson co-chaired the first general assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA), an initiative created at the One Planet Summit. The general assembly was also co-chaired by her Indian counterpart Raj Kumar Singh, Minister of Electricity and New and Renewable Energies. The ISA's mission is to accelerate the deployment of solar energy, mainly in African countries, with the ambition to broaden its geographical scope in the coming years.²⁶⁶⁸

On 9 October 2018, France indicated its strong support for a new goal agreed to by the Council of European Environment Ministers regarding the reduction of automobile carbon dioxide emissions. This new goal sets the reduction target of new vehicles' emissions to 35 percent by 2030. In addition, France introduced a clause allowing for a revision of the emission reduction goal in 2023 depending on actual emissions levels.²⁶⁶⁹

On 22 November 2018, President Emmanuel Macron reiterated his commitment to climate action at the Climate Vulnerable Summit. This summit was hosted by the Climate Vulnerable Forum, an international cooperation group of developing countries on climate change.²⁶⁷⁰ Macron stated that countries should “present new more ambitious national contributions and increase the pace of their implementation,” and that “France will stay on course.”²⁶⁷¹

On 26-28 November 2018, the 4th Climate Finance Day was held in Paris with the theme of “Financing Sustainable Development Goals and the Climate Agenda: Innovation and Impact.” This global roundtable served as a platform for key networking, partnership-building, and facilitation of the mobilization of sustainable climate finance.²⁶⁷² This event mobilized the financial sector in delivering on the Paris Agreement while showcasing innovative action to transform thinking and strategies to deliver positive climate impact. Secretary of State to the Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition Brune Poirson stated at the opening of the forum: “today, we have to talk about how to turn climate finance into mainstream finance, to talk about the finance we need, to build a more sustainable and inclusive world.”²⁶⁷³

²⁶⁶⁷ Joint Communique on the Launch of the Joint Pacific Initiative for Biodiversity, Climate Change and Resilience, European Commission. 26 September 2018. Access Date: 3 November 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/launch-joint-pacific-initiative-biodiversity-climate-change-and-resilience_en

²⁶⁶⁸ Première assemblée de l'Alliance solaire internationale, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 3 October 2018. Access Date: 3 November 2018. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/premiere-assemblee-lalliance-solaire-internationale>

²⁶⁶⁹ CO2: a new European goal to ensure that new vehicles consume less fuel, Government of France (Paris) 9 October 2018. Access Date: 3 November 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/co2-a-new-european-goal-to-ensure-that-new-vehicles-consume-less-fuel>

²⁶⁷⁰ Leaders Call for Increased Ambition at Climate Vulnerable Summit, IISD (Ottawa) 29 November 2018, Access Date: 1 December 2018, <http://sdg.iisd.org/news/leaders-call-for-increased-ambition-at-climate-vulnerable-summit/>

²⁶⁷¹ Climate Threatened Nations' Leaders in First Virtual Summit, Climate Vulnerable Forum (Majuro) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. <https://thecvf.org/climate-threatened-nations-leaders-in-first-virtual-summit/>

²⁶⁷² “Financing Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Climate Agenda: Innovation and Impact”, Paris 2018 Climate Finance Day (Paris) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 22 December 2018.

http://www.climatefinanceday.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/GRTCFD2018-PR-Day3_EN.pdf

²⁶⁷³ “Financing Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Climate Agenda: Innovation and Impact”, Paris 2018 Climate Finance Day (Paris) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 22 December 2018

http://www.climatefinanceday.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/GRTCFD2018-PR-Day3_EN.pdf

On 5 December 2018, in response to street protests, President Emmanuel Macron cancelled a fuel tax that would have increased gasoline prices by 3 percent.²⁶⁷⁴

On 24 January 2019, in an effort to reduce global warming caused by household oil boilers, François de Rugy, Minister of State, Minister of the Ecological and Solidarity Transition, and Julien Denormandie, Minister of Territorial Cohesion and Relations, introduced a boiler conversion bonus.²⁶⁷⁵ This initiative will help modest households replace their boilers for a greener and more economical heating system. It will also help France reach the ambitious target of zero oil boilers in ten years.²⁶⁷⁶

On 21 February 2019, with the support of the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, Secretary of State to the Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition Brune Poirson signed the National Pact on Plastic Packaging with various companies and two non-governmental organizations.²⁶⁷⁷ The pact engages various beneficiaries to become actors of the circular economy, and strives to ensure that plastic never becomes waste.²⁶⁷⁸

On 22 February 2019, François de Rugy, Minister of State, Minister of the Ecological and Solidarity Transition, announced six new programmes under the Energy Savings Certificates scheme. The programmes support energy efficiency measures for small and medium-sized enterprises, the development of greener building standards, and de-carbonisation in the transport sector. These programmes join another 28 programmes that are already in place.²⁶⁷⁹

On 15 March 2019, during the One Planet Summit held in Kenya, L'Agence française de développement (AFD) announced EUR1.5 billion in funding for solar projects in Africa by 2022. In addition, in partnership with the Trade Development Bank, AFD will provide a USD120 million credit line solely for climate projects.²⁶⁸⁰

²⁶⁷⁴ France's fuel tax retreat dismays COP24 climate talks, Politico, Paris France, 05/12/2018, Access Date: 05/12/2018, <https://www.politico.eu/article/france-fuel-tax-retreat-dismays-cop24-climate-change-summit/>

²⁶⁷⁵ François de Rugy and Julien Denormandie announce the progressive launch of the boiler conversion bonus, Ministry of Solidarity and Ecological Transition (Paris) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.cohesion-territoires.gouv.fr/francois-de-rugy-et-julien-denormandie-annoncent-le-lancement-progressif-de-la-prime-a-la-conversion-des-chaudieres>.

²⁶⁷⁶ François de Rugy and Julien Denormandie announce the progressive launch of the boiler conversion bonus, Ministry of Solidarity and Ecological Transition (Paris) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/communique-presse-francois-rugy-et-julien-denormandie-annoncent-lancement-progressif-prime>.

²⁶⁷⁷ Signature of the "National Pact on Plastic Packaging, Ministry of Solidarity and Ecological Transition (Paris) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/signature-du-pacte-national-sur-emballages-plastiques>

²⁶⁷⁸ Signature of the "National Pact on Plastic Packaging, Ministry of Solidarity and Ecological Transition (Paris) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/signature-du-pacte-national-sur-emballages-plastiques>

²⁶⁷⁹ François de Rugy sélectionne une troisième série de 6 nouveaux programmes d'économies d'énergie portant à 34 le nombre de lauréats retenus, représentant un montant de 239 M€, Ministry of Solidarity and Ecological Transition (Paris) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 14 March 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/francois-rugy-selectionne-troisieme-serie-6-nouveaux-programmes-deconomies-denergie-portant-34>

²⁶⁸⁰ One Planet Summit au Kenya : « L'engagement de l'Afrique », Ministry of Solidarity and Ecological Transition (Paris) 15 March 2019. Access Date 19 June 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/one-planet-summit-au-kenya-lengagement-lafrique>

On 16 April 2019, François de Rugy, Minister of State, Minister of the Ecological and Solidarity Transition, announced funding of some EUR1.3 million for 19 “Low Emission Zone” projects. The funding will be used to study the feasibility and implementation of the zones.²⁶⁸¹

On 23 April 2019, the French government announced the creation of the low-carbon label, which is the first carbon certification framework adopted by France. Its objective is to encourage the development of projects that reduce and sequester greenhouse gas emissions, particularly in the forestry and agriculture sectors.²⁶⁸²

On 30 April 2019, François de Rugy, Minister of State, Minister of the Ecological and Solidarity Transition presented a bill on energy and the climate with the aim of legally enshrining France’s goal of achieving zero net greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. The bill proposed the termination of coal-based electricity by 2022, and encouraged the accelerated reduction of fossil fuel energy consumption, reducing it by 40 per cent by 2030 rather than the initial 30 per cent.²⁶⁸³

On 6 May 2019, the G7 Environment Ministers adopted a communiqué and the Metz Charter on Biodiversity at the G7 Environment Ministers’ Meeting.²⁶⁸⁴ The French G7 Presidency identified four main priorities for its current leadership: 1) combating inequality through an inclusive ecological transition; 2) supporting international action and scientific warnings on biodiversity and climate change; 3) promoting solutions for biodiversity and climate change; and 4) financing biodiversity preservation.²⁶⁸⁵

On 7 May 2019, the French government launched a new call for proposals inviting innovation in energy savings initiatives under the Energy Savings Certificates scheme. The programme will focus on energy efficient mobility, energy saving awareness and public education campaigns, which will be operationalised by 2020.²⁶⁸⁶

On 4 June 2019, François de Rugy, Minister of State, Minister of the Ecological and Solidarity Transition, announced 20 new winners under the GreenTech initiative for the first half of 2019.

²⁶⁸¹ Zones à faibles émissions :19 collectivités s’engagent pour la qualité de l’air, Ministry of Solidarity and Ecological Transition (Paris) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/zones-faibles-emissions-19-collectivites-sengagent-qualite-lair>

²⁶⁸² Le Gouvernement lance le label bas-carbone, un outil pour encourager et récompenser les actions locales en faveur du climat, Ministry of Solidarity and Ecological Transition (Paris) 23 April 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/gouvernement-lance-label-bas-carbone-outil-encourager-et-recompenser-actions-locales-en-faveur-du>

²⁶⁸³ France wants to be the first country in Europe to put the carbon neutrality goal on a statutory footing, government of France (Paris) 3 May 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/france-wants-to-be-the-first-country-in-europe-to-put-the-carbon-neutrality-goal-on-a-statutory>

²⁶⁸⁴ G7 Environment Ministers Commit to Fight Biodiversity Loss, Tackle Climate Change, Inequalities, IISD SDG Knowledge Hub. 4 June 2019. Access Date: 12 June 2019. <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/g7-environment-ministers-commit-to-fight-biodiversity-loss-tackle-climate-change-inequalities/>

²⁶⁸⁵ G7 Environment Ministers Commit to Fight Biodiversity Loss, Tackle Climate Change, Inequalities, IISD SDG Knowledge Hub. 4 June 2019. Access Date: 12 June 2019. <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/g7-environment-ministers-commit-to-fight-biodiversity-loss-tackle-climate-change-inequalities/>

²⁶⁸⁶ Un nouvel appel à programme CEE est ouvert en 2019 pour les économies d’énergie Outre-mer et la mobilité économe en énergie fossile, Ministry of Solidarity and Ecological Transition (Paris) 7 May 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/nouvel-appel-programme-cee-est-ouvert-en-2019-economies-denergie-outre-mer-et-mobilite-econome-en>

These 20 start-ups will receive ministry support to grow and commercialize their technologies in energy and climate innovation.²⁶⁸⁷

On 6 June 2019, the French government proposed a new tax on flights within Europe to encourage greener forms of transport.²⁶⁸⁸ The charge will be an extra fee on fuel or tickets, even including changes in the European emissions trading system. President Macron has supported this new levy in an effort to boast his own “green credentials.”²⁶⁸⁹

France has taken ambitious climate action to implement the Paris Agreement, while also supporting adaptation activities through its contribution of funds to programs such as the Joint Pacific Initiative for Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Resilience.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Natasha Pirzada

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to reaffirm its strong commitment to implement the Paris Agreement, through ambitious climate action; in particular through strengthening and financing resilience and reducing vulnerability.

On 13 June 2018, the cabinet adopted the Climate Action Report 2017. The report lists approximately 110 climate-related measures and describes in detail how much carbon dioxide reductions can be achieved through the implementation of these measures by 2020.²⁶⁹⁰

On 18-19 June 2018, the Federal Environment Ministry co-hosted the 9th Petersberg Climate Dialogue in Berlin alongside the government of Poland. The conference concluded with a clear commitment to the ambitious and socially compatible implementation of the Paris Agreement.²⁶⁹¹

On 14 August 2018, the federal government announced it will invest over EUR130 million to support the implementation of projects aiming to reduce the levels of nitrogen oxides in the air. The Federal Minister for the Environment Svenja Schulze stressed that these new measures are an important contribution to protecting the environment and consumers.²⁶⁹²

On 26 September 2018, the Ministry for the Environment announced that it will join the Climate Finance Partnership. The partnership works to design an investment structure that promotes contributions to a targeted set of sectors, including renewable energy, energy efficiency, energy

²⁶⁸⁷ GreenTech verte : François de Rugy apporte son soutien à 20 start-up de la GreenTech verte, Ministry of Solidarity and Ecological Transition (Paris) 4 June 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/greentech-verte-francois-rugy-apporte-soutien-20-start-greentech-verte>

²⁶⁸⁸ 'Polluter pays': France to propose new tax on flights in Europe, The Local (Stockholm) 6 June 2019. Access Date: 12 June 2019. <https://www.thelocal.fr/20190606/polluter-pays-france-to-propose-new-tax-on-flights-in-europe>

²⁶⁸⁹ 'Polluter pays': France to propose new tax on flights in Europe, The Local (Stockholm) 6 June 2019. Access Date: 12 June 2019. <https://www.thelocal.fr/20190606/polluter-pays-france-to-propose-new-tax-on-flights-in-europe>

²⁶⁹⁰ Cabinet adopts 3rd Climate Action Report, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bonn) 13 June 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/cabinet-adopts-3rd-climate-action-report/>

²⁶⁹¹ Petersberg Climate Dialogue: Climate action and equity go hand in hand, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bonn) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/petersberger-klimadialog-klimaschutz-und-gerechtigkeit-gehoren-zusammen/>

²⁶⁹² Clean air — good transport concepts help, The German Federal Government (Berlin) 14 August 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/clear-air-good-transport-concepts-help-1510818>

storage, and low-carbon and electrified transportation. Such funds will be used across countries in three regions, including Latin America, Asia, and Africa.²⁶⁹³

On 12 October 2018, in partnership with the World Bank Group and the United Kingdom, the federal government announced the establishment of a USD145-million Global Risk Financing Facility (GRiF) to help vulnerable countries manage the financial impact of climate change and natural hazard-induced shocks.²⁶⁹⁴

On 25 November 2018, Ambassador to Iran Michael Klor-Berchtold announced that the Ministry for Environment will support Iran's development on its energy efficiency market by 2021, and provide up to EUR3.5 million for the implementation of integrated energy efficiency projects.²⁶⁹⁵

On 27 November 2018, the Coal Exit Commission announced that it will extend its work beyond the original 2018 deadline and instead conclude its work on 1 February 2019. The Commission was originally supposed to present its plan to help Germany achieve its 2020 climate targets ahead of the 24th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Katowice, Poland.²⁶⁹⁶

On 3 December 2018, after meeting with municipal and cities representatives, the federal government agreed to increase funding for the Clean Air program from EUR1 billion to EUR1.5 billion, in an effort to cut emissions from municipal vehicles. Moreover, an additional EUR432 million will be allocated to retro-fitting smaller trucks with older diesel engines.²⁶⁹⁷

On 3 December 2018, along with the Ministry for Development, the Ministry for Environment stated during COP24 that Germany would double its pledge to the Green Climate Fund, amounting to a total contribution of EUR1.5 billion. This pledge aims to support the implementation of the Paris Agreement and global cooperation to tackle climate change.²⁶⁹⁸

On 7 December 2018, Germany provided a loan of EUR90 million and a grant of EUR3 million for the Rebuild Kerala initiative, which seeks to support Kerala's efforts in rebuilding climate-resilient public infrastructure.²⁶⁹⁹

²⁶⁹³ One Planet Summit 2018 announcements, PR Newswire (New York) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/one-planet-summit-2018-announcements-300719892.html>

²⁶⁹⁴ World Bank Group, Germany, and UK Launch \$145 Million Financing Facility to Support Earlier Action on Climate and Disaster Shocks, World Bank (Washington) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/10/12/world-bank-group-germany-and-uk-launch-145-million-financing-facility-to-support-earlier-action-on-climate-and-disaster-shocks>

²⁶⁹⁵ Iran, Germany kick off co-op on energy efficiency market, Tehran Times (Tehran) 25 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/429871/Iran-Germany-kick-off-co-op-on-energy-efficiency-market>

²⁶⁹⁶ Germany's coal exit commission extends work to 2019, Clean Energy Wire (Berlin) 27 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.cleanenergywire.org/news/germanys-coal-exit-commission-extends-work-2019>

²⁶⁹⁷ German cities get more funding for air quality, but retro-fitting plan still to come, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.dw.com/en/german-cities-get-more-funding-for-air-quality-but-retro-fitting-plan-still-to-come/a-46565361>

²⁶⁹⁸ Environment Minister Schulze and Development Minister Müller in Katowice: Germany to double pledge for Green Climate Fund, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/schulze-und-mueller-in-kattowitz-deutschland-verdoppelt-zusage-fuer-internationalen-klimafonds/>

²⁶⁹⁹ Germany Offers Aid Package to Help Flood Hit Kerala, Times of India (Thiruvananthapuram) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/germany-offers-massive-aid-package-to-help-flood-hit-kerala/articleshow/66992391.cms>

On 11 December 2018, the Federal Environment Ministry announced that it will dedicate an additional EUR70 million to the Adaptation Fund. To date, Germany is the largest donor to the fund with a total contribution of EUR240 million.²⁷⁰⁰

On 12 December 2018, the Federal Environment Ministry announced that it will support the exchange of experience between Europe's coal regions. The Ministry's European Climate Initiative (EUKI) supports projects on socially just strategies.²⁷⁰¹

On 12 December 2018, at the Conference of Parties in Katowice, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Federal Environment Ministry announced that Germany will further support the global partnership for implementing Nationally Determined Contributions with EUR68 million in funding. To date, Germany's total contribution to this partnership amounts to EUR130 million.²⁷⁰²

On 25 January 2019, Germany announced its intention to shut down all coal-fired power plants by 2038, proposing at least EUR40 billion in aid to affected regions.²⁷⁰³

On 13 February 2018, the Federal Environment Ministry and its Indian counterpart agreed on promoting closer cooperation on environmental and climate policy and preventing marine litter. Germany will fund Indian climate action projects with EUR35 million.²⁷⁰⁴

On 22 February 2019, the Federal Environment Ministry pledged to cut gas emissions by at least 95% by 2050 and remove the remainder from the atmosphere.²⁷⁰⁵

On 1 March 2019, the Federal Environment Ministry announced the third call for proposals under the EUKI, whereby non-profit organisations can submit project ideas aimed at accelerating the implementation of the Paris Agreement in Europe and contributing to intra-European dialogue. Federal Environment Minister Svenja Schulze stated: "we launched EUKI based on the conviction that we have to act in concert on behalf of climate action in Europe. The upcoming transformation

²⁷⁰⁰ Germany boosts international fund for adaptation to climate change with 70 million euros, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/deutschland-staerkt-internationalen-fonds-zur-anpassung-an-den-klimawandel-mit-70-millionen-euro/>

²⁷⁰¹ Just transition: Germany supporting exchange of experience between European coal regions, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/just-transition-bundesumweltministerium-foerdert-austausch-von-kohleregionen-in-europa/>

²⁷⁰² Germany helps developing countries and emerging economies implement climate targets, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/deutschland-hilft-entwicklungs-und-schwellenlaendern-bei-umsetzung-ihrer-klimaziele/>

²⁷⁰³ Germany to phase out coal by 2038 in move away from fossil fuels, Reuters (Berlin) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-germany-energy-coal/germany-to-phase-out-coal-by-2038-in-move-away-from-fossil-fuels-idUSKCN1PK04L>

²⁷⁰⁴ Minister Schulze agrees closer environmental cooperation with India, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/schulze-vereinbart-engere-umweltzusammenarbeit-mit-indien/>

²⁷⁰⁵ Environment ministry draft law aims to tighten Germany's climate targets, Clean Energy Wire (Berlin) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.cleanenergywire.org/news/env-min-law-draft-calls-tightening-germanys-climate-targets>

of our economy and society can only be successful if we follow a European approach, across national borders.”²⁷⁰⁶

On 14 March 2019, at the fourth session of the UN Environment Assembly, the Federal Environment Ministry invited decision-makers and experts to discuss the management of international chemicals beyond 2020. Germany will advocate for the introduction of goals for chemical and waste management at the following fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management.²⁷⁰⁷

On 26 March 2019, the Federal Environment Ministry called for programme ideas on ambitious climate and biodiversity conservation in developing countries and emerging economies, such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting adaptation to climate change. The call was funded by the International Climate Initiative with funds of EUR240 million, and each programme can receive between EUR5 and EUR20 million.²⁷⁰⁸

On 4 April 2019, the Federal Environment Ministry promoted local climate action with the National Climate Initiative at the Alpine Conference, held from 3-4 April 2019 in Innsbruck. Three ministers of the nine contracting parties of the Alpine Convention agreed to increased cooperation on climate action and soil protection in the Alps.²⁷⁰⁹

On 15 May 2019, Chancellor Angela Merkel addressed a session of the Petersberg Climate Dialogue in Berlin to promote the goal of becoming carbon-neutral by 2050.²⁷¹⁰ The Petersberg Climate Dialogue is a joint initiative between Germany and Chile focused on the implementation of the Paris Agreement and increasing ambition in international climate policy.²⁷¹¹

On 29 May 2019, the Franco-German Meseberg Climate Group, comprised of all ministries working on climate change, met to discuss how to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 in the energy, transport,

²⁷⁰⁶ The goal is cross-border cooperation between European organisations on climate action projects, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 14 February 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/bundesumweltministerium-startet-dritten-ideenwettbewerb-der-europaeischen-klimaschutzinitiative/>

²⁷⁰⁷ Germany advocates greater sustainability in chemicals management at UN Environment Assembly, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/deutschland-setzt-sich-auf-der-weltumweltkonferenz-fuer-mehr-nachhaltigkeit-in-der-chemie-ein/>

²⁷⁰⁸ Federal Environment Ministry launches call for project ideas for global climate action and biodiversity conservation, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/federal-environment-ministry-launches-call-for-project-ideas-for-global-climate-action-and-biodivers-1/>

²⁷⁰⁹ Alpine region to be climate neutral by 2050, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/alpine-region-to-be-climate-neutral-by-2050/>

²⁷¹⁰ Climate change: Responses to Merkel's vow to neutralise German's CO2 are ambivalent, Euronews (Berlin) 15 May 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.euronews.com/2019/05/14/climate-change-merkel-vows-to-make-germany-co2-neutral-by-2050>

²⁷¹¹ Petersberg Climate Dialogue sends signal for joint progress on climate action, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 14 May 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/petersberger-klimadialog-sendet-signal-fuer-gemeinsame-fortschritte-beim-klimaschutz/>

building and agriculture sectors. The group recognized that carbon pricing is essential, particularly for sectors not covered by the EU Emissions Trading System.²⁷¹²

On 4 June 2019, the Foreign Ministry hosted the Berlin Climate and Security Conference, which brought together political, scientific and business leaders from more than 25 nations. Foreign Minister Heiko Maas used the event to present a three-point “Berlin Call for Action,” which outlines goals for the UN to “be as proactive as possible” in addressing conflicts associated with climate change.²⁷¹³

Germany has taken ambitious climate action to implement the Paris Agreement, while also supporting adaptation activities through its contribution of funds to the GRiF and the Green Climate Fund.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Aysha Mohammed and David Manocchio

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to reaffirm its strong commitment to implement the Paris Agreement, through ambitious climate action; in particular through strengthening and financing resilience and reducing vulnerability.

On 26 June 2018, a Joint Committee consisting of the Ministry of the Environment and the Jordan Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Fund held their first meeting. The meeting approved documents dictating the terms of the bilateral cooperative agreement and an action plan. The action plan involves four aspects: the promotion and development of renewable energy and energy efficiencies in Jordan, technical support provided by Italy, raising awareness on the topic of energy efficiency and renewable energy in Jordan, and the promotion of green technologies to achieve Jordanian objectives.²⁷¹⁴

On 19-20 July 2018, the third Joint Committee meeting with delegates from the Ministry of Environment and State Secretariat for Sustainable Development of Morocco was held in Rome. The meeting consisted of the committee’s assessment of projects that are currently underway, and the approval of three project proposals regarding the implementation of Morocco’s Nationally Determined Contributions.²⁷¹⁵

²⁷¹² Franco-German Climate Working Group discusses pathways to climate neutrality, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 29 May 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/franco-german-climate-working-group-discusses-pathways-to-climate-neutrality-1/>

²⁷¹³ Germany pushes climate change as security risk, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 4 June 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-pushes-climate-change-as-security-risk/a-49056370>

²⁷¹⁴ Cooperation with Jordan at the start: First meeting of the Joint Committee, Italian Ministry of Environment and protection of the territory and the sea (Rome) 26 June 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018. http://www.minambiente.it/sites/default/files/archivio/allegati/sviluppo_sostenibile/action_plan_giordania.pdf

²⁷¹⁵ Cooperazione con il Marocco: terzo Comitato Congiunto sull’accordo tecnico per la protezione ambientale e lo sviluppo sostenibile, Ministero dell’Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Rome) 20 July 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018. <http://www.minambiente.it/notizie/cooperazione-con-il-marocco-terzo-comitato-congiunto-sullaccordo-tecnico-la-protezione>

On 4 September 2018, the government announced an additional fund of EUR20 million to address coastal erosion and flood mitigation risks in four regions of Italy.²⁷¹⁶

On 24 September 2018, the Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea, the National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research, the United Nations Environment Programme and Technical University of Denmark, and the United Nations Office for Project Services signed a co-financed contract as a part of the multilateral Initiative for Climate Action Transparency. The objective of the contract is to build capacity in recipient countries for the implementation and reporting of their national mitigation and adaptation commitments and financial resources used. Phase one includes six countries: Botswana, Ethiopia, Iran, Maldives, Tunisia, and the Bahamas.²⁷¹⁷

On 25 September 2018, at the 73rd session of the UN General Assembly, the Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea and United Arab Emirates' Ministry of Climate Change and Environment signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to collaborate in the area of sustainable development. The two countries will “identify and leverage new opportunities and tools to achieve sustainability in urban planning and land development, construction, transport, renewable energy, energy efficiency, resource-efficiency, and clean production.”²⁷¹⁸

On 9 October 2018, Italy indicated its support for a new goal agreed to by the Council of European Environment Ministers regarding the reduction of automobile carbon dioxide emissions. This new goal strives to achieve a reduction in new vehicles' emissions by 35 percent by 2030.²⁷¹⁹

On 8 November 2018, Environment Minister Sergio Costa announced that EUR6.5 billion will be allocated to the Ministry of the Environment, Land, and Sea to address the impacts of hydrogeological instability such as landslides, coastal erosion and flooding in various regions.²⁷²⁰

On 15 November 2018, an agreement was signed between the Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea and the Lazio region. The ministry provided EUR4 million in funding to finance actions that seek to improve air quality and mitigate atmospheric pollution in the region. The Lazio Region will use the funds to implement measures that limit the most polluting vehicles, build charging stations

²⁷¹⁶ Dissesto: Ministero Ambiente, arrivano fondi per 20 milioni di euro, finanziati progetti in 4 regioni, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Rome) 4 September 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/dissesto-ministero-ambiente-arrivano-fondi-20-milioni-di-euro-finanziati-progetti-4>

²⁷¹⁷ Firmato contratto ICAT-ISPRa per attività di supporto in 12 Paesi beneficiari, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Rome) 24 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <http://www.minambiente.it/notizie/firmato-contratto-icat-ispra-attivita-di-supporto-12-paesi-beneficiari>

²⁷¹⁸ UAE, Italy sign Sustainable Development Cooperation Agreement, Emirates 24/7 (Dubai) 25 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.emirates247.com/news/emirates/uae-italy-sign-sustainable-development-cooperation-agreement-2018-09-25-1.673606>

²⁷¹⁹ Emissioni auto, ministro Costa: "Oggi dobbiamo mostrare senso di responsabilità per il Pianeta. Italia spinge per accordo ambizioso", Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Rome) 9 October 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/emissioni-auto-ministro-costa-oggi-dobbiamo-mostrare-senso-di-responsabilita-il-pianeta>

²⁷²⁰ Dissesto, Ministro Costa a conferenza regioni: "Oltre sei miliardi risorse disponibili, da lunedì tavolo con regioni per velocizzare", Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Rome) 8 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/dissesto-ministro-costa-conferenza-regioni-oltre-sei-miliardi-risorse-disponibili-da>

for electric vehicles, transition into using renewable sources of energy and execute awareness campaigns.²⁷²¹

On 30 November 2018, the Minister of the Environment, Land, and Sea signed an MOU with the Zambian Minister of National Development Planning. The document aims to reduce climate vulnerability through the implementation of several adaptation and mitigation measures. The MOU will also promote the protection of natural resources, and assist the transition to cleaner and more efficient energy sources and promote sustainable waste management.²⁷²²

On 5 December 2018, the Minister of the Environment, Land, and Sea and the Minister of Education signed an MOU whereby EUR1.3 million will be allocated to an awareness campaign for Italian youth on topics such as environmental sustainability and sustainable development. In addition, further funds will be provided to improve energy efficiency in school buildings and promote school-work experience in the green economy sector.²⁷²³

On 13 December 2018, at the 24th Conference to the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Katowice, Poland, Environment Minister Sergio Costa announced an additional loan of EUR7 million to the Adaptation Fund. The Adaptation Fund provides funding for projects in developing countries that help vulnerable communities adapt and mitigate the negative externalities of climate change. The minister also reaffirmed Germany's goal to be entirely coal-free by 2025.²⁷²⁴

On 14 December 2018, an agreement was signed between the Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea and the Umbria region. The purpose of the agreement is to improve air quality and mitigate atmospheric pollution. This follows the agreement signed between the Ministry and the Lazio Region in November. The agreement outlines circulation and movement bans on certain vehicles on certain days of the week in an effort to decrease the concentration of PM10.²⁷²⁵

On 8 January 2019, Italy sent its binding “Energy and Climate Plan” to Europe for approval. The plan includes goals such as a reduction in energy consumption by 43% by 2030.²⁷²⁶

²⁷²¹ Regione Lazio e Ministero Dell'ambiente firmano accordo per miglioramento qualità dell'aria a Roma, comuni limitrofi e Valle del Sacco, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Rome) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/regione-lazio-e-ministero-dellambiente-firmano-accordo-miglioramento-qualita-dellaria>

²⁷²² Zambia, Italy sign MoU on cooperation to combat Climate Change as Chiteme, Costa call for strong bilateral ties, Lusaka Times 2 December 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.lusakatimes.com/2018/12/02/zambia-italy-sign-mou-on-cooperation-to-combat-climate-change-as-chiteme-costa-call-for-strong-bilateral-ties/>

²⁷²³ Scuola, Bussetti e Costa firmano Protocollo d'intesa: 1,3 mln per l'educazione Ambientale, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Rome) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/scuola-bussetti-e-costa-firmano-protocollo-dintesa-13-mln-leducazione-ambientale>

²⁷²⁴ Il Ministro Costa Annuncia Un Nuovo Finanziamento Di 7 Milioni Di Euro All'Adaptation Fund, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Rome) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/il-ministro-costa-annuncia-un-nuovo-finanziamento-di-7-milioni-di-euro-alladaptation-fund>

²⁷²⁵ Inquinamento Dell'aria Da PM10 Accordo Ministero Dell'ambiente – Regione Umbria, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Rome) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/inquinamento-dellaria-da-pm10-accordo-ministero-dellambiente-regione-umbria>

²⁷²⁶ Clima, Ministro Costa “Sul Clima E Sull'energia Si Volta Pagina Con Impegni Concreti, Il Ministero Dell'ambiente E Della Tutela Del Territorio E Del Mare (Rome) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/clima-ministro-costa-sul-clima-e-sullenergia-si-volta-pagina-con-impegni-concreti>

On 9 January 2019, the Ministry of Industry announced that as a part of its plans to cut the country's carbon emissions, it will block the issuing of some 36 permits to explore oil and gas. According to a ministry statement, "upstream oil and gas activity in Italy was not of strategic importance for the country."²⁷²⁷

On 16 January 2019, the Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea allocated EUR10 million to purchasing electric and hybrid vehicles and improving surveillance systems in protected areas and marine parks.²⁷²⁸

On 28 January 2019, the Centre for Climate and Sustainable Development of Africa was inaugurated. The purpose of the centre is to facilitate the exchange of information between G7 members and African countries. The center specifically focuses on protecting the Sahel belt from desertification and climate change.²⁷²⁹

On 29 January 2019, the Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea promised EUR44 million for the mitigation of hydrogeological risks in the Sicily region and an additional EUR98 million to address hydrogeological risks in Sardinia. This funding will support a variety of projects, including the maintenance of breakwater barriers, seismic improvements, and other consolidation projects.²⁷³⁰

On 5 February 2019, the government presented its integrated national Energy and Climate Plan (PNIEC) to the EU Commission. The plan provides detailed policies, technological options and financing aimed at accelerating the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, in line with the long-term goal of deep decarbonisation by 2050.²⁷³¹

On 11 February 2019, the Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea awarded 45 environmental education projects with a total of EUR1 million in funding. This program was initiated to promote environmental education and communication initiatives operated by environmental associations, in collaboration with Italian schools.²⁷³²

²⁷²⁷ Italy to block oil and gas exploration permits, Reuters (Milan) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 15 March 2019.

<https://uk.reuters.com/article/us-italy-drilling/italy-to-block-oil-and-gas-exploration-permits-idUKKCN1P31RW>

²⁷²⁸ Sostenibilità: Dal Ministero Dell'Ambiente 10 Milioni Per L'acquisto Di Mezzi Elettrici O Ibridi Nei Parchi E Aree Marine Protette, Il Ministero Dell'ambiente E Della Tutela Del Territorio E Del Mare (Rome) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/sostenibilita-dal-ministero-dellambiente-10-milioni-lacquisto-di-mezzi-elettrici-o>

²⁷²⁹ Clima, Costa: "Salvaguardia Del Pianeta Parte Dall'Africa, D'All'Italia Nessun Colonialismo Ambientale, Il Ministero Dell'ambiente E Della Tutela Del Territorio E Del Mare (Rome) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/clima-costa-salvaguardia-del-pianeta-parte-dallafrica-dallitalia-nessun-colonialismo>

²⁷³⁰ Dissesto Idrogeologico: Oltre 44 Milioni Per 20 Interventi In Sicilia, 98 Milioni Per La Sardegna, Il Ministero Dell'ambiente E Della Tutela Del Territorio E Del Mare (Rome) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/dissesto-idrogeologico-oltre-44-milioni-20-interventi-sicilia-98-milioni-la-sardegna>

²⁷³¹ Presentata in Commissione Ue Proposta Piano nazionale integrato energia e clima, Il Ministero Dell'ambiente E Della Tutela Del Territorio E Del Mare (Rome) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 15 March 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/presentata-commissione-ue-proposta-piano-nazionale-integrato-energia-e-clima>

²⁷³² Educazione Ambientale, 45 I Progetti Vincitori Bando Ministero Dell'Ambiente, Il Ministero Dell'ambiente E Della Tutela Del Territorio E Del Mare (Rome) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/educazione-ambientale-45-i-progetti-vincitori-bando-ministero-dellambiente-0>

On 28 February 2019, the Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea allocated EUR500 million to the construction of bicycle lanes and a bike sharing program with the goal of encouraging zero-emission mobility across Italy.²⁷³³

On 20 March 2019, the government launched public consultations regarding its energy and climate plan. The plan aims to phase out coal by 2025, expand the share of renewable energy to 28% by 2030, and increase energy efficiency in the residential and transport sectors.²⁷³⁴

On 15 April 2019, Environment Minister Sergio Costa reiterated his support for EU regulations ensuring that from 2030 onwards, new cars will emit on average 37.5% less CO₂ and new vans will emit on average 31% less CO₂ compared to 2021 levels. Between 2025 and 2029, both cars and vans will be required to emit 15% less CO₂.²⁷³⁵

On 2 May 2019, Costa committed EUR180 million in funding to the regions of the Po River Basin to ensure compliance with EU air quality standards. This funding will be used to finance the construction of local public transport, in an effort to improve air quality as part of the Clean Air Dialogue.²⁷³⁶

On 5 May 2019, Environment Minister Sergio Costa reaffirmed Italy's commitment to phasing out coal power by 2025.²⁷³⁷

On 6 May 2019, Environment Minister Sergio Costa and his French counterpart De Rugy decided upon a joint initiative to make the Mediterranean an Emission Control Area. The implementation of this initiative is thought to reduce emissions of sulphur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide from international shipping by 80% and 20% respectively.²⁷³⁸

On 5 June 2019, Turin hosted the Clean Air Dialogue. The Clean Air Dialogue between Italy and the European Council promotes the goal of sharing effective measures to combat air pollution. Environment Minister Sergio Costa committed to an action plan that outlines concrete measures for

²⁷³³ Mobilità: Ministero Ambiente, 500 Milioni Per Piste Ciclabili, Bike Sharing E Ciclovie, Il Ministero Dell'ambiente E Della Tutela Del Territorio E Del Mare (Rome) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 13 June 2019.
<https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/mobilita-ministero-ambiente-500-milioni-piste-ciclabili-bike-sharing-e-ciclovie>

²⁷³⁴ Clima: Presentato il Piano nazionale integrato energia e clima al 2030, Il Ministero Dell'ambiente E Della Tutela Del Territorio E Del Mare (Rome) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019.
<https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/clima-presentato-il-piano-nazionale-integrato-energia-e-clima-al-2030>

²⁷³⁵ Clima, Costa: bene ok UE a taglio emissioni, da Italia contributo fondamentale, Il Ministero Dell'ambiente E Della Tutela Del Territorio E Del Mare (Rome) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019.
<https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/clima-costa-bene-ok-ue-taglio-emissioni-da-italia-contributo-fondamentale>

²⁷³⁶ Inquinamento Atmosferico. Costa: Subito 180 Milioni Di Euro Alle Regioni Del Bacino Padano, Il Ministero Dell'ambiente E Della Tutela Del Territorio E Del Mare (Rome) 2 May 2019. Access Date: 13 June 2019.
<https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/inquinamento-atmosferico-costa-subito-180-milioni-di-euro-alle-regioni-del-bacino-padano>

²⁷³⁷ G7 Ambiente, Ministro Costa "Chi Concepisce L'economia Secondo I Vecchi Paradigmi Appartiene All'archeologia Politica", Il Ministero Dell'ambiente E Della Tutela Del Territorio E Del Mare (Rome) 5 May 2019. Access Date: 13 June 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/g7-ambiente-ministro-costa-chi-concepisce-l-economia-secondo-i-vecchi-paradigmi>

²⁷³⁸ G7, Da Italia E Francia Il Via A Un Percorso Verso Area Basse Emissioni Nel Mediterraneo, Il Ministero Dell'ambiente E Della Tutela Del Territorio E Del Mare (Rome) 6 May 2019. Access Date: 13 June 2019.
<https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/g7-da-italia-e-francia-il-un-percorso-verso-area-basse-emissioni-nel-mediterraneo>

improving air quality. This action plan will be implemented with EUR400 million in funding each year.²⁷³⁹

Italy has reaffirmed its commitment to implementing the Paris Agreement through ambitious climate action, including actions to finance climate resilience through international agreements and multilateral initiatives.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Madeleine Frederica Witt

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to reaffirm its strong commitment to implement the Paris Agreement, through ambitious climate action; in particular through strengthening and financing resilience and reducing vulnerability.

On 25 June 2018, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed a grant agreement with the government of the Philippines to provide JPY1.278 billion for the improvement of flood forecasting and warning systems for the Cagayan de Oro River Basin region. This project aims to contribute to regional sustainable development, mitigate flood damage and reduce vulnerability to the effects of climate change through early intervention.²⁷⁴⁰

On 27 June 2018, JICA signed a grant agreement with the government of Guyana in Georgetown to provide grant aid of up to JPY 1.848 billion to the Project for the Introduction of Renewable Energy and the Improvement of Power System. This project aims to mitigate climate change by implementing an efficient and sustainable power supply in Georgetown and its surrounding areas.²⁷⁴¹

On 28 June 2018, JICA signed a memorandum of cooperation with the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, a global network dedicated to facilitating dialogue across 96 cities in 50 countries in support of actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and minimize urban climate risk. In signing this memorandum, JICA committed to upholding and carrying out cooperative activities related to climate change in megacities in Southeast Asia.²⁷⁴²

On 28 June 2018, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation, wholly owned by the Japanese government, announced the launch of its new Global Facility to Promote Quality Infrastructure Investment for Environmental Preservation and Sustainable Growth, effective 1 July 2018. QI-ESG aims to mobilize USD50 billion over the next three years and commit to a wide range of financing

²⁷³⁹ Inquinamento: A Torino Il Premier Conte E Sei Ministri Firmano Il Piano Anti Smog Alla Presenza Del Commissario Europeo All'ambiente, Il Ministero Dell'ambiente E Della Tutela Del Territorio E Del Mare (Rome) 4 June 2019. Access Date: 13 June 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/inquinamento-torino-il-premier-conte-e-sei-ministri-firmano-il-piano-anti-smog-alla>

²⁷⁴⁰ Signing of Grant Agreement with Philippines: Support for the improvement of a flood forecasting and warning system, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 26 June 2018. Access Date: 4 October 2018. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180626_01.html

²⁷⁴¹ Signing of Grant Agreement with Guyana: Contributing to climate change mitigation through the achievement of an efficient, sustainable power supply, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 4 October 2018. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180629_01.html

²⁷⁴² Signing of Memorandum of Cooperation with the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group: Promoting climate change actions in megacities in Southeast Asia, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 2 July 2018. Access Date: 4 October 2018. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180702_02.html

support for infrastructure development, such as renewable energy systems and efficient “smart cities.”²⁷⁴³

On 3 July 2018, the Cabinet approved the Fifth Strategic Energy Plan, formulated by the government under the Basic Act on Energy Policy. This plan presents the direction of Japan’s energy policy towards 2030 and 2050, and seeks to achieve energy transitions and decarbonization “in the enforcement of the Paris Agreement.”²⁷⁴⁴

On 17 July 2018, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe signed the EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement with the President of the European Council Donald Tusk and President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker in Tokyo.²⁷⁴⁵ Chapter 16 of the agreement addressed trade and sustainable development. Article 16.4(4) reaffirmed the parties’ commitment to upholding the Paris Agreement, and states that “the Parties shall cooperate to promote the positive contribution of trade to the transition to low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.” Article 16.5 (c) expressed that the parties “shall strive to facilitate trade and investment in goods and services of particular relevance to climate change mitigation, such as those related to sustainable renewable energy and energy-efficient goods and services.”²⁷⁴⁶

On 3 August 2018, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe held the first meeting on a Long-Term Strategy under the Paris Agreement as Growth Strategy. Abe asked the panel for proposals regarding the establishment of long-term economic growth and strategies to achieve Japan’s goals for the Paris Agreement. Prime Minister Abe also emphasized how measures against global warming were a source of competitiveness for Japan.²⁷⁴⁷

On 31 August 2018, JICA signed a grant agreement with the government of Pakistan in Islamabad to provide grant aid of up to JPY2.042 billion for the Project for Installation of Weather Surveillance Radar in Multan City. The project will install a meteorological radar system to monitor weather occurrences that can trigger disasters, and improve the accuracy of warning capabilities for floods and other natural disasters in the region.²⁷⁴⁸

On 4 September 2018, along with Australia and the United States, Japan submitted a proposal for Article 9.7 of the Paris Agreement. Article 9.7 refers to guidelines for middle and high-income states with regards to reporting climate finance resources they provide to low-income states. The proposed changes include removing specific rules in Article 9.7 that account for these contributions, which can

²⁷⁴³ JBIC Launches Global Facility to Promote Quality Infrastructure Investment for Environmental Preservation and Sustainable Growth, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 28 June 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/news/news-2018/0628-011154.html>

²⁷⁴⁴ Cabinet Decision on the New Strategic Energy Plan, Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (Tokyo) 3 July 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/0703_002.html

²⁷⁴⁵ The Signing of the Agreement between the European Union and Japan for an Economic Partnership, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 17 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002107.html

²⁷⁴⁶ Agreement between the European Union and Japan for an Economic Partnership, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 19 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000382106.pdf>

²⁷⁴⁷ Meeting on a Long-Term Strategy under the Paris Agreement as Growth Strategy, The Prime Minister in Action (Tokyo) 3 August 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201808/_00011.html

²⁷⁴⁸ Signing of Grant Agreement with Pakistan: Supporting stronger weather forecasting and warning capabilities for natural disasters with the installation of a meteorological radar system, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 3 September 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180903_01.html

mean that commercial loans can count towards a middle or high-income state's climate finance obligation to low-income states.²⁷⁴⁹

On 5 September 2018, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Iwao Horii and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of New Zealand Winston Peters announced Japan and New Zealand's cooperation in support of the operations and logistics of the Pacific Climate Change Centre in Apia, Samoa.²⁷⁵⁰

On 12 September 2018, the government of Japan endorsed the goals of the "Under2Coalition," a global community of sub-national governments committed to addressing climate change and achieving the 2°C target of the Paris Agreement. The government of Japan stated that it will further develop cooperation with non-state actors in implementing the Paris Agreement.²⁷⁵¹

On 26 September 2018, the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of National Development Planning of Indonesia signed the first bilateral Letter of Intent regarding cooperation for the Partnership to Strengthen Transparency for Co-Innovation. The letter agreed to improve transparency in implementing the Paris Agreement to enhance climate mitigation.²⁷⁵²

On 2 October 2018, Minister of Foreign Affairs Taro Kono held a press conference to reaffirm Japan's efforts in resolving global [climate] issues and "taking the initiative to further climate change diplomacy." Kono also confirmed that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will support non-state diplomatic actors' activities, citing the example of the Japan Climate Initiative's contribution to advancing climate change diplomacy at international conferences.²⁷⁵³

On 9 October 2018, the Government Pension Investment Fund (GPIF), the world's largest single pension fund with over USD1.5 trillion in assets, announced that it had joined the Climate Action 100+ initiative as a supporter. An investor representative of the initiative commented that "GPIF is a global leader whose support will bring influence and insight to the ambition of Climate Action 100+ to ensure the goals of the Paris Agreement are met, to the benefit of companies and their long-term investors."²⁷⁵⁴

On 11-12 October 2018, the government hosted the fifth annual Innovation for Cool Earth Forum in Tokyo.²⁷⁵⁵ The conference addressed climate change through innovation under the theme "Driving Green Innovation," and it invited participants from the private sector, academia and policy

²⁷⁴⁹ Submission by Australia, Japan, and the United States: SBSTA (13) Modalities for the accounting of financial resources provided and mobilized through public interventions in accordance with Article 9, paragraph 7, of the Paris Agreement, United Nations, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (New York City) 4 September 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/SBSTA48.2.CRP_.i13.pdf

²⁷⁵⁰ New Zealand-Japan Joint Press Release: Cooperation on the Pacific Climate Change Centre, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 5 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000396530.pdf>

²⁷⁵¹ Climate Diplomacy (Endorsement of Under2 Coalition) (Statement by Foreign Minister Taro Kono), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 12 September 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002155.html

²⁷⁵² Partnership to Strengthen Transparency for Co-Innovation, Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center (Tokyo) 1 October 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. https://www.oecc.or.jp/pasti/pdf/181030_Report_SigningCeremony.pdf

²⁷⁵³ Press Conference by Foreign Minister Taro Kono (Tuesday, October 2, 2018, 8:01 a.m), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 2 October 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/kaiken/kaiken4e_000548.html#topic5

²⁷⁵⁴ GPIF joins Climate Action 100, Government Pension Investment Fund (Tokyo) 9 October 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. https://www.gpif.go.jp/en/Climate_Action_100%2B.pdf

²⁷⁵⁵ Innovation for Cool Earth Forum (Tokyo) Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.icef-forum.org/>

realms. Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs Kenwa Suzuki attended the forum and gave a closing speech. He emphasized that “the importance of technological innovation in the field of climate change is clearly stated in the Paris Agreement.”²⁷⁵⁶

On 18 October 2018, the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (METI) announced that it will convene a Study Group on Encouraging Japanese Companies to Address International Initiatives on Climate Change. METI launched the initiative to encourage companies to monitor and reduce their greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with “international initiatives on climate change and also to acquire and claim the value of renewable energy electricity, i.e., renewable energy value.”²⁷⁵⁷

On 19 October 2018, Foreign Minister Taro Kono expressed Japan’s commitment to the development of an “Ideal Arctic” at the Arctic Circle Assembly in Iceland. An “Ideal Arctic” takes into account the impacts of climate change in the region using scientific data and aims to promote sustainable economic activities in the Arctic.²⁷⁵⁸

On 19 October 2018, the Ministry of the Environment launched a public-private partnership entitled the “Plastics Smart” campaign, a multi-stakeholder initiative that promotes initiatives to address and reduce marine plastic waste and conserve marine environments.²⁷⁵⁹

On 22 October 2018, Prime Minister Abe and Minister of the Environment Yoshiaki Harada gave opening speeches at the Second World Circular Economy Forum (WCEF). In a video message, Prime Minister Abe expressed his wish that Japan will share its experiences of natural resource conservation and take the lead on developing circular economies in the international community. Minister Harada reaffirmed the importance of the Paris Agreement and indicated Japan’s intentions to move towards a circular economy and combat climate change.²⁷⁶⁰

On 22 October 2018, Minister of the Environment Yoshiaki Harada and Finland’s Minister of the Environment Kimmo Tiilikainen signed a Memorandum of Environmental Cooperation at the Second WCEF. The parties outlined ten areas in which to strengthen and develop intensive environmental cooperation.²⁷⁶¹

On 22 October 2018, Minister of the Environment Yoshiaki Harada announced that the Moej decided to participate in the Platform for Accelerating Circular Economy. Minister Harada stated that Japan would contribute to the platform by providing information on actions, experiences, and technologies of Japan’s public and private entities registered under its “Plastic Smart” Campaign.²⁷⁶²

²⁷⁵⁶ Norikazu Suzuki Attended the 5th Innovation for Cool Earth Forum (ICEF), Parliamentary Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs for Japan (Tokyo) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/ic/ch/page22_003067.html

²⁷⁵⁷ METI to Launch Study Group on Encouraging Japanese Companies to Address International Initiatives on Climate Change, Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (Tokyo) 18 October 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1018_006.html

²⁷⁵⁸ Speech by H. E. Mr. Taro Kono, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan at the Arctic Circle 2018 Opening Session 19 October 2018, Reykjavik, Iceland, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000410409.pdf>

²⁷⁵⁹ About Launching “Plastic.Smart” campaign, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 22 November 2018. <https://www.env.go.jp/press/106073.html>

²⁷⁶⁰ On the results of the World Circular Economic Forum (WCEF) 2018, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 25 October 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <http://www.env.go.jp/press/106091.html>

²⁷⁶¹ Memorandum of cooperation in the field of environmental cooperation between the Ministry of the Environment of Japan and the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Finland (English), Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <https://www.env.go.jp/press/files/jp/110155.pdf>

²⁷⁶² Participation in circulation economic acceleration platform (PACE) Letter (English), Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <http://www.env.go.jp/press/files/jp/110157.pdf>

On 22-23 October 2018, Ministry of the Environment and the Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra jointly hosted the WCEF in Yokohama, Kanagawa, Japan. Circular economies support Article 9 in the Paris Agreement: “adapting to climate change by building the resilience of socioeconomic and ecological systems, including through sustainable management of natural resources.” The forum promoted circular visions towards 2050, climate and marine plastic waste solutions in circular economies, and international cooperation on sustainable development.²⁷⁶³

On 26 October 2018, the Ministry of the Environment and India’s Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Climate Change signed a Memorandum of Cooperation. The memorandum outlined various fields and forms of cooperation and reaffirmed the importance of collaborative actions in successfully implementing “multilateral environmental agreements including the Paris Agreement”²⁷⁶⁴.

On 29 October 2018, the Aerospace Exploration Agency launched the second Greenhouse Gases Observing Satellite (GOSAT-2) from the Tanegashima Space Center. This is the world’s first satellite to monitor greenhouse gases emissions of every country, reflecting Japan’s aim to enhance transparency in its implementation of the Paris Agreement. Countries can access and use this data to reduce their emissions.²⁷⁶⁵

On 30 October 2018, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Hiroshige Seko and the Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy of Germany Peter Altmaier signed the Japan-Germany Joint Declaration of Intent on Economic Policy and Cooperation. The declaration stated that “[b]oth countries face the challenge of transformation towards low greenhouse-gas emission energy systems in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement,” and reaffirmed energy policy cooperation to promote energy efficiency through the integration of sustainable and renewable energy technologies.^{2766,2767}

On 2 November 2018, JICA signed a Japanese loan agreement with the government of India in Delhi for the Project for the Construction of the Turga Pumped Storage (I) power plant in the West Bengal State. The project will promote renewable energy with variable-speed pumped storage power generation systems developed in Japan.²⁷⁶⁸

On 6 November 2018, the Cabinet approved the Bill for the Act of Promoting Utilization of Sea Areas in Development of Power Generation Facilities Using Maritime Renewable Energy Resources. This act promotes the utilization of renewable maritime energy to develop power generation facilities.

²⁷⁶³ On the results of the World Circular Economic Forum (WCEF) 2018, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 25 October 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <http://www.env.go.jp/press/106091.html>

²⁷⁶⁴ Signature of cooperation memorandum of understanding in the field of environmental cooperation between Ministry of the Environment of Japan and India Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Climate Change, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 29 October 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. <http://www.env.go.jp/press/106105.html>

²⁷⁶⁵ Contributions to the Paris Agreement from Outer Space, The Government of Japan (Tokyo) 29 October 2018. Access Date: 28 November 2018. https://www.japan.go.jp/tomodachi/2018/Autumn2018/contributions_to_the_paris_agreement.html

²⁷⁶⁶ Minister Seko Signs Japan-Germany Joint Declaration of Intent on Economic Policy and Cooperation, Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (Tokyo) 30 October 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1030_006.html

²⁷⁶⁷ Joint Declaration of Intent of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan and the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy of the Federal Republic of Germany, on economic policy and economic cooperation, Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (Tokyo) 30 October 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018. <http://www.meti.go.jp/press/2018/10/20181030012/20181030012-1.pdf>

²⁷⁶⁸ Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with India: Promoting Renewable Energy with Variable-Speed Pumped Storage Power Generation Developed in Japan, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 3 November 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/181102_01.html

Measures prescribed by this act are to be completed in harmonization with other policies relating to maritime resources.²⁷⁶⁹

On 20 November 2018, METI announced a new initiative entitled the “Clean Ocean Material Alliance (tentative title),” which aims to reduce marine debris by promoting sustainable plastic products, alternatives to plastic, and innovation through public-private partnerships. On the same day, as the department leading the initiative, the Japan Environmental Management Association for Industry started a call for companies to participate in the alliance.²⁷⁷⁰

On 22 November 2018, the Ministry of the Environment announced that it will establish a climate adaption center at the National Institute for Environmental Studies on 1 December 2018, in line with the Climate Change Adaptation Law coming into effect on the same day. The centre will support the activities of local governments in climate change adaption and conduct national research on this topic.²⁷⁷¹

On 27 November 2018, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and the Cabinet approved a Climate Change Adaption Plan based on the Climate Change Adaption Law passed in June of this year. This plan offers direction and measures for the mitigation and adaptation of climate change in seven areas.^{2772,2773}

On 7 December 2018, the Ministry of the Environment announced the launch of the “Japan’s Climate Change Action Initiative 2018” document. This document supports the implementation guidelines of the Paris Agreement adopted at 24th Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and encourages international cooperation on measures to combat climate change. The document summarized Japan’s present and future efforts domestically and in low-income countries to implement the Paris Agreement through mitigation, adaption, and improvement in transparency.^{2774,2775}

On 2-15 December 2018, at COP24 in Katowice, Poland, Japan hosted the Japan Pavilion to showcase innovations in and scale-up of clean technologies and measures to promote green economic growth.²⁷⁷⁶

²⁷⁶⁹ Cabinet Decision on the Bill for the Act of Promoting Utilization of Sea Areas in Development of Power Generation Facilities Using Maritime Renewable Energy Resources, Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (Tokyo) 6 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1106_002.html

²⁷⁷⁰ Clean Ocean Material Alliance to be Established, Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (Tokyo) 20 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1120_005.html

²⁷⁷¹ Establishment of climate change adaptation center of National Institute for Environmental Studies, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <http://www.env.go.jp/press/106194.html>

²⁷⁷² Cabinet endorses climate change adaptation plan, NHK World (Tokyo) 27 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. https://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/en/news/20181127_33/

²⁷⁷³ On the results of the Cabinet decision on climate change adaptation plan and public opinion recruitment (public comment), Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 27 November 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. <http://www.env.go.jp/press/106190.html>

²⁷⁷⁴ On the announcement of “Japan’s Climate Change Action Initiative 2018”, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. <https://www.env.go.jp/press/106213.html>

²⁷⁷⁵ Japan’s Assistance Initiatives to Address Climate Change 2018. Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018. <https://www.env.go.jp/press/106168/%E6%97%A5%E6%9C%AC%E3%81%AE%E6%B0%97%E5%80%99%E5%A4%89%E5%8B%95%E5%AF%BE%E7%AD%96%E6%94%AF%E6%8F%B4%E3%82%A4%E3%83%8B%E3%82%B7%E3%82%A2%E3%83%86%E3%82%A3%E3%83%962018%28%E8%8B%B1%E8%AA%9E%29.pdf>

²⁷⁷⁶ COP24 Japan Pavilion “Lead the World Forward,” Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 2 December 2018. Access Date: 22 December 2018. <http://copjapan.env.go.jp/cop/cop24/en>

On 20 December 2018, JICA signed a Record of Discussions with the government of the Independent State of Samoa for the Project for Capacity Building on Climate Resilience in the Pacific, a technical cooperation project to build climate resilience in the Pacific region by scaling up the training functions of the Pacific Climate Change Center. It will provide regional training in climate change adaptation, mitigation, and access to climate finance.²⁷⁷⁷

On 25 December 2018, METI declared its support for the Task Force on Climate Related Financial Disclosure (TCFD) and released TCFD guidance. This aims to provide information on approaches to information disclosure in accordance with TCFD recommendations. METI also strives to provide case studies as references and give industry-based strategies that companies should use to showcase their efforts.²⁷⁷⁸

On 23 January 2019, during a speech at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Prime Minister Abe called for “disruptive innovation” and more resource mobilization for climate change innovation. He went on to highlight Japan’s commitment to reducing the production cost of hydrogen by at least 90% by 2050, making hydrogen cheaper than natural gas and thus realizing a hydrogen-based society.²⁷⁷⁹

On 1 February 2019, the EU-Japan Trade Agreement came into force. The agreement set ambitious standards with regards to sustainable development, and includes for the first time a specific commitment to the Paris Agreement. The trade agreement strengthens the EU and Japan’s commitments to sustainable development and climate change.²⁷⁸⁰

On 14 February 2019, METI launched the “Subcommittee on Electricity Resilience toward Decarbonized Society” under the Electricity and Gas Industry Committee of the Advisory Committee for Natural Resources and Energy. In order to achieve a decarbonized society, this subcommittee will study ways to enhance the resilience of electricity infrastructure and establish sustainable and steady electricity supply systems that incorporate low-carbon technologies.²⁷⁸¹

On 27 February 2019, Japan hosted the Japan-Vietnam Government Private Workshop on Clean Energy Technology. The workshop aimed to share the knowledge and experiences that Japan has in the field of clean energy, specifically for Vietnam’s reference in relation to policy formulation. This is an opportunity to deepen engagement between the two countries and support Vietnam’s transition to clean energy sources.²⁷⁸²

On 12 March 2019, to achieve the goals set forth in the Basic Hydrogen Strategy and the Fifth Strategic Energy Plan and realize a hydrogen-based society, the Council for a Strategy for Hydrogen and Fuel Cells renewed the existing Strategic Roadmap for Hydrogen and Fuel Cells. The renewed roadmap defines new targets on the specification of basic technologies and the breakdown of costs,

²⁷⁷⁷ Signing of Record of Discussions on Technical Cooperation Project with Samoa: Support for strengthening climate resilience in the Pacific region, Ministry for Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 16 March 2019. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/181220_01.html

²⁷⁷⁸ METI Formulates TCFD Guidance and Declares its Support for TCFD, Ministry for Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 25 December 2018. Access Date: 16 March 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1225_006.html

²⁷⁷⁹ ‘Defeatism about Japan is now defeated’: Read Abe’s Davos speech in full, World Economic Forum (Davos) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 16 March 2019. <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2019/01/abe-speech-transcript/>

²⁷⁸⁰ EU-Japan trade agreement enters into force, EU Press Release (Brussels) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 16 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-785_en.htm

²⁷⁸¹ METI to Launch Subcommittee on Electricity Resilience towards a Decarbonized Society, Ministry for Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 16 March 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0214_002.html

²⁷⁸² Japan-Vietnam government -Private Workshop on Clean Energy Technology to be Held, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 16 March 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0215_002.html

outlines necessary measures for achieving these goals, and declares that Japan will convene a working group consisting of experts to review the status of implementation in each area stipulated by the roadmap.²⁷⁸³

On 26 March 2019, JICA signed a grant agreement with the government of the Republic of Cuba to provide grant aid of up to JPY2.392 billion for the Project for the Improvement of Power Supply in the Isle of Youth. Under this project, equipment for electrical system stabilization will be introduced on the Isle of Youth to promote the use of renewable energy in Cuba.²⁷⁸⁴

On 27 March 2019, JICA signed a limited partnership agreement to provide funding for the MGM Sustainable Energy Fund L.P. II (MSEF II), a fund for a variety of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects in developing regions of Latin America and the Caribbean. MSEF II is a follow-up to the MSEF I fund in which JICA invested in November 2014. The fund will assist economic growth in the developing regions of Latin America and the Caribbean while addressing issues related to climate change, including the reduction of greenhouse gases.²⁷⁸⁵

On 8 April 2019, in collaboration with car manufacturers, energy companies, companies, municipalities and other entities, METI is proactively engaging in efforts to utilize electrical vehicles. METI will launch a new body called the “Council for Promoting Society Utilizing of Electrified Vehicles” to advance the dissemination of electrical vehicles. Through this effort, METI aims to scale-up use of electric vehicles in Japan.²⁷⁸⁶

On 3 June 2019, JICA signed a Record of Discussions with the government of Solomon Islands in Honiara for the Project for Formulating Renewable Energy Road Map, a technical partnership for development planning. The project aims to formulate a roadmap and enable the high penetration of renewable energy generation in Honiara, the capital city of Solomon, by 2030.²⁷⁸⁷

On 7 June 2019, the Cabinet approved the FY 2018 Annual Report on Energy, which includes Global warming countermeasures and energy policy recommendations based on the Paris Agreement.²⁷⁸⁸

Japan has taken ambitious climate action to implement the Paris Agreement, while also supporting adaptation activities by disbursing grants through its development agency JICA and contributions of funds to the Joint Pacific Initiative for Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Resilience.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Amal Ismail-Ladak and Laila Kanji

²⁷⁸³ Formulation of a New Strategic Roadmap for Hydrogen and Fuel Cells, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0312_002.html

²⁷⁸⁴ Signing of Grant Agreement with Cuba: Contributing to the promotion of renewable energy through power supply stabilization, JICA (Tokyo) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/190327_01.html

²⁷⁸⁵ Investment in Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Project Funds For Latin America and the Caribbean : Contribution of Japanese low-carbon technology to addressing climate change, JICA (Tokyo) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/20190327_10_en.html

²⁷⁸⁶ Council for Promoting Society Utilizing of Electrified Vehicles to be launched, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0408_006.html

²⁷⁸⁷ Signing of Record of Discussions on Technical Cooperation for Development Planning with Solomon: Promoting Power Generation from Renewable Energy, JICA (Tokyo) 3 June 2019. Access Date: 16 June 2019. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/copy_of_20190603_21.html

²⁷⁸⁸ The Cabinet Approves the FY 2018 Annual Report on Energy (Japan’s Energy White Paper 2019), Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 7 June 2019. Access Date: 16 June 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0607_001.html

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to reaffirm its strong commitment to implement the Paris Agreement, through ambitious climate action; in particular through strengthening and financing resilience and reducing vulnerability.

On 19 July 2018, the government published an updated National Adaptation Programme that sets out an ambitious strategy for dealing with the effects of a changing climate between 2018 and 2023. The agenda addresses risks affecting communities across England, and sets out the government's ongoing investments and work towards tackling these risks.²⁷⁸⁹

On 20 July 2018, Environment Minister Thérèse Coffey announced that GBP 40 million will be provided to unlock flood defence schemes and support economic growth and regeneration in areas that have suffered from flooding in recent years. This funding will finance 13 flood schemes across Britain, according to Thérèse Coffey, and “boost our resilience as a nation and help our communities to grow and prosper.”²⁷⁹⁰

On 11 September 2018, Prime Minister Theresa May hosted a roundtable with supply chain companies at the UK's first Zero Emissions Vehicle Summit, where she presented the government's plan for all new cars and vans to be zero-emission vehicles by 2040.²⁷⁹¹

On 27 September 2018, Prime Minister May outlined over GBP160 million in funding to help countries transition to cleaner, greener energy systems, and support communities affected by climate change. The funding will promote energy market reform, green finance, climate legislation, and resilience-building against rising food demand and climate shocks.²⁷⁹²

On 5 October 2018, Environment Minister Coffey announced a GBP 3.5 billion national air quality plan to support local authorities across the UK in their delivery of projects that would reduce emissions and improve air quality.²⁷⁹³

On 15 October 2018, Energy and Clean Growth Minister Claire Perry wrote to the Committee on Climate Change seeking advice on current climate change policies and any further actions needed to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement.²⁷⁹⁴

On 15 October 2018, the government marked the start of the first Green Great Britain week by announcing a package of measures to increase clean and green energy infrastructure. The package

²⁷⁸⁹ Government publishes updated plan to tackle climate change, UK Government (London) 19 July 2018. Access Date: 30 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-publishes-updated-plan-to-tackle-climate-change>

²⁷⁹⁰ £40m extra funding to boost regeneration and better protect thousands of homes against flooding, UK Government (London) 20 July 2018. Access Date: 29 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/40m-extra-funding-to-better-protect-thousands-of-homes-against-flooding>

²⁷⁹¹ PM's Zero Emissions Vehicle Summit roundtable: 11 September 2018, UK Government (London) 11 September 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pms-zero-emissions-vehicle-summit-roundtable-11-september-2018>

²⁷⁹² UK expertise to help developing countries tackle climate change and move to cleaner energy, UK Government (London) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 30 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-expertise-to-help-developing-countries-tackle-climate-change-and-move-to-cleaner-energy>

²⁷⁹³ Government to fund local authority plans to tackle air pollution, United Kingdom Government (London) 5 October 2018. Access Date: 13 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-fund-local-authority-plans-to-tackle-air-pollution>

²⁷⁹⁴ UK climate targets: request for advice from the Committee on Climate Change, United Kingdom Government (London) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 13 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-climate-targets-request-for-advice-from-the-committee-on-climate-change>

included the launch of a GBP320 million government fund for low-carbon heating in cities, the initiation of the GBP18 million Heat Recovery Support Programme to help businesses become more energy-efficient, and a pledge of GBP106 million to encourage greener construction practices in developing countries.²⁷⁹⁵

On 17 October 2018, the government announced that it will invest up to GBP20 million alongside at least GBP20 million from private investors in a new venture capital fund entitled the Clean Growth Fund. The fund aims to accelerate the deployment of innovative clean technologies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions by making direct investments in companies seeking to commercialise promising technologies.²⁷⁹⁶

On 19 October 2018, the government announced funding of GBP60 million in support of four new research programmes under its Strategic Priorities Fund. Managed by UK Research and Innovation, the objectives of these programmes are to boost the UK's resilience to climate change, develop digital environments, promote clean air and investigate how to utilize land for the improvement of health outcomes.²⁷⁹⁷

On 5 November 2018, UK Research and Innovation announced funding of GBP5 million for a competition to support cleaner air initiatives as a part of the Strategic Priorities Fund.²⁷⁹⁸

On 20 November 2018, Minister for Business and Industry Richard Harrington and the Secretary of State of the Polish Ministry of Environment Michal Kurtyka launched a new electromobility initiative entitled "Driving Change Together." The initiative is a dedicated partnership for fostering technological and organisational changes to develop zero-emission transportation.²⁷⁹⁹

On 21 November 2018, the Special Representative for Climate Change Nick Bridge announced with Colombia's Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development Ricardo Lozano that Colombia and the UK intend to form a new Partnership for Sustainable Growth. Bridge noted that both nations "recognise the urgency of action and that we can achieve more when we work together ... in the global fight against climate change."²⁸⁰⁰

On 26 November 2018, Environment Secretary Michael Gove launched the "UK Climate Projections 2018" project to guide decision-making and boost climate resilience in the UK. The project draws from data and projections provided by leading UK and international scientists, and it is supported by various government departments and the Met Office. The project aims to inform long-term climate adaptation planning based on a wide range of possible climate scenarios.²⁸⁰¹

²⁷⁹⁵ Climate experts asked for advice on net zero target, United Kingdom Government (London) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 13 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/climate-experts-asked-for-advice-on-net-zero-target>

²⁷⁹⁶ Clean Growth Fund, United Kingdom Government (London) 17 October 2018. Access Date: 31 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/clean-growth-equity-fund>

²⁷⁹⁷ Call for new green innovations to tackle climate change, UK Government (London) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 3 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/call-for-new-green-innovations-to-tackle-climate-change>

²⁷⁹⁸ Breathe easy with cleaner air: new funding to fight pollution, UK Government (London) 5 November 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/breathe-easy-with-cleaner-air-new-funding-to-fight-pollution>

²⁷⁹⁹ UK and Poland launch new electromobility initiative, UK Government (London) 21 November 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-poland-launch-new-electromobility-initiative>

²⁸⁰⁰ Colombia and the UK announce partnership for sustainable growth, UK Government (London) 21 November 2018. Access Date: 19 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/colombia-and-the-uk-announce-partnership-for-sustainable-growth>

²⁸⁰¹ Most detailed picture yet of changing climate launched, UK Government (London) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 22 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/most-detailed-picture-yet-of-changing-climate-launched>

On 28 November 2018, the government unveiled its first carbon capture usage and storage project. The aim of this project is to capture carbon before it enters the air, in order to use it for “industrial purposes like manufacturing concrete or stores it safely underground, reducing pollution and helping to tackle climate change.”²⁸⁰²

On 5 December 2018, the Department for Business, Energy and Industry announced new government funding of up to GBP 60 million made available through the Industrial Strategy Challenge fund for the Smart Sustainable Plastic Packaging challenge. Through the challenge, the UK is encouraging innovators to develop sustainable packaging and reduce the impact of harmful plastics on the environment, in order to support the shift towards a greener, cleaner economy as a part of the new Industrial Strategy.²⁸⁰³

On 6 December 2018, alongside the Leeds City Council, the Environment Agency announced plans for the next phase of the Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme. With the goal of lowering the risk of flooding along the River Aire, the GBP112.1 million project will reduce the flow of rainwater into the river and mitigate the impacts of climate change.²⁸⁰⁴

On 16 December 2018, the Energy and Clean Growth Minister Claire Perry committed GBP1.2 million in funding to a Pacific Regional Nationally Determined Contributions Hub to support Pacific Island countries in implementing their Paris Agreement commitments.²⁸⁰⁵

On 14 January 2019, the UK announced its Clean Air Strategy aimed at tackling air pollution. This plan will set a long-term target to reduce public exposure to particulate matter, which the World Health Organization has identified as the most damaging pollutant.²⁸⁰⁶

On 22 January 2019, it was announced that UK aid from DFID was leading analysis from the UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology in collaboration with global experts. This analysis seeks to track mega storms, their scale, and why they are occurring more regularly. This data will be used to identify at-risk areas in Burkina Faso and Senegal, and provide information to design early warning systems and storm-resistant infrastructure to protect homes, schools, hospitals and roads. DFID is also supporting 700,000 people in Burkina Faso by sending updates and warnings via text message and advising farmers on how to protect their crops.²⁸⁰⁷

²⁸⁰² Plan to enable first UK carbon capture project from the mid 2020s announced at world-first summit, UK Government (London) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 19 December 2018.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/plan-to-enable-first-uk-carbon-capture-project-from-the-mid-2020s-announced-at-world-first-summit>

²⁸⁰³ Food scraps could be turned into environmentally friendly plastic packaging, UK Government (London) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/food-scraps-could-be-turned-into-environmentally-friendly-plastic-packaging>

²⁸⁰⁴ Planning application submitted for further £112.1m of Leeds flood defences, UK Government (London) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 19 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/planning-application-submitted-for-further-1121m-of-leeds-flood-defences>

²⁸⁰⁵ UK deepens climate change partnership with Pacific Islands, government of the United Kingdom (London) 17 December 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-deepens-climate-change-partnership-with-pacific-islands>.

²⁸⁰⁶ government launches world leading plan to tackle air pollution, government of the United Kingdom (London) 14 January 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-world-leading-plan-to-tackle-air-pollution>.

²⁸⁰⁷ UK aid protects thousands from extreme weather as ‘mega storms’ tracked across Africa, government of the United Kingdom (London) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 15 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-protects-thousands-from-extreme-weather-as-mega-storms-tracked-across-africa>

On 6 February 2019, UK PACT (Partnering for Accelerated Climate Transitions), an international climate finance programme of the UK Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, announced a partnership with the Carbon Trust in Colombia and Colombian Fund for Non-Conventional Renewable Energies and Efficient Energy Management. This partnership will provide technical assistance to UPME, the Colombia government's planning agency for energy and mining. The project aims to improve the provision of energy access in remote regions of Colombia and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.²⁸⁰⁸

On 25 February 2018, the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) Multi-Stakeholder Group published the latest UK EITI Reconciliation Report of 2017. The EITI is a global initiative to promote the open and accountable management of natural resources. This report is designed to improve accountability and public trust for revenues paid and received for a country's oil, gas and mineral resources.²⁸⁰⁹

On 28 February 2019, the Environment Agency published a new economic assessment to support policy planning for flooding and coastal risk management over the next 50 years. The study uses climate change, population, and mapping data to set out potential future scenarios and assess how funding could be best allocated to meet these challenges.²⁸¹⁰

On 7 March 2019, Minister for Africa Harriett Baldwin announced new funding to provide people and companies across Africa with access to affordable and clean energy. The Department for International Development's Transforming Energy Access programme has already helped people and businesses across Africa cut 2 million tonnes of carbon emissions and improve the lives of 3.2 million people living in the low-income bracket.²⁸¹¹

On 9 March 2019, Health Minister Nicola Blackwood announced up to GBP56 million in funding for research on public health challenges. This will include research on the potential health effects of climate change, air pollution, antimicrobial resistance and global pandemics.²⁸¹²

On 14-15 March 2019, with the support of the Lima Stock Exchange, the British Embassy in Lima organised the Second Conference on Green Finance in the Pacific Alliance. This conference aims to contribute to the development of the green and climate finance market in Pacific Alliance member countries. The conference created dialogue and consensus-building on green finance in the Pacific Alliance, in order to increase private investment in sustainable and environmentally friendly projects.²⁸¹³

²⁸⁰⁸ UK PACT's first project in Colombia will improve energy access, government of the United Kingdom (London) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 15 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-pacts-first-project-in-colombia-will-improve-energy-access>

²⁸⁰⁹ UK government delivers key strand of international transparency agenda, government of the United Kingdom (London) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-delivers-key-strand-of-international-transparency-agenda>.

²⁸¹⁰ Environment Agency publishes new evidence to plan for flood and coastal risk up to 2065, government of the United Kingdom (London) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/environment-agency-publishes-new-evidence-to-plan-for-flood-and-coastal-risk-up-to-2065>.

²⁸¹¹ UK aid to give clean energy boost to Africa, GOV.UK (London) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 25 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-give-clean-energy-boost-to-africa>

²⁸¹² New funding to research health impact of climate change, GOV.UK (London) 9 March 2019. Access Date: 25 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funding-to-research-health-impact-of-climate-change>

²⁸¹³ British Embassy in Lima organises II Conference on Green Finance in the Pacific Alliance, UK government (London) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-embassy-in-lima-organises-ii-conference-on-green-finance-in-the-pacific-alliance>

On 15 March 2019, through InfraCo Africa, a Private Infrastructure Development Group company, the government will invest USD2.2 million in the development of two solar plants in rural Kenya.²⁸¹⁴

On 21 March 2019, the government contributed another GBP25 million to the Clean Bus Technology Fund to retrofit buses and bring them to low emission standards.²⁸¹⁵

On 4 April 2019, Loughborough University and the World Bank's Energy Sector Management Assistance Programme joined forces in leading a UK Aid research project. The project seeks to find innovative, clean and modern alternatives to biomass fuels, such as charcoal and wood. UK Aid strives to develop efficient electric and gas cooking appliances as alternatives to charcoal and wood stoves.²⁸¹⁶

On 1 May 2019, during a visit to Nigeria, Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt announced funding of GBP 153 million to boost climate resilience in Ethiopia and help farmers across Africa and South Asia adapt to the effects of climate change.²⁸¹⁷

On 2 May 2019, the Committee on Climate Change published its policy advice, recommending a 2050 net zero emissions target. The Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy welcomed the 'Net Zero' report.²⁸¹⁸

On 9 May 2019, the Environmental Agency launched its long-term strategy to tackle flooding and coastal change. The strategy envisions for all infrastructure to become flood-resilient by 2050, and calls for the development of consistent standards for flood and coastal resilience across the country.²⁸¹⁹

On 15 May 2019, the government announced funding of GBP25 million to support 22 projects aimed at de-carbonising the transport sector. Business Secretary Greg Clark stated: "investments like these will also enable us to realise our commitment for all new cars and vans to be effectively zero emission by 2040."²⁸²⁰

²⁸¹⁴ UK aid to give clean energy boost to Kenya, GOV.UK (London) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 26 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-give-clean-energy-boost-to-kenya>

²⁸¹⁵ government funds bus industry to improve air quality, UK government (London) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-funds-bus-industry-to-improve-air-quality>

²⁸¹⁶ Loughborough University leads a UK aid programme to tackle climate change, GOV.UK (London) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 26 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/loughborough-university-leads-a-uk-aid-programme-to-tackle-climate-change>

²⁸¹⁷ Jeremy Hunt: Effects of climate change are fuelling conflict, UK to drive forward the global response, UK government (London) 1 May 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/jeremy-hunt-effects-of-climate-change-are-fuelling-conflict-uk-to-drive-forward-the-global-response>

²⁸¹⁸ Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy welcomes the Committee on Climate Change 'Net Zero' report, GOV.UK (London) 2 May 2019. Access Date: 30 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/secretary-of-state-for-business-energy-and-industrial-strategy-welcomes-the-committee-on-climate-change-net-zero-report>

²⁸¹⁹ Environment Agency Chair calls for new approach to flood and coastal resilience, UK government (London) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/environment-agency-chair-calls-for-new-approach-to-flood-and-coastal-resilience>

²⁸²⁰ government awards £25 million to fund zero-emission transport innovations, UK government (London) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-awards-25-million-to-fund-zero-emission-transport-innovations>

On 16 May 2019, the government published a new indicator framework for its 25 Year Environment Plan. This makes the UK one of the first countries to establish a comprehensive indicator list to monitor environmental progress.²⁸²¹

On 19 May 2019, the government announced GBP10 million in funding to plant over 130,000 urban trees. Environment Secretary Michael Gove announced that grants will be made available over the next two years to support green town and city spaces.²⁸²²

On 6 June 2019, the government launched a new campaign to inform drivers about greener fuels. Filling stations across the UK will start rolling out new labels, which will help educate drivers on the benefits of biofuels. Petrol, which contains up to 5% renewable ethanol, will be labelled 'E5.' Diesel, which contains up to 7% biodiesel, will be labelled as 'B7.'²⁸²³

The UK has taken ambitious climate action to implement the Paris Agreement, while also supporting adaptation activities by disbursing funds to support resilience measures both in the UK and abroad.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analysts: David Manocchio and Krishanu Ranwan

United States: N/A

On 1 June 2017, the United States withdrew from the Paris Agreement. Furthermore, the United States is not included in the text of this commitment made at the G7 Charlevoix summit. Therefore, no compliance score is assigned to this report, and U.S. performance will not be considered in the compliance average of this report.²⁸²⁴

On 2 August 2018, President Donald Trump rolled back fuel emission standards put in place by the Obama administration, which previously required light cars made after 2012 to become almost twice as energy-efficient by 2025, averaging nearly 54 miles per gallon. The Trump administration will halt mileage targets at 34 miles per gallon by 2021.²⁸²⁵

On 13 August 2018, President Trump signed the National Defense Authorization Act, which gives the U.S. Department of Defense USD717 billion to protect military infrastructure from the effects of rising sea levels and flooding.²⁸²⁶

On 21 August 2018, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed the Affordable Clean Energy Rule, which “establishes emission guidelines for states to use when developing plans to limit

²⁸²¹ First review of 25 Year Environment Plan published, UK government (London) 16 May 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/first-review-of-25-year-environment-plan-published>

²⁸²² government delivers new £10m fund to plant over 130,000 urban trees, GOV.UK (London) 19 May 2019. Access Date: 30 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-delivers-new-10m-fund-to-plant-over-130000-urban-trees>

²⁸²³ government launches new campaign to inform drivers about greener fuels, GOV.UK (London) 6 June 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-new-campaign-to-inform-drivers-about-greener-fuels>

²⁸²⁴ Paris Climate Agreement: World reacts as Trump pulls out of global accord. The Guardian (Washington D.C) 2 June 2017. Access Date: 8 September 2017. <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/live/2017/jun/01/donald-trump-paris-climate-agreement-live-news>

²⁸²⁵ Trump Administration Unveils Its Plan to Relax Car Pollution Rules, New York Times (New York) 2 August 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018. <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/08/02/climate/trump-auto-emissions-california.html>

²⁸²⁶ The Department of Defense wants to protect itself from climate change threats it's helping to spur, Grist (Seattle) 15 August 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://grist.org/article/the-department-of-defense-wants-to-protect-itself-from-climate-change-threats-its-helping-to-spur/>

GHGs [greenhouse gases] at their power plants.”²⁸²⁷ The plan reverses rules from the Obama Administration designed to curtail coal emissions of carbon dioxide and methane.²⁸²⁸

On 4 September 2018, along with Australia and Japan, the US submitted a proposal for Article 9.7 of the Paris Agreement. Article 9.7 refers to guidelines for middle and high-income states with regards to reporting climate finance resources they provide to low-income states. The proposed changes include removing specific rules in Article 9.7 that account for these contributions, which can mean that commercial loans can count towards a middle or high-income state’s climate finance obligation to low-income states.²⁸²⁹

On 18 September 2018, the EPA announced new rollbacks of Obama-era methane rules. The new rules reduce the requirement for oil and gas companies to monitor and report on methane emissions from wells and other operations.²⁸³⁰

On 11 October 2018, the EPA announced that it will disband the Particulate Matter Review Panel, which previously helped the agency determine what level of pollutants are safe to breathe.²⁸³¹

On 12 October 2018, in partnership with the World Bank Group and France, the government announced the establishment of a USD145-million Global Risk Financing Facility to help vulnerable countries manage the financial impact of climate change and natural hazard-induced shocks.²⁸³²

On 23 October 2018, EPA announced a USD555,000 grant to the Coalition for Sustainable Initiatives to support the replacement of old diesel-powered vehicles with new counterparts in the Great Lakes states, in an effort to reduce vehicular diesel emissions.²⁸³³ The coalition aims to educate society about sustainability and supports sustainable transportation initiatives.²⁸³⁴

On 24 October 2018, the Department of the Interior approved a plan that would allow companies to drill for oil near the Alaska coast. This is the first of such measures allowing oil and gas wells in

²⁸²⁷ News release: EPA Proposes Affordable Clean Energy (ACE) Rule, EPA (Washington D.C.) 21 August 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-proposes-affordable-clean-energy-ace-rule>

²⁸²⁸ EPA unveils new Trump plan gutting Obama power plant rules, Miranda Green, The Hill (Washington D.C) 21 August 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018. <https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/402798-epa-unveils-new-trump-plan-gutting-obama-power-plant-rules>

²⁸²⁹ Submission by Australia, Japan, and the United States: SBTSTA (13) Modalities for the accounting of financial resources provided and mobilized through public interventions in accordance with Article 9, paragraph 7, of the Paris Agreement, United Nations, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (New York City) 4 September 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/SBSTA48.2.CRP_i13.pdf

²⁸³⁰ Waste Prevention, Production Subject to Royalties, and Resource Conservation; Rescission or Revision of Certain Requirements, Bureau of Land Management (Washington D.C) 18 September 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018. https://www.blm.gov/sites/blm.gov/files/Final%20Rule%20-1004-AE53%20-%20Ready%20for%20OFR%209.18.18_508%20%281%29.pdf

²⁸³¹ E.P.A. to Disband a Key Scientific Review Panel on Air Pollution, The New York Times (New York City) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018. <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/10/11/climate/epa-disbands-pollution-science-panel.html>

²⁸³² World Bank Group, Germany, and UK Launch \$145 Million Financing Facility to Support Earlier Action on Climate and Disaster Shocks, World Bank (Washington) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 28 October 2018. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/10/12/world-bank-group-germany-and-uk-launch-145-million-financing-facility-to-support-earlier-action-on-climate-and-disaster-shocks>

²⁸³³ News release: EPA Announces \$555,000 to Coalition for Sustainable Initiatives to Reduce Diesel Pollution in Great Lakes States, EPA (Chicago) 23 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-555000-coalition-sustainable-initiatives-reduce-diesel-pollution-great>

²⁸³⁴ Our Mission, Coalition for Sustainable Initiatives (Glendale) 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <http://cfsi-inc.org/mission/>

Arctic federal waters. According to Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, “American energy dominance is good for the economy, the environment, and our national security.”²⁸³⁵

On 13 November 2018, EPA Acting Administrator Andrew Wheeler inaugurated the Cleaner Trucks Initiative, which aims to reduce the emissions of Nitrogen Oxide from heavy-duty trucks.²⁸³⁶

On 23 November 2018, the National Climate Assessment released its Fourth Climate Assessment documenting the long-term impacts of climate change on water, agriculture, human health, and the American economy.²⁸³⁷ President Trump stated that he does not believe in the findings laid out in the report.²⁸³⁸

On 6 December 2018, the Department of the Interior eased oil and gas drilling controls across 11 states. This follows the Trump administration’s plans to open more public lands to oil and gas production.²⁸³⁹

On 6 December 2018, the EPA announced new revisions to section 111(b) of the Clean Air Act, which revoked the EPA’s 2015 decision that carbon capture and storage technologies are the best way to reduce emissions from coal-fired power stations.²⁸⁴⁰ This new ruling weakens regulations of emissions produced by coal-fired plants.²⁸⁴¹

On 20 December 2018, EPA announced that funding of USD40 million will be available through the Diesel Emission Reduction Program. This funding will support projects that reduce emissions from older existing diesel engines across 10 EPA regions. The program aims to improve air quality from diesel engines in the transportation sector.²⁸⁴²

On 14 February 2019, the White House released a document outlining the formation of a panel to determine the extent to which climate change poses a risk to national security.²⁸⁴³

²⁸³⁵ The Trump administration just approved a plan to drill for oil in Alaska’s federal waters. It’s a major first. The Washington Post (Washington D.C.) 24 October 2018. Access Date: 22 December 2018. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/energy-environment/2018/10/24/trump-administration-just-approved-plan-drill-oil-alaskas-federal-waters-its-major-first/>

²⁸³⁶ News release: EPA Acting Administrator Wheeler Launches Cleaner Trucks Initiative, EPA (Washington D.C) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-acting-administrator-wheeler-launches-cleaner-trucks-initiative>

²⁸³⁷ Fourth Climate Assessment, National Climate Assessment (Washington D.C.) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://nca2018.globalchange.gov/>

²⁸³⁸ Trump on own administration’s climate report: ‘I don’t believe it’, The Guardian (Washington D.C.) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2018/nov/26/trump-national-climate-assessment-dont-believe>

²⁸³⁹ US to ease oil drilling controls protecting imperiled bird, The Associated Press (Montana) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 22 December 2018. <https://www.apnews.com/abae2a70c394ab5afc449a1489a2fd6>

²⁸⁴⁰ News release: EPA Proposes 111(b) Revisions to Advance Clean Energy Technology, EPA (Washington D.C) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-proposes-111b-revisions-advance-clean-energy-technology>

²⁸⁴¹ Trump EPA moves to kill Obama’s clean-air rule to encourage new coal plants, Yahoo News (New York City) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://ca.news.yahoo.com/trump-epa-kills-obamas-onerous-clean-air-rule-encourage-new-coal-plants-202319153.html>

²⁸⁴² News release: EPA Announces \$1.5 Million in Funding for Four-State Region to Reduce Emissions from Diesel Engines, EPA (Lenexa) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-15-million-funding-four-state-region-reduce-emissions-diesel-engines>

²⁸⁴³ White House readies panel to question security risks of climate, Reuters (Washington D.C.) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trump-climatechange/white-house-readies-panel-to-question-security-risks-of-climate-idUSKCN1Q92AR>

On 15 February 2019, the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2019 enacted the remaining United States Federal Budget for 2019, which includes funding of USD776 million for national environmental goals, USD 140million for the Global Environment Facility, USD1.3 billion for multilateral institutions such as World Bank that are key providers of climate finance, and US29 million to support developing nations in eliminating ozone-depleting substances as part of the Montreal Protocol Multilateral Fund. No funding was allocated to the Green Climate Fund, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change or the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.²⁸⁴⁴

On 6 March 2019, EPA released the annual Automotive Trends Report, which details the performance of vehicles and manufacturers in meeting EPA greenhouse gas emissions standards. The report states that fuel economy has improved and auto manufacturers are complying with the EPA emissions standards.²⁸⁴⁵

On 15 March 2019, the Trump administration announced that it will dismantle the 2015 Sage Grouse Conservation Plans, which was negotiated by many stakeholders from industry to conservation groups. The new directive gives states more control over which natural habitats they can open for fossil fuel extraction.²⁸⁴⁶

On 29 March 2019, President Trump issued a new permit for the Keystone XL pipeline. The pipeline will carry crude oil from the oil sands of western Canada to refineries on the U.S. Gulf Coast. Approval was initially blocked due to the government not carrying out sufficient environmental due diligence.²⁸⁴⁷

On 9 April 2019, President Trump signed two executive orders speeding up the construction of oil and gas pipelines and limiting the tools states can use to block pipeline construction.²⁸⁴⁸

On 1 May 2019, EPA announced USD3.8 million in funding for clean diesel projects in Alaska and northwestern states. This funding is part of the EPA's Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) grants program.²⁸⁴⁹

On 2 May 2019, EPA awarded more than USD9.3 million to replace 473 old diesel school buses across various states and territories. The school bus fleets will receive rebates through DERA.²⁸⁵⁰

²⁸⁴⁴ US Climate Finance Improves with 2019 Budget, But There's Still a Long Way to Go, World Resources Institute (Washington D.C.) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.wri.org/blog/2019/02/us-climate-finance-improves-2019-budget-theres-still-long-way-go>

²⁸⁴⁵ News release: Fuel Economy Reaches New Record, Manufacturers Meet Greenhouse Gas Standards, EPA Report Shows, EPA (Washington D.C.) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/fuel-economy-reaches-new-record-manufacturers-meet-greenhouse-gas-standards-epa-2>

²⁸⁴⁶ Sage-grouse conservation plan amendments supported by affected states' governors, US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (Washington, DC) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019. <https://www.blm.gov/press-release/sage-grouse-conservation-plan-amendments-supported-affected-states-governors>

²⁸⁴⁷ Trump tries fresh approach with long-delayed Keystone XL pipeline, Reuters News (Washington, DC) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019. <https://ca.reuters.com/article/businessNews/idCAKCN1RA2DG-OCABS>

²⁸⁴⁸ Trump Signs Orders to Speed Up Oil and Gas Pipeline Construction, The New York Times (New York) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/10/business/energy-environment/trump-oil-gas-pipelines.html>

²⁸⁴⁹ News release: EPA provides \$3.8 million to Alaska and NW states and partners for diesel pollution reduction efforts, EPA (Seattle) 1 May 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-provides-38-million-alaska-and-nw-states-and-partners-diesel-pollution-reduction>

²⁸⁵⁰ News release: EPA Awards Over \$9.3 Million to Clean Up School Buses, EPA (San Juan) 2 May 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-over-93-million-clean-school-buses-9>

On 4 June 2019, EPA Acting Administrator Andrew Wheeler amended the emergency release notification regulations under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act. This amendment states that emissions from farm animal waste are not required to be reported under the act.²⁸⁵¹

On 8 June 2019, the White House prevented a staff member of a State Department intelligence agency from issuing a written testimony that suggested the catastrophic nature and national security consequences of anthropogenic climate change.²⁸⁵²

Since the United States is not included in the text of this commitment made at the G7 Charlevoix summit, no compliance score is assigned to this report.

Analyst: Vibbor Robotgi

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to reaffirm its strong commitment to implement the Paris Agreement, through ambitious climate action; in particular through strengthening and financing resilience and reducing vulnerability.

On 14 June 2018, new EU targets for renewables, including self-consumption and biofuels, were agreed to by parliament and council negotiators. By 2030, renewables should provide at least 32 percent of the EU's gross final consumption, with a clause for revising this target by 2023.²⁸⁵³

On 17 July 2018, China and the EU reaffirmed their commitment to the Paris Agreement in a joint statement after the 20th EU-China Summit held in Beijing. In support of 24th Conference of the Parties, the leaders reiterated the importance of addressing the impacts of climate change. The leaders of both parties confirmed that a major component of the EU-China 2020 Strategic Agenda for Cooperation will include aspects of climate change and components of the Paris Agreement.²⁸⁵⁴

On 17 July 2018, Europe's Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström stated that participation in the Paris Agreement was a prerequisite to striking trade deals with Europe.²⁸⁵⁵

On 26 September 2018, during the One Planet Summit, the EU launched the Joint Pacific Initiative for Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Resilience alongside France, Australia and New Zealand. The EUR21 million initiative received EUR10 million each from the EU and France, with the remaining EUR2 million provided by Australia and New Zealand. The aim of this initiative is to build an international coalition for climate action and biodiversity protection.²⁸⁵⁶

²⁸⁵¹ News release: What They Are Saying | EPA Adds Reporting Exemption Under EPCRA for Air Emissions from Animal Waste, EPA (Washington D.C.) 5 June 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/what-they-are-saying-epa-adds-reporting-exemption-under-epcra-air-emissions-animal>

²⁸⁵² Washington Post: White House blocked State Department agency from warning about climate change, CNN (Washington D.C.) 8 June 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://edition.cnn.com/2019/06/08/politics/state-department-climate-change-house/index.html>

²⁸⁵³ Energy: new target of 32% from renewables by 2030 agreed by MEPs and ministers, European Parliament (Brussels) 14 June 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2018. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20180614IPRO5810/energy-new-target-of-32-from-renewables-by-2030-agreed-by-meps-and-ministers>

²⁸⁵⁴ China, EU Reaffirm Strong Commitment to Paris Agreement, United Nations (New York) 17 July 2018. Access Date: 27 October 2018. <https://unfccc.int/news/china-eu-reaffirm-strong-commitment-to-paris-agreement>

²⁸⁵⁵ EU-Japan trade deal first to carry Paris climate clause, Climate Home News (London) 17 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018, <http://www.climatechangenews.com/contact-us/>

²⁸⁵⁶ Joint Communique on the Launch of the Joint Pacific Initiative for Biodiversity, Climate Change and Resilience, European Commission. 26 September 2018. Access Date: 3 November 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/launch-joint-pacific-initiative-biodiversity-climate-change-and-resilience_en

On 8 October 2018, Commissioners Miguel Arias Cañete and Carlos Moedas welcomed the UN special climate change report on the 1.5° Celsius global warming limit, commissioned by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Commissioners Arias Cañete and Moedas stated that “the EU has been at the forefront of addressing the root causes of climate change and strengthening a concerted global response to it in the framework of the Paris Agreement. Today’s report is a remarkable endeavor of scientists to inform policy-makers worldwide and society at large. EU-funded research provided indispensable input to this undertaking.”²⁸⁵⁷

On 9 October 2018, the Council of European Environment Ministers set a new goal for the reduction of automobile carbon dioxide emissions, advocating for the reduction of new vehicles’ emissions by 35 percent by 2030, in comparison to 2021.²⁸⁵⁸

On 18 October 2018, the Environment Committee of the European Parliament called for 20 percent of new heavy-duty vehicles to be zero or low-emissions by 2030. The committee also called for manufacturers to cut their carbon dioxide emissions by 35 percent and for 75 percent of urban buses to be emission-free by 2030. This proposal also calls upon manufacturers to ensure that zero and low-emission vehicles represent 20 percent of the market share of sales of new cars and vans by 2030 and 5 percent in 2025.²⁸⁵⁹

On 13 November 2018, the European Parliament approved four of eight legislative proposals on renewables and energy efficiency as a part of its Clean Energy for All Europeans package introduced in 2016. These new rules bring regulatory certainty and enable conditions for investments in these sectors.²⁸⁶⁰

On 23 November 2018, the EU announced funding of EUR8.05 million to support disaster and climate resilience in Central Asia under the Disaster Risk Management programme. An additional EUR3.9 million will fund the EU-Central Asia Enhanced Regional Cooperation on Environment, Climate Change and Water to improve the environment, climate change, and water policies at national levels in Central Asia.²⁸⁶¹

On 28 November 2018, the EU adopted the “A Clean Planet for All strategy” with a strategic long-term vision for a prosperous, modern, competitive and climate neutral economy by 2050. Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy Miguel Arias Cañete stated that “going climate neutral is necessary, possible and in Europe’s interest. It is necessary to meet the long-term temperature goals of the Paris Agreement. It is possible with current technologies and those close to deployment.

²⁸⁵⁷ Commissioners Miguel Arias Cañete and Carlos Moedas welcome the UN climate change report on 1.5° C global warming limit, European Commission Press Release Database (Brussels) 8 October 2018, Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-6043_en.htm

²⁸⁵⁸ CO2: a new European goal to ensure that new vehicles consume less fuel, Government of France (Paris) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 2 November 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/co2-a-new-european-goal-to-ensure-that-new-vehicles-consume-less-fuel>

²⁸⁵⁹ Environment Committee MEPs push for cleaner trucks and electric buses, European Parliament (Brussels) 18 October 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20181017IPR16396/environment-committee-meps-push-for-cleaner-trucks-and-electric-buses>

²⁸⁶⁰ Commission welcomes European Parliament adoption of key files of the Clean Energy for All Europeans package, European Commission (Brussels) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 22 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6383_en.htm

²⁸⁶¹ EU to promote sustainable development in Central Asia with €124 million, European Commission (Brussels) 23 November 2018. Access Date: 22 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6525_en.htm

And it is in Europe's interest to stop spending on fossil fuel imports and invest in meaningful improvements to the daily lives of all Europeans."²⁸⁶²

On 3 December 2018, Vice President of the European Union Maros Sefcovic reiterated at 24th Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change that the EU is set to achieve its targets according to the Paris Agreement. The EU is committed to investing 0.8 percent of its gross domestic product for climate change purposes. This is possible based on existing technological solutions, and will, in turn, boost the EU's growth by 2 percent.²⁸⁶³

On 3 December 2018, the EU reaffirmed at COP24 that it is in a new phase of implementing all key legislation related to climate change. It was confirmed that the EU Emissions Trading System has been modernised, and new targets cover all member states and sectors such as transportation and waste.²⁸⁶⁴

On 18 December 2019, the Commission concluded negotiations on the Clean Energy for All Europeans package. According to the Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy Miguel Arias Cañete, "the new rules will create more competition and will allow consumers to participate more actively in the market and play their part in the clean energy transition. I am particularly pleased that we agreed on a balanced approach to limit capacity mechanisms and reconcile security of supply with our climate objectives. Capacity mechanisms will not be used as a backdoor subsidy of high-polluting fossil fuels as that would go against our climate objectives."²⁸⁶⁵

On 8 January 2019, the European Commission approved further funding to support the production of electricity from renewable energy sources in Lithuania. Initiated in 2012, the scheme supports producers of electricity from renewable energy sources (including wind, solar, hydro, biomass and biogas) and will run until 2029 with an overall budget EUR1.24 million.²⁸⁶⁶

On 1 February 2019, the EU-Japan Trade Agreement came into force. The agreement set ambitious standards on sustainable development, and includes for the first time a specific commitment to the Paris Agreement. The agreement strengthens EU and Japan's commitments to sustainable development and climate change.²⁸⁶⁷

On 15 February 2019, the European Commission announced an investment of EUR116.1 million for projects under the LIFE programme for the Environment and Climate Action.²⁸⁶⁸ The funding will support projects in Austria, Bulgaria, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Portugal and

²⁸⁶² The Commission calls for a climate neutral Europe by 2050, European Commission (Brussels) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6543_en.htm

²⁸⁶³ Vice-President Šefčovič at the COP24 — EU Leaders Summit (Katowice) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_SPEECH-18-6646_en.htm

²⁸⁶⁴ UN climate conference in Katowice: EU aims for adoption of rules and guidelines for implementing Paris Agreement (Katowice) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/un-climate-conference-katowice-eu-aims-adoption-rules-and-guidelines-implementing-paris_en

²⁸⁶⁵ Commission welcomes political agreement on conclusion of the Clean Energy for All Europeans package, EU Commission Press Release (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 15 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6870_en.htm

²⁸⁶⁶ State aid: Commission approves support for production of electricity from renewable energy sources and for electro-intensive users in Lithuania, EU Commission Press Release (Brussels) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 15 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-242_en.htm

²⁸⁶⁷ EU-Japan trade agreement enters into force, EU Press Release (Brussels) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 16 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-785_en.htm

²⁸⁶⁸ EU invests € 116.1 million to improve the quality of life of Europeans, EU Commission Press Release (Brussels) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1128_en.htm

Slovenia.²⁸⁶⁹ These integrated projects will help member states comply with EU environmental legislation through coordination and scale.²⁸⁷⁰

On 18 February 2019, the European Commission announced new legislation targeting emissions from new trucks, which will be required to have 30% lower emissions in 2030 compared to 2019 levels. This legislation will support “Member States’ emission targets, incentivise innovation, promote clean mobility solutions, strengthen the competitiveness of EU industry and stimulate employment, while reducing fuel consumption costs for transport operators and contributing to better air quality.”²⁸⁷¹

On 25 February 2019, the European Commission approved investment and operational funding for four offshore wind farms in France. The Commission concluded that these projects will contribute to the climate goals of both France and the EU.²⁸⁷²

On 26 February 2019, the European Commission announced an investment programme of over EUR10 billion for low-carbon technologies. Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy Miguel Arias Cañete stated, “our objective is to keep building a modern, competitive and socially fair Paris-aligned economy for all Europeans. For this to happen, we will need deployment of clean innovative technologies on an industrial scale. This is why we are investing in bringing to the market highly innovative technologies in energy intensive industries, in carbon capture, storage and use, in the renewable energy sector and in energy storage. We are today unleashing technological solutions in all Member States and pressing the fast-forward button in our transition to a modern and climate-neutral society in Europe.”²⁸⁷³

On 20 March 2019, the Commission announced funding of EUR750 million in support of clean energy infrastructure. The projects must have “significant impact on at least two EU countries and must increase competitiveness, enhance the EU’s energy security and contribute to sustainable development and environmental protection.”²⁸⁷⁴

On 26 March 2019, the European Commission reiterated its support for the European Parliament’s adoption of new electricity market design proposals under the Clean Energy for All Europeans package. The new rules will help EU member states with their clean energy transition and decarbonize the EU economy by 2050.²⁸⁷⁵

²⁸⁶⁹ EU invests € 116.1 million to improve the quality of life of Europeans, EU Commission Press Release (Brussels) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1128_en.htm.

²⁸⁷⁰ EU invests € 116.1 million to improve the quality of life of Europeans, EU Commission Press Release (Brussels) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1128_en.htm.

²⁸⁷¹ The European Parliament and the Council today reached provisional agreement on a Regulation setting, for the first time in the EU, strict CO2 emission standards for trucks, EU Commission Press Release (Brussels) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 15 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1071_en.htm

²⁸⁷² State aid: Commission approves support for four floating demonstration offshore wind farms in France, EU Commission Press Release (Brussels) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 15 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1412_en.htm

²⁸⁷³ Towards a climate-neutral Europe: EU invests over €10bn in innovative clean technologies, EU Commission Press Release (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 15 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1381_en.htm

²⁸⁷⁴ Energy Union: €750 million in EU funding available for clean energy infrastructure, European Commission (Brussels) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/energy-union-eu-750-million-eu-funding-available-clean-energy-infrastructure-2019-mar-20_en

²⁸⁷⁵ Clean Energy for All Europeans: Commission welcomes European Parliament's adoption of new electricity market design proposals, European Commission (Brussels) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1836_en.htm

On 15 April 2019, the Council of the EU announced stricter emission standards for cars and light commercial vehicles. From 2030 onwards, it is expected that new cars will emit 37.5% less CO₂ and new vans will emit on average 31% less CO₂ compared to 2021 levels. Between 2025 and 2029, both cars and vans will be required to emit 15% less CO₂.²⁸⁷⁶

On 23 April 2019, under EU state aid rules, the European Commission announced funding of EUR385 million to support electricity production from renewable energy sources in Lithuania. The scheme will contribute to the EU's environmental objectives.²⁸⁷⁷

On 6 May 2019, the G7 Environment Ministers agreed on a communiqué and the Metz Charter on Biodiversity at the G7 Environment Ministers' Meeting.²⁸⁷⁸ A delegation from the EU was present and “discussed measures to tackle deforestation, plastic pollution and the degradation of coral reefs and try to form alliances between nations to act on them.”²⁸⁷⁹ The G7 environment ministers are “committed to the swift and effective implementation of the Paris Agreement [and] reaffirm its irreversibility as the essential multilateral framework to address climate change.”²⁸⁸⁰

On 29 May 2019, the EU Commission established the Breakthrough Energy Ventures Europe (BEV-E) in partnership with the European Investment Bank and Breakthrough Energy Ventures. This fund of EUR100 million will support innovative European companies and bring new clean energy technologies to the market. The first of its kind, the fund caters to the capital intensity and long development horizons that energy technologies need.²⁸⁸¹

On 3 June 2019, the EU Commission hosted a conference that brought high-level representatives and carbon market specialists together to exchange views on the rules, challenges and prospects of international carbon trading. This conference was hosted in the lead-up to COP25, set to take place in Chile in December 2019.²⁸⁸²

The EU has fully complied with its commitment to implement the Paris Agreement through ambitious climate action. Its financial contribution to the Joint Pacific Initiative for Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Resilience demonstrates its support for adaptation activities around the world.

Thus, the EU receives score of +1.

Analyst: Natasha Pirzada

²⁸⁷⁶ Stricter CO₂ emission standards for cars and vans signed off by the Council, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/04/15/stricter-co2-emission-standards-for-cars-and-vans-signed-off-by-the-council/>

²⁸⁷⁷ State aid: Commission approves €385 million support for production of electricity from renewable sources in Lithuania*, European Commission (Brussels) 23 April 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2230_en.htm

²⁸⁷⁸ G7 Environment Ministers Commit to Fight Biodiversity Loss, Tackle Climate Change, Inequalities, IISD SDG Knowledge Hub. 4 June 2019. Access Date: 12 June 2019. <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/g7-environment-ministers-commit-to-fight-biodiversity-loss-tackle-climate-change-inequalities/>

²⁸⁷⁹ G7 environment ministers meet to discuss climate crisis, *livemint*. 5 May 2019. Access Date: 12 June 2019. <https://www.livemint.com/news/world/g7-environment-ministers-meet-to-discuss-climate-crisis-1557077975554.html>

²⁸⁸⁰ G7 Environment Ministers Commit to Fight Biodiversity Loss, Tackle Climate Change, Inequalities, IISD SDG Knowledge Hub. 4 June 2019. Access Date: 12 June 2019. <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/g7-environment-ministers-commit-to-fight-biodiversity-loss-tackle-climate-change-inequalities/>

²⁸⁸¹ The European Commission, European Investment Bank and Breakthrough Energy Ventures establish a new €100 million fund to support clean energy investments, European Commission (Brussels) 29 May 2019. Access Date: 20 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2770_en.htm

²⁸⁸² High-level conference discusses way forward for international carbon market rules, European Commission (Brussels) 3 June 2019. Access Date: 21 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/high-level-conference-discusses-way-forward-international-carbon-market-rules_en

12. Climate Change: Insurance Risk

“We will explore broadening disaster risk insurance coverage, including through global and regional facilities, such as the InsuResilience Global Partnership, to extend high-quality insurance coverage to vulnerable developing countries and beneficiaries in need and to encourage new types of insurance products for emerging risks.”

Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities

Assessment

	Lack of Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France	-1		
Germany			+1
Italy	-1		
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States	-1		
European Union			+1
Average		0	

Background

A report by the International Panel on Climate Change states that “a changing climate leads to changes in the frequency, intensity, spatial extent, duration, and timing of extreme weather and climate events, and can result in unprecedented extreme weather and climate events.”²⁸⁸³ While it is key to mitigate and reduce the impacts of climate change, adaptation and resilience are also needed to respond to the effects of climate change.²⁸⁸⁴ This is particularly true for countries vulnerable to the effects of climate change, who will be disproportionately impacted by climate-induced risks of disaster.²⁸⁸⁵

When vulnerable countries face disasters, reactive management results in the diversion of developmental finance.²⁸⁸⁶ Disaster risk insurance prevents this by “strengthening disaster preparedness, rapid response, and recovery.”²⁸⁸⁷ An example of such global initiatives is the InsuResilience Global Partnership for Climate and Disaster Risk Finance and Insurance Solutions. This partnership was born out of the 2015 G7 Climate Risk Insurance Initiative launched at the Elmau Summit in 2015. The partnership includes G20 countries and V20 (Vulnerable 20) nations, among other partners of this initiative. Created with the objective to “increase resilience amongst the most poor and vulnerable people,” the InsuResilience Global Partnership works with inter-sectoral members in “civil society, international organizations, the private sector, and academia.”²⁸⁸⁸ An example of InsuResilience’s recent work is its response to Hurricane Irma and Maria. InsuResilience

²⁸⁸³ Special Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, IPCC (Geneva) 2012. Access Date: 4 July 2018. https://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/special-reports/srex/SREX_Full_Report.pdf.

²⁸⁸⁴ About, InsuResilience (Bonn) Access Date: 4 July 2018. <https://www.insuresilience.org/about/>.

²⁸⁸⁵ About, InsuResilience (Bonn) Access Date: 4 July 2018. <https://www.insuresilience.org/about/>.

²⁸⁸⁶ About, InsuResilience (Bonn) Access Date: 4 July 2018. <https://www.insuresilience.org/about/>.

²⁸⁸⁷ About, InsuResilience (Bonn) Access Date: 4 July 2018. <https://www.insuresilience.org/about/>.

²⁸⁸⁸ About the InsuResilience Global Partnership, InsuResilience Global Partnership. Access Date: 30 August 2018.

<https://www.insuresilience.org/about/>

worked with the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility to provide USD55 million to ten Caribbean countries to address the destruction resulting from Hurricane Irma and Maria.²⁸⁸⁹

At the G7 Elmau Summit in 2015, G7 members agreed to increase direct insurance coverage by 400 million people in the most vulnerable developing countries by 2020 through existing risk insurance facilities.²⁸⁹⁰ This Climate Risk Insurance Initiative was further articulated in an annex to the summit communiqué, which stated the overall objective of the measure — to “stimulate the creation of effective climate risk insurance solutions and markets and the use of insurance-related schemes for people and assets at risk in poor and vulnerable developing countries ... enabl[ing] climate change adaptation and contribut[ing] to enhancing economic growth, poverty reduction, and climate resilience.”²⁸⁹¹ The G7 Research Group measured compliance with the Elmau commitment to “ ... intensify ... support particularly for vulnerable countries’ own efforts to manage climate change related disaster risk.” The compliance report found an average compliance score of +0.63 or 81 percent.²⁸⁹²

At the G7 Ise Shima Summit in 2016, G7 members were “ready to further promote the relevant initiatives on climate risk insurance ... such as InsuResilience.”²⁸⁹³ However, there was no mention of climate risk insurance in the Taormina summit communiqué.

In June 2018, the G7 Charlevoix summit’s commitment to disaster risk insurance was articulated in the Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, which was also endorsed in the summit communiqué by all G7 members.^{2894,2895} This places disaster risk insurance as part of a broader G7 commitment to reduce vulnerability to climate change, recognizing that climate change plays a role in the economic, social and environmental well-being of the planet. This commitment at the Charlevoix summit builds on the previous commitment at Elmau by encouraging new types of insurance products, specifying high-quality insurance coverage, and by not limiting action to existing initiatives.²⁸⁹⁶

Commitment Features

At the G7 Charlevoix summit in June 2018, G7 leaders pledged to “explore broadening disaster risk insurance coverage, including through global and regional facilities, such as the InsuResilience Global Partnership, to extend high quality insurance coverage to vulnerable developing countries and beneficiaries in need and to encourage new types of insurance products for emerging risks.”

²⁸⁸⁹ InsuResilience to Provide the Poor with More Financial Protection Against Climate Risks, UNFCCC (Bonn) 14 November 2017. Access Date: 4 July 2018 <https://unfccc.int/news/insuresilience-to-provide-the-poor-with-more-financial-protection-against-climate-risks>.

²⁸⁹⁰ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, The G7 Research Group (Toronto) Access Date: 4 July 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

²⁸⁹¹ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, The G7 Research Group (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 4 July 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

²⁸⁹² 2015 Schloss Elmau G7 Summit Final Compliance Report, The G7 Research Group (Toronto) 23 May 2016. Access Date: 4 July 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2015compliance-final/2015-g7-compliance-final-160523.pdf>.

²⁸⁹³ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, The G7 Research Group (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 4 July 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>.

²⁸⁹⁴ Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Communities, The G7 Research Group (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 4 July 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html>.

²⁸⁹⁵ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, 9 June 2018. Access Date: 9 June 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

²⁸⁹⁶ Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Communities, The G7 Research Group (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 4 July 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html>.

In this commitment, “explore” is understood as “to investigate, study, or analyze,” which indicates a collective commitment among the G7 to examine and look into enhancing disaster risk insurance coverage. Rather than a commitment that promises specific resources or a target increase, this commitment should be understood as one of learning, inquiry, and detailed discussion.²⁸⁹⁷ Thus, this commitment does not bind G7 members to act to increase insurance coverage — it merely requires G7 members to take investigative efforts and demonstrate such explorative actions publicly, according to compliance assessment methodology.²⁸⁹⁸ Examples of such exploration can include but are not limited to: publishing reports, proposals, or recommendations; as well as participation or leadership in discussions about and/or the commitment of resources towards disaster risk-related insurance.

In the text of the commitment, “broadening” is defined as actions to widen or “expand to encompass more people or things.”²⁸⁹⁹ “Disaster risk insurance” is a form of disaster risk financing. According to the United Nations Development Programme, “disaster risk insurance schemes cover — against a premium — the costs incurred by the insured entity from extreme weather and natural disasters (such as earthquakes or floods). In the event of extreme weather and natural disasters, the insurer refunds a percentage of the costs incurred. Insurance schemes are widely used to increase the resilience of individuals, companies and public entities to external shocks and reduce their future expenditures in case of a disaster.”²⁹⁰⁰ Coverage is defined as “the proportion of a population needing an intervention who receives it. Coverage is influenced by supply (provision of services) and by demand from people in need of services.”²⁹⁰¹

The commitment states two goals in the G7’s exploration to broaden disaster risk insurance coverage. The first is to “extend high-quality coverage to vulnerable developing countries and beneficiaries in need” and the second is to “encourage new types of insurance products for emerging risks.” Any form of exploration in disaster risk-related insurance with the two aforementioned goals are considered for compliance.

The first part of the commitment sets the target audience of high-quality insurance coverage, namely vulnerable developing countries. Thus, actions that count toward compliance must have an explicit focus on aiding emerging economies and/or countries that are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Seeing that this commitment was made in the Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, intended “beneficiaries in need” of such disaster risk insurance coverage can and should include coastal communities and/or communities affected by marine health; or residents of developing countries and communities vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Notable examples of such “beneficiaries in need” include small island developing states.²⁹⁰²

The first part of this commitment is also qualified by the phrase “including through global and regional facilities.” “Including” expresses the G7’s collective intent that both facilities at a regional and global level must be engaged in this process of exploration. In other words, evidence of working

²⁸⁹⁷ Explore, English Oxford Living Dictionaries (Oxford) Access Date: 5 July 2018.
<https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/explore>

²⁸⁹⁸ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 30 August 2018.

²⁸⁹⁹ Broaden, English Oxford Living Dictionaries (Oxford) Access Date: 30 August 2018.
<https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/broaden>

²⁹⁰⁰ Disaster Risk Insurance, UNDP, Financing Solutions for Sustainable Development (New York) Access Date: 30 August 2018. <http://www.undp.org/content/sdfinance/en/home/solutions/disaster-risk-insurance.html>

²⁹⁰¹ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 30 August 2018.

²⁹⁰² Small Island Developing States, Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform (New York) Access Date: 30 August 2018. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sids/list>

with both types of facilities is necessary to score compliance in this section of the commitment. The InsuResilience Global Partnership is referenced in the commitment as an example of disaster risk financing. It is noteworthy that the text of the commitment, “such as,” implies that the use of InsuResilience Global Partnership is encouraged but not mandatory to achieve full compliance. Other examples of global disaster risk financing institutions aside from InsuResilience include the Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance Program operated by the World Bank; or the High-Level Advisory Board on the Financial Management of Catastrophic Risks and the Insurance and Private Pensions Committee at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.^{2903,2904}

Thus, compliance in the first part of this commitment means that G7 members ought to demonstrate investigation in extending disaster risk insurance coverage to those most affected by climate change-induced developmental challenges, explicitly through both global and regional partners. Because the text of the commitment explicitly references the InsuResilience Global Partnership, member compliance with this part of the commitment should prioritize its involvement in this partnership. As referenced by the wording of the commitment, InsuResilience Global Partnership qualifies as both a global and regional facility, and would thus qualify the threshold for compliance with this portion of the commitment.

The second part of the commitment refers to encouraging new insurance products of emerging risks. Thus, G7 members must act to support the development of innovative insurance schemes, especially insurance products that target the changing risks facing coastal or vulnerable communities. It is important to note that “encourage” “does not imply strong measurability in the commitment. It should be taken as a soft commitment where no concrete action is to be taken.”²⁹⁰⁵ “Emerging risks” are defined as “risks that are known to some degree but are not likely to materialize or have an impact for several years; ... [and] often very difficult to quantify but will have far-reaching impacts.”²⁹⁰⁶ Therefore, actions that count towards this part of the commitment include but are not limited to working with private sector actors to offer new insurance products, consulting developing countries about their insurance needs, and investing in research and learning practices in the field of disaster risk insurance coverage etc.

Furthermore, the commitment specifies the role of both global and regional facilities in exploring disaster risk insurance coverage. Based on the text of the commitment, the phrase “global and regional facilities” also qualifies this second part of the commitment. Thus, the commitment intends for G7 members to fulfill both global and regional-level participation in both the former and latter portions of the commitment, and to score full compliance.

In summary, the commitment outlines two instruments and two outcomes for G7 action:

1. Explore broadening disaster risk insurance coverage through global [insurance] facilities such as the InsuResilience Global Partnership to extend high-quality insurance coverage to vulnerable developing countries and beneficiaries in need

²⁹⁰³ Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance (DRFI) Program, The World Bank (Washington) 2 February 2018. Access Date: 30 August 2018. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/disaster-risk-financing-and-insurance-program>

²⁹⁰⁴ Disaster Risk Financing, OECD (Paris) Access Date: 30 August 2018. <http://www.oecd.org/finance/insurance/disaster-risk-financing.htm>

²⁹⁰⁵ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 30 August 2018.

²⁹⁰⁶ Taking a Strategic Approach to Emerging Risks, NC State Poole College of Management (Raleigh) 22 April 2016. Access Date: 30 August 2018. <https://erm.ncsu.edu/library/article/taking-a-strategic-approach-to-emerging-risks>

2. Explore broadening disaster risk insurance coverage through regional [insurance] facilities such as the InsuResilience Global Partnership to extend high-quality insurance coverage to vulnerable developing countries and beneficiaries in need
3. Explore broadening disaster risk insurance coverage through global [insurance] facilities such as the InsuResilience Global Partnership to encourage new types of insurance products for emerging risks
4. Explore broadening disaster risk insurance coverage through regional [insurance] facilities such as the InsuResilience Global Partnership to encourage new types of insurance products for emerging risks

For a full compliance score of +1, the G7 member must explore most of the four dimensions of this commitment, defined as three or more out of four of the aforementioned combinations of instruments and outcomes. It is key to note that the G7 member does not have to concretely act to deliver disaster risk insurance — explorative and investigative gestures are the foundation of this commitment.

For partial compliance, the G7 member will receive a score of 0 for taking actions in two out of the four aforementioned areas. Alternatively, if the G7 member has demonstrated concrete exploration in two areas, but actions weaker than merited by the term “exploration” in a third area (such as the verbal declaration of support in the absence of policy action), such scenarios would also be scored partial compliance, or 0.

Action in less than two of the aforementioned four areas will lead to a non-compliance score of -1, which means the G7 member failed to comply with this commitment.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member explores broadening disaster risk insurance coverage in two or less of the four areas of the commitment: 1) extend high-quality insurance coverage to vulnerable developing countries and beneficiaries in need via global facilities, 2) extend high-quality insurance coverage to vulnerable developing countries and beneficiaries in need via regional facilities, 3) encourage new types of insurance products for emerging risks via global facilities, and 4) encourage new types of insurance products for emerging risks via regional facilities.
0	The G7 member explores broadening disaster risk insurance coverage in two of the four aforementioned areas of the commitment.
+1	The G7 member explores broadening disaster risk insurance coverage in three or more of the four aforementioned areas of the commitment.

*Authors: Alexandra Witt and Angela Min Yi Hou
Compliance Director: Tacye Hong
Lead Analyst: Clara Cesira Geddes*

Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to explore broadening disaster risk insurance coverage, including through global and regional facilities, such as the InsuResilience Global Partnership, to extend high-quality insurance coverage to vulnerable developing countries and beneficiaries in need and to encourage new types of insurance products for emerging risks.

On 10 June 2018, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced that Canada will invest CAD 100 million in supporting the expansion of Climate Risk Insurance coverage for countries vulnerable to the effects of climate change, including small island developing states in the Caribbean.²⁹⁰⁷

On 5 September 2018, International Development Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau announced that the government will allocate CAD 9.25 million over the next three years to rebuild infrastructure such as primary schools in Dominica and pay the next two years of Dominica's Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility premium.²⁹⁰⁸ This will be implemented with the Caribbean Development Bank to strengthen Dominica's disaster recovery and resilience.²⁹⁰⁹

On 26 November 2018, Minister Bibeau announced that 70 percent of the CAD100 million pledge for disaster risk insurance in vulnerable countries from the 2018 G7 summit has been allocated to Caribbean island territories.²⁹¹⁰ Moreover, she announced an additional CAD20 million for the Canada-Caribbean Resilience Facility at the World Bank.²⁹¹¹ The federal government is working with Caribbean island territories to support the development of disaster risk facilities in the Caribbean.²⁹¹²

On 6 May 2019, at the G7 Environment Ministers' Meeting, Canada proposed the Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA), an initiative joined by all G7 members.²⁹¹³ This initiative aims to pioneer ground-breaking investments to regenerate coastal natural capital, build resilience in climate-vulnerable regions and communities, and foster multisector cooperation between stakeholders to unlock greater private investment in climate resilience.

The federal government has partially complied with this commitment. With regards to the first half of this commitment, Canada has explored broadening disaster risk insurance coverage through regional and international instruments, such as the Caribbean Development Bank and the World Bank, to extend high-quality insurance coverage to vulnerable developing countries and beneficiaries

²⁹⁰⁷ Working Together on Climate Change, Oceans, and Clean Energy, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 10 June 2018. Access Date: 27 June 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/06/10/working-together-climate-change-oceans-and-clean-energy>

²⁹⁰⁸ Canada Announces New Initiatives to Support Post-hurricane Reconstruction and Gender Equality in Caribbean Region, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 5 September 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/09/canada-announces-new-initiatives-to-support-post-hurricane-reconstruction-and-gender-equality-in-caribbean-region.html>.

²⁹⁰⁹ Canada, Backgrounder — Canada Announces New Initiatives to Support Post-hurricane Reconstruction and Gender Equality in Caribbean Region, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 5 September 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/09/backgrounder---canada-announces-support-for-disaster-recovery-and-gender-equality-in-the-caribbean-region.html>.

²⁹¹⁰ Address by Minister Bibeau to the Building Resilience to Disasters and Climate Change in the Caribbean Conference, Global Affairs Canada, (Ottawa) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/12/address-by-minister-bibeau-to-the-building-resilience-to-disasters-and-climate-change-in-the-caribbean-conference.html?fbclid=IwAR1RnDyaUpCOWkj2Xjn2FZ3H2UAEurCICyYz1iZblJsWhbffAcioKGJv9A8>.

²⁹¹¹ Address by Minister Bibeau to the Building Resilience to Disasters and Climate Change in the Caribbean Conference, Global Affairs Canada, (Ottawa) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/12/address-by-minister-bibeau-to-the-building-resilience-to-disasters-and-climate-change-in-the-caribbean-conference.html?fbclid=IwAR1RnDyaUpCOWkj2Xjn2FZ3H2UAEurCICyYz1iZblJsWhbffAcioKGJv9A8>.

²⁹¹² Address by Minister Bibeau to the Building Resilience to Disasters and Climate Change in the Caribbean Conference, Global Affairs Canada, (Ottawa) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/12/address-by-minister-bibeau-to-the-building-resilience-to-disasters-and-climate-change-in-the-caribbean-conference.html?fbclid=IwAR1RnDyaUpCOWkj2Xjn2FZ3H2UAEurCICyYz1iZblJsWhbffAcioKGJv9A8>.

²⁹¹³ G7 Environment Ministers Meeting: What are the Outcomes? G7 France. 7 May 2019. Access Date: 20 August 2019. <https://www.elysee.fr/es/g7/2019/05/07/g7-environment-ministers-meeting-what-are-the-outcomes.en>.

in need. However, Canada has not encouraged new types of insurance products on a global or regional scale, covering two dimensions of the four-part commitment.

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Abdullahi Abdi

France: -1

France has failed to comply with its commitment to explore broadening disaster risk insurance coverage, including through global and regional facilities, such as the InsuResilience Global Partnership, to extend high-quality insurance coverage to vulnerable developing countries and beneficiaries in need and to encourage new types of insurance products for emerging risks.

On 28 June 2018, Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition Nicolas Hulot recognized islands that are at risk of flooding due to rising sea levels and advocated for setting more ambitious targets regarding climate change.²⁹¹⁴

On 25 September 2018, in his speech at the United Nations General Assembly, President Emmanuel Macron acknowledged the importance of helping those living in regions most affected by climate change.²⁹¹⁵

On 26 September 2018, at the One Planet Summit, France launched the Joint Pacific Initiative for Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Resilience, alongside the European Union, Australia, and New Zealand. The initiative focuses on supporting Pacific Island countries and territories in the protection, restoration, and enhancement of biodiversity, in order to reinforce the resilience of their socio-ecological systems and facilitate their adaptation to the impacts of climate change.²⁹¹⁶ France allocated EUR10 million to this initiative, which will also subsidize projects relating to the environment, ocean governance, and climate change adaptation.²⁹¹⁷

On 29 October 2018, France and China launched a joint Earth Observation satellite. The goals of the China-France Oceanography satellite include global marine monitoring, risk reduction, disaster management, and recording the effects of climate change.²⁹¹⁸ Through the China-France Oceanography satellite and Joint Pacific Initiative for Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Resilience, the government emphasized its commitment to mitigating the effects of climate change by encouraging research in emerging risks and assisting Pacific Island countries to build resilience and adjust to the effects of climate change.

²⁹¹⁴ The Environment: France Takes the Lead in Furthering Europe's Ambitions, Government of France (Paris) 28 June 2018. Access Date: 13 October 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/the-environment-france-takes-the-lead-in-furthering-europe-s-ambitions>

²⁹¹⁵ United Nations General Assembly: Speech by President Emmanuel Macron, Government of France Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 25 September 2018. Access Date: 13 October 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/events/united-nations-general-assembly-sessions/unga-s-73rd-session/article/united-nations-general-assembly-speech-by-president-emmanuel-macron-25-09-18>

²⁹¹⁶ Launch of the joint Pacific Initiative for Biodiversity, Climate Change and Resilience, European Commission (New York) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018.

²⁹¹⁷ Governments Launch Initiative on Biodiversity, Resilience and Climate Change, International Institute of Sustainable Development (New York) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <http://sdg.iisd.org/news/governments-launch-initiative-on-biodiversity-resilience-and-climate-change/>

²⁹¹⁸ China-France Oceanography Satellite to Assist with Disaster Management, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. 7 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/china-france-oceanography-satellite-assist-disaster-management>

On 6 May 2019, at the G7 Environment Ministers' Meeting, France joined the Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA), an initiative proposed by the Canadian delegation.²⁹¹⁹ This initiative aims to pioneer ground-breaking investments to regenerate coastal natural capital, build resilience in climate-vulnerable regions and communities, and foster multisector cooperation between stakeholders to unlock greater private investment in climate resilience.

Although France is a part of the InsuResilience Global Partnership, France has not taken any steps specifically pertaining to climate insurance. It has not encouraged the development of new insurance products or promoted insurance against climate disasters in vulnerable countries. Therefore, France has not fulfilled any of the four dimensions of this commitment.

Thus, France receives a score of -1.

Analyst: Areej Malik

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to explore broadening disaster risk insurance coverage, including through global and regional facilities, such as the InsuResilience Global Partnership, to extend high-quality insurance coverage to vulnerable developing countries and beneficiaries in need and to encourage new types of insurance products for emerging risks.

On 9 July 2018, State Secretary of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development Martin Jaeger delivered a statement at the Global Insurance Forum in Berlin, where he announced Germany's goal to insure 400 million more poor people against climate change by 2020.²⁹²⁰ He also encouraged the insurance industry to work with the public sector to "develop insurance products that match client needs" and seek new markets and new products.²⁹²¹

In August 2018, the Munich Climate Change Insurance Initiative published a discussion paper entitled "Climate Risk Insurance: Transparency, Participation, and Accountability: An overview assessment of regional risk pools," commissioned by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and funded by the InsuResilience. The paper explores and offers recommendations to key issues faced by three sovereign risk pools: the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility, the Pacific Catastrophe Risk Assessment and Financing Initiative, and the African Risk Capacity.²⁹²²

On 19 September 2018, Germany was the first donor to the World Food Programme (WFP) and the African Risk Capacity's new pilot climate risk financing mechanism, ARC Replica. The BMZ has committed EUR10 million to the WFP via public development bank KfW Bankengruppe throughout

²⁹¹⁹ G7 Environment Ministers Meeting: What are the Outcomes? G7 France. 7 May 2019. Access Date: 20 August 2019. <https://www.elysee.fr/es/g7/2019/05/07/g7-environment-ministers-meeting-what-are-the-outcomes.en>.

²⁹²⁰ Climate risk insurance: PPP the strategy for the future, says German official, Asia Insurance Review (Berlin) 10 July 2018. Access Date: 14 September 2018. http://www3.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-Article/id/43444/Type/eDaily/Climate-risk-insurance-PPP-the-strategy-for-the-future-says-German-official?utm_source=News&utm_medium=Google&utm_campaign=GoogleNews

²⁹²¹ Climate risk insurance: PPP the strategy for the future, says German official, Asia Insurance Review (Berlin) 10 July 2018. Access Date: 14 September 2018. http://www3.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-Article/id/43444/Type/eDaily/Climate-risk-insurance-PPP-the-strategy-for-the-future-says-German-official?utm_source=News&utm_medium=Google&utm_campaign=GoogleNews

²⁹²² Climate Risk Insurance: Transparency, Participation and Accountability: An overview assessment of regional risk pools, Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (Munich) August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://www.climate-insurance.org/fileadmin/mcii/pdf/DiscussionPaperSeries/MCII_DiscussionPaper_Vol2_2018_CRI_Transparency_Participation_Accountability_FINAL.pdf

the year of 2019.²⁹²³ ARC Replica is a product designed to expand climate risk insurance coverage and improve the quality of emergency humanitarian response in African countries that are prone to climate risks.²⁹²⁴

On 12 October 2018, in partnership with the government of the United Kingdom and the World Bank Group, Germany announced a USD145 million Global Risk Financing Facility (GRiF) to strengthen the financial resilience of countries vulnerable to climate and disaster risks. Over the next five years, the GRiF will provide financing for national disaster response mechanisms and programs, better allowing governments to implement effective insurance solutions.²⁹²⁵

On 8 November 2018, Germany committed EUR5 million to support the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Insurance.²⁹²⁶ This fund aims to help the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction achieve its mandate, which includes promoting mechanisms for disaster risk transfer and insurance for public and private investments.²⁹²⁷

On 11 December 2018, the Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (MCII) reported at the 24th Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP24) that along with the Vulnerable Twenty (V20), MCII discussed the potential for “solutions that allow vulnerable countries to ensure greater financial protection, like insurance, and de-risk investments.”²⁹²⁸ MCII is a technical partner and member of the InsuResilience Partnership, and it supports the “development of V20-led initiatives for enhanced financial protection and investments through the Sustainable Insurance Facility (SIF) and the Accelerated Financing Mechanisms for Maximal Resilience and 100% Renewable Energy.”²⁹²⁹

On 18 December 2018, the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development supported a two-day workshop in Bangkok, Thailand to promote “disaster risk transfer, insurance, risk-sharing and retention” in the Asia Pacific region.²⁹³⁰

In January 2019, the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF) Segregated Portfolio Company announced that the government of Panama has joined the facility and purchased

²⁹²³ Climate risk insurance: Germany supports new initiative, World Food Programme (Rome) 19 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/climate-risk-insurance-germany-supports-new-initiative>

²⁹²⁴ ARC Replica, World Food Programme February 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000063792/download/?_ga=2.21551483.1331056199.1540157252-838637024.1538527934

²⁹²⁵ World Bank Group, Germany, and UK launch \$145 million facility to support earlier action on climate and disaster shocks, The World Bank (Washington) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://www.insuresilience.org/world-bank-group-germany-and-uk-launch-145-million-financing-facility-to-support-earlier-action-on-climate-and-disaster-shocks/>

²⁹²⁶ Germany gives € 5 million for Sendai Framework implementation, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (Geneva) 6 November 2018. Access Date: 20 December 2018. <https://www.unisdr.org/archive/61797>

²⁹²⁷ Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 — 2030, United Nations. Access Date: 20 December 2018. https://www.preventionweb.net/files/43291_sendaiframeworkfordrren.pdf

²⁹²⁸ At COP24, right before CVF press event, the V20 demands a broad climate and disaster risk financing and insurance agenda, Climate Insurance (Katowice) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 17 June 2019. <http://www.climate-insurance.org/unfccc/mcii-at-cop24/mcii-press-briefing/>

²⁹²⁹ At COP24, right before CVF press event, the V20 demands a broad climate and disaster risk financing and insurance agenda, Climate Insurance (Katowice) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 17 June 2019. <http://www.climate-insurance.org/unfccc/mcii-at-cop24/mcii-press-briefing/>

²⁹³⁰ Planning for a Resilient Future in Asia and the Pacific, UNDRR (Bangkok) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 18 June 2019. <https://www.unisdr.org/archive/62695>

parametric insurance for rainfall.²⁹³¹ This coincides with the EUR15 million support from the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development in December 2018 to support the expansion of CCRIF to Central America.²⁹³²

On 6 May 2019, at the G7 Environment Ministers' Meeting, Germany joined the Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA), an initiative proposed by the Canadian delegation.²⁹³³ This initiative aims to pioneer ground-breaking investments to regenerate coastal natural capital, build resilience in climate-vulnerable regions and communities, and foster multisector cooperation between stakeholders to unlock greater private investment in climate resilience.

On 27 May 2019, InsuResilience Solutions Fund, supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, opened its second call for proposals for the development of climate risk insurance products.²⁹³⁴ The fund offered up to EUR2.5 million to partnerships, between “user” (e.g., national or regional government bodies, non-governmental organizations, local insurers) and “implementing partner and potential risk taker” (e.g., reinsurance companies) with a concept for a new climate insurance product.²⁹³⁵

Germany continues to support and develop improved risk insurance mechanisms for climate-related disasters in vulnerable countries. It has provided support for the development and implementation of new insurance products and worked to broaden the discussion by publishing new research. Germany has fulfilled both the regional and global-level requirements of both parts of the commitment, thus complying with all four dimensions of this commitment.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Emma Bulmer and Stephanie Pak

Italy: -1

Italy has failed to comply with its commitment to exploring broadening disaster risk insurance coverage, including through global and regional facilities, such as the InsuResilience Global Partnership, to extend high-quality insurance coverage to vulnerable developing countries and beneficiaries in need and to encourage new types of insurance products for emerging risks.

On 21-23 November 2018, Italy hosted 55 European countries for the 2018 European Forum on Disaster Risk Reduction. Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte highlighted the focus on protecting development and growth from disasters associated with climate change.²⁹³⁶ On 22 November 2018, a plenary session entitled “Making the economic case for disaster risk reduction,” led by the Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection and the Italian Banking, Insurance and Finance Federation, addressed the role of the insurance sector as an “absorber of risk and provider of risk

²⁹³¹ CCRIF expands membership in Central America – Welcomes Panama, InsuResilience (Grand Cayman) January 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.insuresilience.org/ccrif-expands-membership-in-central-america-welcomes-panama/>

²⁹³² CCRIF expands membership in Central America – Welcomes Panama, InsuResilience (Grand Cayman) January 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.insuresilience.org/ccrif-expands-membership-in-central-america-welcomes-panama/>

²⁹³³ G7 Environment Ministers Meeting: What are the Outcomes? G7 France. 7 May 2019. Access Date: 20 August 2019. <https://www.elysee.fr/es/g7/2019/05/07/g7-environment-ministers-meeting-what-are-the-outcomes.en>

²⁹³⁴ InsuResilience Solutions Fund – 2nd Call for Proposals is Open!, InsuResilience. 27 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.insuresilience.org/insuresilience-solutions-fund-2nd-call-for-proposals-is-open/>

²⁹³⁵ InsuResilience Solutions Fund – 2nd Call for Proposals is Open!, InsuResilience. 27 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.insuresilience.org/insuresilience-solutions-fund-2nd-call-for-proposals-is-open/>

²⁹³⁶ Italy to Host European Discussions on Disaster Losses, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (Geneva, Brussels) 4 October 2018. Access Date: 20 December 2018. <https://www.unisdr.org/archive/61027>

expertise.”^{2937,2938} The Chair’s Communiqué emphasized that the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, which includes promoting disaster risk insurance, should be accelerated with a deadline of 2020.^{2939,2940} It also emphasized the crucial role of financial innovation, although without any mention of the exploration of new insurance-related developments.²⁹⁴¹ The Declaration of Stakeholders also mentioned promoting and exploring investments in disaster resilience.²⁹⁴²

On 6 May 2019, at the G7 Environment Ministers’ Meeting, Italy joined the Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA), an initiative proposed by the Canadian delegation.²⁹⁴³ This initiative aims to pioneer ground-breaking investments to regenerate coastal natural capital, build resilience in climate-vulnerable regions and communities, and foster multisector cooperation between stakeholders to unlock greater private investment in climate resilience.

Within the compliance period, Italy has not taken any steps to extend insurance coverage to vulnerable developing countries or further explore insurance products at the regional or global level. Therefore, Italy has complied with less than two of the four dimensions of this specific commitment.

Thus, Italy receives a score of –1.

Analysts: Emma Bulmer and Stephanie Pak

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to explore broadening disaster risk insurance coverage, including through global and regional facilities, such as the InsuResilience Global Partnership, to extend high-quality insurance coverage to vulnerable developing countries and beneficiaries in need and to encourage new types of insurance products for emerging risks.

On 21-22 June 2018, Japan hosted the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation Workshop on Financial Management of Public Assets against Disaster Risks, leading the discussion about insuring public assets against climate and disaster risks. Specifically, Japan emphasized the importance of collecting data to develop efficient insurance products.²⁹⁴⁴

²⁹³⁷ 2018 European Forum on Disaster Risk Reduction on 21 – 23 November, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (Rome) Access Date: 20 December 2018. <https://www.unisdr.org/conference/2018/efdr>

²⁹³⁸ Conference Handbook, European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction (Rome) 21 November 2018. Access Date: 20 December 2018. https://www.preventionweb.net/files/57664_handbookprogrammelowdef.pdf

²⁹³⁹ Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 – 2030, United Nations. Access Date: 20 December 2018. https://www.preventionweb.net/files/43291_sendaiframeworkfordrren.pdf

²⁹⁴⁰ High-Level Communiqué of the Chair Protecting Europe’s citizens: the social contract on disaster resilience, European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction Conference (Rome) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 20 December 2018. https://www.preventionweb.net/files/57664_hlcommuniquefinalconverted.pdf

²⁹⁴¹ High-Level Communiqué of the Chair Protecting Europe’s citizens: the social contract on disaster resilience, European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction Conference (Rome) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 20 December 2018. https://www.preventionweb.net/files/57664_hlcommuniquefinalconverted.pdf

²⁹⁴² High-Level Communiqué of the Chair Protecting Europe’s citizens: the social contract on disaster resilience, European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction Conference (Rome) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 20 December 2018. https://www.preventionweb.net/files/57664_hlcommuniquefinalconverted.pdf

²⁹⁴³ G7 Environment Ministers Meeting: What are the Outcomes? G7 France. 7 May 2019. Access Date: 20 August 2019. <https://www.elysee.fr/es/g7/2019/05/07/g7-environment-ministers-meeting-what-are-the-outcomes.en>

²⁹⁴⁴ APEC Workshop on Financial Management of Public Assets against Disaster Risks, The World Bank (Washington DC) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 28 August 2018. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2018/06/21/apec-workshop-on-financial-management-of-public-assets-against-disaster-risks-drmhubtokyo>

On 4 August 2018, during the 19th meeting of the foreign affairs ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Plus Three (ASEAN+3) in Singapore, Foreign Minister Taro Kono recognized the importance of disaster risk financial products after the flooding disasters in Japan this past July. The government will explore building disaster resilience in Asian countries. Minister Kono reiterated Japan's support for the Southeast Asia Disaster Risk Insurance Facility's launch of a catastrophe risk insurance pool for Laos and Myanmar in 2019.²⁹⁴⁵ This reiterates a commitment made at the 21st ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers' Meeting in Manila, Philippines, on 4 May 2018.²⁹⁴⁶

On 18 December 2018, alongside the Finance Ministries of Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Singapore, Japan signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the establishment of the Southeast Asia Disaster Risk Insurance Facility.²⁹⁴⁷ It will be Asia's first regional facility to provide disaster risk insurance and it will be supported by the World Bank.²⁹⁴⁸

On 17 January 2019, the Japanese Ministry of Finance and the World Bank co-organized a technical briefing for the Japanese insurance industry with regards to the Southeast Asia Disaster Risk Insurance Facility.²⁹⁴⁹ The meeting aimed to gather expertise on possible insurance products and the challenges of creating innovative disaster risk insurance in countries in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).²⁹⁵⁰

On 6 May 2019, at the G7 Environment Ministers' Meeting, Japan joined the Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA), an initiative proposed by the Canadian delegation.²⁹⁵¹ This initiative aims to pioneer ground-breaking investments to regenerate coastal natural capital, build resilience in climate-vulnerable regions and communities, and foster multisector cooperation between stakeholders to unlock greater private investment in climate resilience.

Through the regional platforms of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum and ASEAN+3, Japan has recognized the need to develop more efficient insurance products through data collection and private sector expertise, and it has committed to building disaster-related resilience in developing countries across Asia. However, Japan has not complied with this commitment on a global level. Therefore, Japan has complied with two parts of the four dimensions of this commitment using exclusively regional instruments.

²⁹⁴⁵ The 19th ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 4 August 2018. Access Date: 28 August 2018. https://www.mofa.go.jp/a_o/rp/page4e_000880.html

²⁹⁴⁶ The Joint Statement of the Finance Ministers' Meeting on the Establishment of the Southeast Asia Disaster Risk Insurance Facility (SEADRIF), Ministry of Finance of Japan (Tokyo) 4 May 2018. Access Date: 28 August 2018. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/international_policy/financial_cooperation_in_asia/20180504_e.pdf

²⁹⁴⁷ ASEAN Asia First Regional Climate Disaster Risk Financing Facility, The World Bank, 18 December 2018. Access Date: 16 June 2019. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2018/12/18/asean3-countries-establish-asias-first-regional-climate-and-disaster-risk-financing-facility>

²⁹⁴⁸ ASEAN Asia First Regional Climate Disaster Risk Financing Facility, The World Bank, 18 December 2018. Access Date: 16 June 2019. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2018/12/18/asean3-countries-establish-asias-first-regional-climate-and-disaster-risk-financing-facility>

²⁹⁴⁹ Southeast Asia Disaster Risk Insurance Facility (SEADRIF) Technical Briefing for Japanese Insurance Industry, The World Bank (Tokyo) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 16 June 2019. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2019/01/17/southeast-asia-disaster-risk-insurance-facility-seadrif-technical-briefing-for-japanese-insurance-industry-drmhubtokyo>

²⁹⁵⁰ Southeast Asia Disaster Risk Insurance Facility (SEADRIF) Technical Briefing for Japanese Insurance Industry, The World Bank (Tokyo) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 16 June 2019. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2019/01/17/southeast-asia-disaster-risk-insurance-facility-seadrif-technical-briefing-for-japanese-insurance-industry-drmhubtokyo>

²⁹⁵¹ G7 Environment Ministers Meeting: What are the Outcomes? G7 France. 7 May 2019. Access Date: 20 August 2019. <https://www.elysee.fr/es/g7/2019/05/07/g7-environment-ministers-meeting-what-are-the-outcomes.en>

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Nammal Khan

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to explore broadening disaster risk insurance coverage, including through global and regional facilities, such as the InsuResilience Global Partnership, to extend high-quality insurance coverage to vulnerable developing countries and beneficiaries in need and to encourage new types of insurance products for emerging risks.

On 15 June 2018, the Centre for Global Disaster Protection allocated GBP 2,025,000 to Risk Analytics, Research, and Monitoring & Evaluation.²⁹⁵² Based in London, this centre was developed by the Department for International Development (DFID) in July 2017 with the mandate to carry out financial analyses and assist developing countries with disaster planning.²⁹⁵³ The centre is also supported by the government of Germany and the World Bank.²⁹⁵⁴

On 30 June 2018, the Challenge Fund called for proposals on disaster risk financing instruments. The fund is an initiative created by the DFID and Centre for Global Disaster Protection, along with the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery and the World Bank. This call for proposals will allow for the development of new types of financial risk insurance products.²⁹⁵⁵

On 4 July 2018, the government announced measures to support British Overseas Territories in the Caribbean in the event of future hurricanes. In addition to humanitarian assistance, the government supported the inclusion of British Virgin Islands and Montserrat as new members in the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Fund, in which DFID played a role since the fund's inception.²⁹⁵⁶

On 11 July 2018, during the discussion on “Insurance for Global Development & Resilience” at the Global Insurance Forum, Senior Advisor in the Department for International Development Nicola Ranger recognized the importance of disaster risk insurance and the InsuResilience Global Partnership in helping governments manage risks.²⁹⁵⁷

On 11 July 2018, CEO Hector Ibarra announced that the DFID will be sponsoring Global Parametrics, a climate risk transfer start-up. Global Parametrics will participate in the testing of

²⁹⁵² Centre for Global Disaster Protection Development Tracker, Department for International Development (London) 27 July 2018. Access Date: 27 August 2018. <https://devtracker.dfid.gov.uk/projects/GB-1-205231>

²⁹⁵³ Centre for Global Disaster Protection, DFID in the News (London) 20 July 2017. Access Date: 27 August 2018. <https://dfidnews.blog.gov.uk/2017/07/20/centre-for-global-disaster-protection/>

²⁹⁵⁴ Centre for Global Disaster Protection, DFID in the News (London) 20 July 2017. Access Date: 27 August 2018. <https://dfidnews.blog.gov.uk/2017/07/20/centre-for-global-disaster-protection/>

²⁹⁵⁵ Call for Proposals: Challenge Fund Round 3, Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (Washington D.C.) 30 June 2018. Access Date: 27 August 2018. <https://www.gfdr.org/en/challenge-fund/round-3>

²⁹⁵⁶ New hurricane preparedness plans for British Overseas Territories in Caribbean, the Government of United Kingdom (London) 4 July 2018. Access Date: 27 August 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-hurricane-preparedness-plans-for-british-overseas-territories-in-caribbean>

²⁹⁵⁷ Insurance Development Community Meets to Design Shared Roadmap for New York Climate Summit 2019, InsuResilience Global Partnership (Berlin) 12 July 2018. Access Date: 27 August 2018. <https://www.insuresilience.org/insurance-development-community-meets-to-design-shared-roadmap-for-new-york-climate-summit-2019/>

disaster risk insurance through the Natural Disaster Fund.²⁹⁵⁸ This is a disaster hedge fund that will be receiving a GBP 25,000,000 investment from the DFID over a 20-year period starting in 2018.²⁹⁵⁹

On 12 October 2018, the UK, in partnership with the World Bank and the government of Germany, announced a USD 145,000,000 Global Risk Financing Facility (GRiF) to help vulnerable countries manage the financial impact of climate change and natural hazard-induced shocks.²⁹⁶⁰ According to the World Bank, “over the next five years, the GRiF will provide financing to set up mechanisms such as national disaster insurance programs that can help channel money to people affected by disasters when they need it.”²⁹⁶¹ In collaboration with the GRiF, the UK’s Centre for Global Disaster Protection will provide technical assistance in developing, testing, and improving financial solutions.²⁹⁶²

On 6 May 2019, at the G7 Environment Ministers’ Meeting, the UK joined the Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA), an initiative proposed by the Canadian delegation.²⁹⁶³ This initiative aims to pioneer ground-breaking investments to regenerate coastal natural capital, build resilience in climate-vulnerable regions and communities, and foster multisector cooperation between stakeholders to unlock greater private investment in climate resilience.

As the governmental institution responsible for administering overseas aid projects, the Department for International Development has worked to broaden the coverage of the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Fund and carry out global initiatives to develop new insurance products.

The United Kingdom has fulfilled the first half of this commitment through regional instruments and complied with the latter half of the commitment only through global facilities. To fulfill all four dimensions of this commitment, the UK needs to encourage new insurance products through regional organizations. Therefore, the United Kingdom has fully complied with this commitment in three of its four total dimensions.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Nammal Khan

²⁹⁵⁸ Driving Prosperity in Low-Income Countries by Re-thinking Climate Risk, Global Parametrics (London) 11 July 2018. Access Date: 27 August 2018. <http://www.globalparametrics.com/blog/driving-prosperity-in-low-income-countries-by-re-thinking-climate-risk>

²⁹⁵⁹ Britain Puts \$35 million into Natural Disaster Hedge Fund, Reuters News (London) 24 February 2018. Access Date: 27 August 2018. <https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-britain-development-hedgefunds/britain-puts-35-million-into-natural-disaster-hedge-fund-idUKKCN1G721Q>

²⁹⁶⁰ World Bank Group, Germany, and UK Launch \$145 Million Financing Facility to Support Earlier Action on Climate and Disaster Shocks, InsuResilience (Washington) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.insuresilience.org/world-bank-group-germany-and-uk-launch-145-million-financing-facility-to-support-earlier-action-on-climate-and-disaster-shocks/>

²⁹⁶¹ World Bank Group, Germany, and UK Launch \$145 Million Financing Facility to Support Earlier Action on Climate and Disaster Shocks, InsuResilience (Bonn) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.insuresilience.org/world-bank-group-germany-and-uk-launch-145-million-financing-facility-to-support-earlier-action-on-climate-and-disaster-shocks/>

²⁹⁶² World Bank Group, Germany, and UK Launch \$145 Million Financing Facility to Support Earlier Action on Climate and Disaster Shocks, InsuResilience (Bonn) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.insuresilience.org/world-bank-group-germany-and-uk-launch-145-million-financing-facility-to-support-earlier-action-on-climate-and-disaster-shocks/>

²⁹⁶³ G7 Environment Ministers Meeting: What are the Outcomes? G7 France. 7 May 2019. Access Date: 20 August 2019. <https://www.elysee.fr/es/g7/2019/05/07/g7-environment-ministers-meeting-what-are-the-outcomes.en>

United States: -1

The United States has failed to comply with its commitment to explore broadening disaster risk insurance coverage, including through global and regional facilities, such as the InsuResilience Global Partnership, to extend high-quality insurance coverage to vulnerable developing countries and beneficiaries in need and to encourage new types of insurance products for emerging risks.

On 23 November 2018, the United States Global Change Research Program, an interagency panel consisting of 13 federal agencies, published a report evaluating the risks of climate change in the United States and in vulnerable communities.²⁹⁶⁴ The report explores the impacts of climate change on American humanitarian aid, and includes a description of the success of American investments in Ethiopian agriculture, which provided farmers an index-insurance program that links “payouts to certain indexes of extreme weather.” This insurance proved beneficial to Ethiopian farmers in the case of 2015 droughts.²⁹⁶⁵ It also states that “similar index insurance products are being developed through public-private partnerships across Africa, Asia, and Latin America.”²⁹⁶⁶

On 6 May 2019, at the G7 Environment Ministers’ Meeting, the US joined the Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA), an initiative proposed by the Canadian delegation.²⁹⁶⁷ This initiative aims to pioneer ground-breaking investments to regenerate coastal natural capital, build resilience in climate-vulnerable regions and communities, and foster multisector cooperation between stakeholders to unlock greater private investment in climate resilience.

The US government has not extended insurance for climate-related incidents in vulnerable countries, through either regional or global facilities; nor has the US researched broadening the scope of such coverage through new types of insurance products.

Thus, the United States receives a score of -1.²⁹⁶⁸

Analyst: Abdullabi Abdi

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to exploring broadening disaster risk insurance coverage, including through global and regional facilities, such as the InsuResilience Global Partnership, to extend high quality insurance coverage to vulnerable developing countries and beneficiaries in need and to encourage new types of insurance products for emerging risks.

On 4 October 2018, the European Commission and Austria’s submitted report on climate finance to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change were published.²⁹⁶⁹

²⁹⁶⁴ Fourth National Climate Assessment Volume II: Impacts, Risks, and Adaptation in the United States, U.S. Global Change Research Program (Washington) 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. <https://data.globalchange.gov/report/nca4>

²⁹⁶⁵ Fourth National Climate Assessment Volume II: Impacts, Risks, and Adaptation in the United States, U.S. Global Change Research Program (Washington) 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. <https://data.globalchange.gov/report/nca4>

²⁹⁶⁶ Fourth National Climate Assessment Volume II: Impacts, Risks, and Adaptation in the United States, U.S. Global Change Research Program (Washington) 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. <https://data.globalchange.gov/report/nca4>

²⁹⁶⁷ G7 Environment Ministers Meeting: What are the Outcomes? G7 France. 7 May 2019. Access Date: 20 August 2019. <https://www.elysee.fr/es/g7/2019/05/07/g7-environment-ministers-meeting-what-are-the-outcomes.en>

²⁹⁶⁸ This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites: <https://www.usaid.gov>, nca2018.globalchange.gov, www.cnn.com, www.climateinitiativesplatform.org, www.insurancejournal.com, www.internationalinsurance.org, www.climatelinks.org

On 26 September 2018, at the One Planet Summit, the EU participated in the launch of the Joint Pacific Initiative for Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Resilience, alongside France, Australia, and New Zealand. The initiative focuses on supporting Pacific Island countries and territories in the protection, restoration, and enhancement of biodiversity, in order to reinforce the resilience of their socio-ecological systems and facilitate their adaptation to the impacts of climate change.²⁹⁷⁰

On 5 December 2018, the EU participated in the 24th Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, where it discussed “Unleashing the potential for climate change action with blockchain and other disruptive technologies.”²⁹⁷¹ During this side event, EU representatives and other delegates stated that utilizing better means of investment funds and bonds, as well as insurance, can lead to smarter methods of climate-risk reduction.²⁹⁷² The discussion encouraged new types of insurance products for emerging risks globally.²⁹⁷³

On 9 December 2018, during COP24, as a part of the steering body of the InsuResilience Global Partnership, the EU agreed to work on the vision of scaling up pre-arranged financing to assist vulnerable communities.^{2974,2975}

On 10 December 2018, the Director of Planet and Prosperity at the European Commission’s Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development Carla Montesi announced at COP24 that the EU will be joining the InsuResilience Global Partnership.²⁹⁷⁶

²⁹⁶⁹ Subject: Biennial Submissions from the EU and its Member States on their Updated Strategies and Approaches for Scaling up Climate Finance from 2014 to 2020, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Vienna) 4 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018.

<http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/SubmissionPortal/Documents/201810041701---AT-10-04-EU%20Submission%20on%20Strategies%20and%20Approaches.pdf>

²⁹⁷⁰ Launch of the joint Pacific Initiative for Biodiversity, Climate Change and Resilience, European Commission (New York) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018.

²⁹⁷¹ Unleashing the Potential for Climate Change Action with Blockchain and Other Disruptive Technologies, COP24 Climate Change Conference, EU Pavillion (Katowice) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018.

http://ec.europa.eu/clima/events/0124/calendar_en.htm#schedule

²⁹⁷² Unleashing the Potential for Climate Change Action with Blockchain and Other Disruptive Technologies, COP24 Climate Change Conference, EU Pavillion (Katowice) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018.

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²⁹⁷³ Unleashing the Potential for Climate Change Action with Blockchain and Other Disruptive Technologies, COP24 Climate Change Conference, EU Pavillion (Katowice) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018.

http://ec.europa.eu/clima/events/0124/calendar_en.htm#schedule

²⁹⁷⁴ EU Joins the InsuResilience Global Partnership to Boost Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance, European Commission’s Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development. 28 December 2018. Access Date: 8 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/devco/item-detail.cfm?item_id=641729&utm_source=devco_newsroom&utm_medium=Website&utm_campaign=devco&utm_content=EU%20joins%20the%20InsuResilience%20Global%20Partnership%20to%20boost%20disaster%20risk%20finan&ang=en

²⁹⁷⁵ The InsuResilience Global Partnership – A Multi-Stakeholder Initiative to Protect the Poor and Vulnerable Against Disasters, InsuResilience, EU Pavilion (Katowice) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 8 February 2019.

<https://www.insuresilience.org/the-insuresilience-global-partnership-a-multi-stakeholder-initiative-to-protect-the-poor-and-vulnerable-against-disasters/>

²⁹⁷⁶ EU Joins the InsuResilience Global Partnership to Boost Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance, European Commission’s Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development. 28 December 2018. Access Date: 8 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/devco/item-detail.cfm?item_id=641729&utm_source=devco_newsroom&utm_medium=Website&utm_campaign=devco&utm_content=EU%20joins%20the%20InsuResilience%20Global%20Partnership%20to%20boost%20disaster%20risk%20finan&ang=en

On 31 January 2019, the EU signed two agreements with the World Bank's Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery to provide funding totalling EUR30.7 million to improve disaster risk resilience in Caribbean countries.²⁹⁷⁷ Of the sum, EUR3 million will go to the Technical Assistance Program for Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance in Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories), which will help them identify possible insurance schemes.²⁹⁷⁸

On 18 February 2019, the European Council reaffirmed its commitment to the Paris Agreement and disaster risk reduction.²⁹⁷⁹ The EU committed itself to integrating disaster risk reduction, resilience-building, food and nutrition security, conflict prevention, and sustainable development as means of climate change risk management.²⁹⁸⁰

On 9 April 2019, along with the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery and the United Nations, the EU supported the World Bank in conducting a Post-Disaster Needs Assessment with regards to the floods in Lao PDR in 2018.²⁹⁸¹ The assessment highlights the need to develop a national disaster risk financing and insurance strategy, as well as the importance of Lao PDR's participation in the Southeast Asian Disaster Risk Insurance.²⁹⁸²

On 6 May 2019, at the G7 Environment Ministers' Meeting, the EU joined the Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA), an initiative proposed by the Canadian delegation.²⁹⁸³ This initiative aims to pioneer ground-breaking investments to regenerate coastal natural capital, build resilience in climate-vulnerable regions and communities, and foster multisector cooperation between stakeholders to unlock greater private investment in climate resilience.

On 28 May 2019, the EU launched the Caribbean Regional Climate Resilience Building Facility alongside the World Bank's Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery.²⁹⁸⁴ The EU allocated approximately EUR28 million towards the project, providing financial support for "technical assistance, disaster insurance and resilient investment facilitation" in the Caribbean.²⁹⁸⁵

The discussion at COP24 regarding new types of insurance products and the EU's membership in the InsuResilience Partnership reflects the EU's compliance with the two goals of this commitment

²⁹⁷⁷ Euro 30 Million to Help Caribbean Enhance Climate Resilience and Adaptation, The World Bank (Brussels) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 16 June 2019. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2019/01/31/euro-30-million-to-help-caribbean-enhance-climate-resilience-and-adaptation?fbclid=IwAR3ZgUvo7UIcllBWPdBmabJGKCFcfCYFYqWfohecmAbveZJHrtQzwb-M>

²⁹⁷⁸ Euro 30 Million to Help Caribbean Enhance Climate Resilience and Adaptation, The World Bank (Brussels) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 16 June 2019. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2019/01/31/euro-30-million-to-help-caribbean-enhance-climate-resilience-and-adaptation?fbclid=IwAR3ZgUvo7UIcllBWPdBmabJGKCFcfCYFYqWfohecmAbveZJHrtQzwb-M>

²⁹⁷⁹ Climate diplomacy: Council adopts Conclusions, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-6153-2019-INIT/en/pdf>.

²⁹⁸⁰ Climate diplomacy: Council adopts Conclusions, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-6153-2019-INIT/en/pdf>.

²⁹⁸¹ Recovery and Resilience in Lao PDR, The World Bank. 9 April 2019. Access Date: 16 June 2019. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2019/04/09/recovery-and-resilience-in-lao-pdr>

²⁹⁸² Recovery and Resilience in Lao PDR, The World Bank. 9 April 2019. Access Date: 16 June 2019. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2019/04/09/recovery-and-resilience-in-lao-pdr>

²⁹⁸³ G7 Environment Ministers Meeting: What are the Outcomes? G7 France. 7 May 2019. Access Date: 20 August 2019. <https://www.elysee.fr/es/g7/2019/05/07/g7-environment-ministers-meeting-what-are-the-outcomes.en>.

²⁹⁸⁴ EU launched \$28 million regional climate resilient building facility, Caribbean News Now! (Bridgetown) 3 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.caribbeannewsnow.com/2019/06/03/eu-launched-28-million-regional-climate-resilient-building-facility/>.

²⁹⁸⁵ EU launched \$28 million regional climate resilient building facility, Caribbean News Now! (Bridgetown) 3 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.caribbeannewsnow.com/2019/06/03/eu-launched-28-million-regional-climate-resilient-building-facility/>.

pertaining to global partnerships. The EU's Caribbean Regional Climate Resilience Building Facility and its support for the Technical Assistance Program for Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance reflect its compliance with the other two goals pertaining to regional partnerships.

The EU currently co-funds three projects implemented by the Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction and the World Bank. The three projects are the Central America Catastrophe Risk Programme, the Global Partnership on Disaster Risk Financing Analytics, and the Africa Disaster Risk Financing Initiative within the framework of the programme "Building Disaster Resilience in Sub-Saharan Africa." The EU has also advanced its regional partnerships by funding the Regional Climate Resilience Building Facility. Therefore, the EU has fully complied with this commitment in all of its four total dimensions.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kaylin Dave

13. Environment: Earth Observation Technologies

“We intend to leverage innovation in the field of Earth observation technologies and related applications and make them broadly available in the poorest and most vulnerable regions of the world in order to support ... infrastructure and building design”

Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France			+1
Germany		0	
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average	+0.50		

Background

Earth observation technologies (EOs) provide academics, governments, and other decision-makers with an overview of the environmental landscape.²⁹⁸⁶ Uses for EOs include disaster risk assessment, accurate weather reports, climate change modelling and monitoring of the air, seas, and land.²⁹⁸⁷ If a country has leveraged EO technology for disaster prevention and response, there is an assumption that the data collected will be used for infrastructure planning and design. The importance of EOs first came to the attention of the G7 in 1984, when the G7 Working Group on Technology, Growth, and Employment created the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) based on a recommendation from the Panel of Experts on Remote Sensing from Space.²⁹⁸⁸ CEOS, of which the European Commission and the European Union are currently Chairs, is the primary forum of space-based earth observations. It has been instrumental in the development of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) and Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS).²⁹⁸⁹

Despite the commission of CEOS in 1984, the G7 left the topic of EOs relatively unaddressed until the G7 Tsukuba, Ibaraki Science and Technology ministers meeting on 17 May 2016.²⁹⁹⁰ At the ministers meeting, G7 ministers reaffirmed the importance of investment in EOs, especially in the context of open data sharing, by saying: “fundamental to the progress of open science is the continued investment by governments and others ... in suitable infrastructures and services for data collection, analysis, preservation, and dissemination.”²⁹⁹¹

²⁹⁸⁶ Earth Observation, EC (Brussels) 14 July 2016. Access Date: 29 June 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/research-topic/earth-observation>.

²⁹⁸⁷ Earth Observation, EC (Brussels) 14 July 2016. Access Date: 29 June 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/research-topic/earth-observation>.

²⁹⁸⁸ Committee on Earth Observation Satellites: Work Plan 2018 — 2020, CEOS (Canberra) March 2018. Access Date: 29 June 2018. <http://ceos.org/about-ceos/overview/>.

²⁹⁸⁹ Committee on Earth Observation Satellites: Work Plan 2018 — 2020, CEOS (Canberra) March 2018. Access Date: 29 June 2018. <http://ceos.org/about-ceos/overview/>.

²⁹⁹⁰ G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting in Tsukuba, Ibaraki Communique, G7 (Tsukuba, Ibari) 17 May 2016. Access Date: 29 June 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/science/2016-tsukuba.html>.

²⁹⁹¹ G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting in Tsukuba, Ibaraki Communique, G7 (Tsukuba, Ibari) 17 May 2016. Access Date: 29 June 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/science/2016-tsukuba.html>.

On 8-9 June 2018, during the G7 Charlevoix Summit, G7 members adopted the Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities. The Charlevoix Blueprint recognized that open data sharing is particularly important in the context of capacity-building in developing countries, where gaps in information create difficulties for decision-makers seeking to improve infrastructure.²⁹⁹² Infrastructural improvements are necessary to create more resilient coastal communities, who are amongst the most vulnerable to climate change.²⁹⁹³ Thus, members seek to use technological advances in EOs to address issues surrounding “disaster risk prevention, contingency planning, spatial planning, infrastructure, and building design, early warning systems and risk transfer mechanisms” that disproportionately affect developing countries.²⁹⁹⁴

G7 members will seek to scale up efforts made by CEOS and its working groups, particularly the Working Group for Capacity Building and Data Democracy (WGCapD).²⁹⁹⁵ In partnership with the United Nations and its agencies, the WGCapD has already developed and executed a number of capacity-building activities, such as workshops, training, and the creation of “best practices” resources.²⁹⁹⁶ Thus, there is already considerable foundation available for G7 members to build upon.

The United Nations has been actively involved in the development of EOs through a variety of partnerships in the private sector. During the UNISPACE+50 conference on 2 July 2018, Airbus and the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs signed a memorandum of understanding outlining the usage of Airbus EOs for climate tracking.²⁹⁹⁷ Additionally, on 16 July 2018, the UN Environment Programme announced a collaboration with Google to use the company’s cloud computing and earth observation catalogs, such as satellite imagery, to analyze changes in the Earth’s environment.²⁹⁹⁸

Furthermore, the United Nations Statistics Division and the World Bank recently published the “Integrated Geospatial Information Framework” on 24 July 2018. The new guide promotes the proper use of geospatial data in a state’s decision-making process, specifically in low and middle-income countries. The framework further supports the EO commitment of the G7 member states by encouraging the effective use of geospatial information to improve resource allocation and sustainable development.²⁹⁹⁹

Commitment Features

The G7 members “intend to leverage innovation in the field of Earth observation technologies and related applications and make them broadly available in the poorest and most vulnerable regions of the world in order to support ... infrastructure and building design (environment).”³⁰⁰⁰ “We intend”

²⁹⁹² Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 29 June 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html>.

²⁹⁹³ Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 29 June 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html>.

²⁹⁹⁴ Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 29 June 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html>.

²⁹⁹⁵ Committee on Earth Observation Satellites: Work Plan 2018 — 2020, CEOS (Canberra) March 2018. Access Date: 29 June 2018. <http://ceos.org/about-ceos/overview/>.

²⁹⁹⁶ Committee on Earth Observation Satellites: Work Plan 2018 — 2020, CEOS (Canberra) March 2018. Access Date: 29 June 2018. <http://ceos.org/about-ceos/overview/>.

²⁹⁹⁷ Airbus and United Nations team up for universal access to space, Airbus (Toulouse) 2 July 2018. Access Date: 25 August 2018. <https://www.airbus.com/newsroom/press-releases/en/2018/07/Airbus-and-United-Nations-team-up-for-universal-access-to-space.html>.

²⁹⁹⁸ Google and UN Environment Partner on Data for Global Goals, IISD (Geneva) 19 July 2018. Access Date: 25 August 2018. <http://sdg.iisd.org/news/google-and-un-environment-partner-on-data-for-global-goals/>.

²⁹⁹⁹ New UN report on geospatial data for decision-making, UNOOSA (Vienna) 20 August 2018. Access Date: 25 August 2018. <http://www.un-spider.org/news-and-events/news/new-un-report-geospatial-data-decision-making>.

³⁰⁰⁰ Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 29 June 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html>.

is understood to mean that compliance with this commitment entails a direct action with the aim to catalyze innovation in Earth Observation technologies. “Intend” is considered to be a pledge of a goal that has a specific “plan or purpose.”

This commitment is broken up into two sections: 1) “to intend to leverage innovation in the field of Earth observation technologies and related applications” and 2) “make them broadly available in the poorest and vulnerable regions of the world in order to support infrastructure and building design.”

The first part of the commitment, “leverage innovation,” is understood to mean the use of technological advancements to rectify gaps in Earth observation coverage. Examples of leveraging innovation include raising awareness of the value of EOs, providing support for increased access to Earth observation products and tools, and targeted training workshops for EOs.³⁰⁰¹ Then, “Earth observation technologies and related applications” is understood to mean remote sensing technologies with imaging devices and the systems that process/assess the earth system, such as GEOSS.³⁰⁰² Earth observation relies on the use of space-based satellites.

To fulfill the first aspect of the commitment, the G7 member must advance innovation through technological advancements in Earth observation coverage by EOs. This may include unilateral, independent and group research amongst G7 members.

The second part of this commitment refers to the dissemination of innovations in EOs to a larger community of users in the developing world. It is important to increase access to EOs in these communities to fill information gaps that prevent decision-makers from accurately assessing changes in the environment and consequently, making appropriate modifications to infrastructure. For the purpose of this commitment, “poorest” nation is defined as is a country with a less developed industrial base and a low Human Development Index relative to other countries.³⁰⁰³ “Vulnerable regions” will be defined as areas that “geophysical, biological and socio-economic systems are susceptible to, and unable to cope with, adverse impacts of climate change.”³⁰⁰⁴ In the context of the document in which commitment is found, there is a particular focus on coastal communities in the developing world for the purpose of improving coastal resilience to the effects of climate change.³⁰⁰⁵

The idea “support[ing] infrastructure and building design” is understood to mean upgrading physical and digital systems in order to adapt to the impacts of climate change. Support is defined as the act of “providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity.”³⁰⁰⁶ Infrastructure is defined as the system of public works of a country, state, or region and the resources (such as personnel, buildings, or equipment) required for an activity. Infrastructure in developing countries may not have the capacity to offset the impacts of climate change. Examples of support for infrastructure include the mobilization of funds, the provision of training, knowledge transfers and open data sharing.

³⁰⁰¹ Committee on Earth Observation Satellites: Work Plan 2018 — 2020, CEOS (Canberra) March 2018. Access Date: 29 June 2018. <http://ceos.org/about-ceos/overview/>.

³⁰⁰² Earth Observation, EC (Brussels) 14 July 2016. Access Date: 29 June 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/research-topic/earth-observation>.

³⁰⁰³ What is Developing Countries, IGI Global. Access Date: 28 August 2018. <https://www.igi-global.com/dictionary/developing-countries/7401>.

³⁰⁰⁴ Climate Change 2007: Working Group II: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability, ipcc 2007. Access Date: 28 August 2018. https://www.ipcc.ch/publications_and_data/ar4/wg2/en/ch19s19-1-2.html.

³⁰⁰⁵ Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 29 June 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html>.

³⁰⁰⁶ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Global Governance Program (Toronto) 27 September 2017. Access Date: 20 July 2018.

To fulfill the second aspect of the commitment, the G7 member must make these innovations explicitly available to the poorest and most vulnerable countries. The recommendation needs to support infrastructure or building design for these developing countries.

Thus, to achieve full compliance, the G7 member must have leveraged innovation in the field of Earth observation technologies and related applications, while also making them broadly available in the poorest and vulnerable regions of the world in order to support infrastructure and building design. Successful implementation of both parts to this commitment will gain the G7 member a score of +1 for full compliance.

Partial compliance is scored when the G7 member has fulfilled the former or the latter half of the commitment. This means that the G7 member has successfully leveraged innovation of Earth observation technologies and related applications or makes them available to the poorest and most vulnerable nations. G7 members will receive a score of -1 for non-compliance if they have not successfully leveraged innovation of Earth observation technologies and related applications, nor made them available to the poorest and most vulnerable nations.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	Member does NOT intend to leverage innovations in the field of Earth observation technologies NOR makes them broadly available for vulnerable coastal regions to support infrastructure nor support building design.
0	Member takes action to leverage innovations in the field of Earth observation technologies BUT does not make them broadly available for vulnerable coastal regions to support infrastructure or support building design.
+1	Member takes action to leverage innovations in the field of Earth observation technologies AND makes them broadly available for vulnerable coastal regions to support infrastructure or support building design.

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Compliance Director: Harrison Myles*

Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to leverage innovation in the field of Earth observation technologies and related applications and make them broadly available in the most vulnerable regions of the world to support infrastructure and building design.

On 21 June 2018, the government revealed the next generation of Radarsat satellites and announced the launch date of November 2018.³⁰⁰⁷ The Radarsat Constellation Mission (RCM) is a collection of three satellites developed by the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) and a private company, MDA.³⁰⁰⁸ Once launched, the RCM will pursue three main objectives of maritime surveillance, environmental monitoring, and disaster monitoring.³⁰⁰⁹

³⁰⁰⁷ Next generation of Radarsat satellites to ‘cover 90% of the globe’, Global News (Vancouver) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://globalnews.ca/news/4289785/next-generation-of-radarsat-satellites-csa/>.

³⁰⁰⁸ Next generation of Radarsat satellites to ‘cover 90% of the globe’, Global News (Vancouver) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://globalnews.ca/news/4289785/next-generation-of-radarsat-satellites-csa/>.

³⁰⁰⁹ Next generation of Radarsat satellites to ‘cover 90% of the globe’, Global News (Vancouver) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://globalnews.ca/news/4289785/next-generation-of-radarsat-satellites-csa/>.

On 3 October 2018, the CSA, the Australian Space Agency, and the United Kingdom Space Agency signed a memorandum of understanding to enhance trilateral cooperation.³⁰¹⁰ The agreement will build upon Canada's ongoing cooperation with Geoscience Australia in Earth observation technologies.³⁰¹¹

On 22 October 2018, exactEarth Ltd reported that the government will invest CAD7.2 million over a three-year period to support the expansion of exactView RT.³⁰¹² ExactView RT consists of a system with more than 60 satellites that observe environmental impact, maritime safety, and navigation.³⁰¹³

From 29 October to 2 November 2018, Canada renewed its annual CAD100,000 contribution to the GEO Trust Fund.³⁰¹⁴ The fund will support GEO's main Earth observations activities regarding climate change, sustainable development, and emergency management.³⁰¹⁵

On 15 November 2018, NorthStar Earth and Space Inc. announced partnerships with the federal government and the provincial government of Quebec.³⁰¹⁶ Each will contribute CAD13 million to the NorthStar project, a platform based on 40 satellite constellations used to collect data on pollution and environmental changes.³⁰¹⁷

From 20-22 November 2018, the CSA hosted a two-day National Forum on Earth Observation from Space.³⁰¹⁸ The forum gathered national space stakeholders from industry, academia, and government to celebrate Canadian EO achievements and collaboratively discuss a "forward-looking national

³⁰¹⁰ Australia signs space agreements with the UK and Canada, ZDNet (San Francisco) 3 October 2018. Access Date: 31 October 2018. <https://www.zdnet.com/article/australia-signs-space-agreements-with-the-uk-and-canada/>.

³⁰¹¹ Australia signs space agreements with the UK and Canada, ZDNet (San Francisco) 3 October 2018. Access Date: 31 October 2018. <https://www.zdnet.com/article/australia-signs-space-agreements-with-the-uk-and-canada/>.

³⁰¹² Government of Canada to invest \$7.2M in exactEarth, Space Daily (Sydney) 22 Oct 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Government_of_Canada_to_invest_7_2M_in_exactEarth_999.html?fbclid=IwAR3en2vURksXkjiVbpSxLAhE_UlvoxU1EVRciHqv-r1k07FQFe95BfBQMd8.

³⁰¹³ Government of Canada to invest \$7.2M in exactEarth, Space Daily (Sydney) 22 Oct 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Government_of_Canada_to_invest_7_2M_in_exactEarth_999.html?fbclid=IwAR3en2vURksXkjiVbpSxLAhE_UlvoxU1EVRciHqv-r1k07FQFe95BfBQMd8.

³⁰¹⁴ Canada renews contribution to GEO, GEO (Geneva) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. <https://www.earthobservations.org/article.php?id=331>.

³⁰¹⁵ Canada renews contribution to GEO, GEO (Geneva) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. <https://www.earthobservations.org/article.php?id=331>.

³⁰¹⁶ NorthStar Earth and Space Inc. announces partnerships, \$52 million in additional financing for global environment information platform, Newswire (Montreal) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018.

<https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/northstar-earth-and-space-inc-announces-partnerships-52-million-in-additional-financing-for-global-environment-information-platform-700597581.html?fbclid=IwAR3A6BNd67HCfDwtT9cGI-6qLaHZGvCu-IPPIOp2Swv-K2oWsOoRBSH5tDU>.

³⁰¹⁷ NorthStar Earth and Space Inc. announces partnerships, \$52 million in additional financing for global environment information platform, Newswire (Montreal) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018.

<https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/northstar-earth-and-space-inc-announces-partnerships-52-million-in-additional-financing-for-global-environment-information-platform-700597581.html?fbclid=IwAR3A6BNd67HCfDwtT9cGI-6qLaHZGvCu-IPPIOp2Swv-K2oWsOoRBSH5tDU>.

³⁰¹⁸ National Forum on Earth Observation from Space, Canadian Space Agency (Longueuil) 19 November 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://www.asc-csa.gc.ca/eng/events/2018/national-forum-on-earth-observation-from-space.asp>.

vision for space-based EO in Canada,” including how Canada might further its involvement in the EU’s Copernicus system.³⁰¹⁹

On 11 February 2019, Stratodynamics Aviation announced the successful test flight of its HiDRON Autonomous glider.³⁰²⁰ Funded in part by the CSA, the HiDRON is a new type of EO technology that collects high altitude atmospheric data.³⁰²¹ It provides an integrated data collection system that gives real-time data to ground stations.³⁰²²

On 22 February 2019, the CSA hosted InvestmentSpace 2019 with the Business Development Bank of Canada, the Creative Destruction Lab, and the Ontario Center of Excellence.³⁰²³ This inaugural event brought together venture capital investors, space entrepreneurs, and start-up companies seeking investors, including EO-related firms.³⁰²⁴ The central objective of this event and the associated institutions was financing space exploration and innovation.³⁰²⁵

On 1 April 2019, the CSA and the Canada Centre for Mapping and Earth Observation made 36,500 RADARSAT-1 synthetic aperture radar images of Earth freely available to researchers, industry and the public.³⁰²⁶ This will allow Canadians to better observe trends and correlations regarding sea ice cover, deforestation, seasonal changes, the effects of climate change on the Canadian North and more.³⁰²⁷

Through its development and investment in new Earth observation satellites and cooperation with other national space agencies, Canada has leveraged innovation to enhance the capabilities of EO technology. However, Canada yet to make this advancement of Earth observation technologies available to poor and vulnerable regions.

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Harrison Myles and Reema Bazzi

³⁰¹⁹ National Forum on Earth Observation from Space, Canadian Space Agency (Longueuil) 19 November 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://www.asc-csa.gc.ca/eng/events/2018/national-forum-on-earth-observation-from-space.asp>.

³⁰²⁰ Stratospheric Unmanned Glider HiDRON Completes Real-Time Remote Earth Observation, SpaceQ (London) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://spaceq.ca/stratospheric-unmanned-glider-hidron-completes-real-time-remote-earth-observation/>.

³⁰²¹ Stratospheric Unmanned Glider HiDRON Completes Real-Time Remote Earth Observation, SpaceQ (London) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://spaceq.ca/stratospheric-unmanned-glider-hidron-completes-real-time-remote-earth-observation/>.

³⁰²² Stratospheric Unmanned Glider HiDRON Completes Real-Time Remote Earth Observation, SpaceQ (London) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://spaceq.ca/stratospheric-unmanned-glider-hidron-completes-real-time-remote-earth-observation/>.

³⁰²³ InvestmentSpace 2019, Canadian Space Agency (Longueuil) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://www.asc-csa.gc.ca/eng/industry/news/2019-01-14-investmentspace-2019.asp?fbclid=IwAR1io5KOp_koGEMwCbFtl6H3481boj5NtcexqhCY04QTrT_X1ZcTlpQUFpk.

³⁰²⁴ InvestmentSpace 2019, Canadian Space Agency (Longueuil) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://www.asc-csa.gc.ca/eng/industry/news/2019-01-14-investmentspace-2019.asp?fbclid=IwAR1io5KOp_koGEMwCbFtl6H3481boj5NtcexqhCY04QTrT_X1ZcTlpQUFpk.

³⁰²⁵ InvestmentSpace 2019, Canadian Space Agency (Longueuil) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://www.asc-csa.gc.ca/eng/industry/news/2019-01-14-investmentspace-2019.asp?fbclid=IwAR1io5KOp_koGEMwCbFtl6H3481boj5NtcexqhCY04QTrT_X1ZcTlpQUFpk.

³⁰²⁶ Open Data: over 36,000 historical RADARSAT-1 satellite images of the Earth now available to the public, Cision (Chicago) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 12 June 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/open-data-over-36-000-historical-radarsat-1-satellite-images-of-the-earth-now-available-to-the-public-848482900.html>.

³⁰²⁷ Open Data: over 36,000 historical RADARSAT-1 satellite images of the Earth now available to the public, Cision (Chicago) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 12 June 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/open-data-over-36-000-historical-radarsat-1-satellite-images-of-the-earth-now-available-to-the-public-848482900.html>.

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to leverage innovation in the field of Earth observation (EO) technologies and related applications and make them broadly available in the most vulnerable regions of the world to support infrastructure and building design.

On 28 June 2018, the Space Climate Observatory (SCO) was launched at the Toulouse Space Show.³⁰²⁸ The SCO is an international initiative led by the French space agency, Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales (CNES).³⁰²⁹ The observatory will combine satellite and in-situ data with modelling technology to advance the world's understanding of climate change and inform state strategies in light of rising sea levels, melting glaciers, and deadly droughts and floods.³⁰³⁰ Countries across the world will have open access to this information, including poor and vulnerable regions in Africa and Asia.³⁰³¹

On 20 July 2018, the President of the French space agency signed an agreement with the CEO and chair of the board of the Azerbaijan satellite operator, Azercosmos.³⁰³² The two countries agreed to increase their cooperation in space, with a specific emphasis on Earth observation and the effects of climate change.³⁰³³

On 2 August 2018, the French space agency and the Greek space agency Hellenic Space Agency signed an agreement finalizing the terms and conditions of bilateral cooperation.³⁰³⁴ This cooperation will include collaboration in areas including but not limited to space sciences, Earth observation, and telecommunication.³⁰³⁵ This partnership is also considering expansions to include emergency response as well, given recent wildfires in Attiki, Greece.³⁰³⁶

On 2 September 2018, the space agencies of France and Australia signed a memorandum of understanding to advance their respective space programs.³⁰³⁷ The Australia Space Agency and the CNES agreed to bolster their capabilities in space operation, Earth observation, positioning systems,

³⁰²⁸ Toulouse Space Show 2018- Space Climate Observatory is 'Go', CNES (Paris) 28 June 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/toulouse-space-show-2018-space-climate-observatory-go>.

³⁰²⁹ Toulouse Space Show 2018- Space Climate Observatory is 'Go', CNES (Paris) 28 June 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/toulouse-space-show-2018-space-climate-observatory-go>.

³⁰³⁰ Toulouse Space Show 2018- Space Climate Observatory is 'Go', CNES (Paris) 28 June 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/toulouse-space-show-2018-space-climate-observatory-go>.

³⁰³¹ Toulouse Space Show 2018- Space Climate Observatory is 'Go', CNES (Paris) 28 June 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/toulouse-space-show-2018-space-climate-observatory-go>.

³⁰³² France and Azerbaijan cooperate in space framework agreement between CNES and Azercosmos, CNES (Paris) 20 July 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/france-and-azerbaijan-cooperate-space-framework-agreement-between-cnes-and-azercosmos>.

³⁰³³ France and Azerbaijan cooperate in space framework agreement between CNES and Azercosmos, CNES (Paris) 20 July 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/france-and-azerbaijan-cooperate-space-framework-agreement-between-cnes-and-azercosmos>.

³⁰³⁴ Space cooperation between France and Greece- CNES signs first agreement with recently founded Hellenic Space Agency, CNES (Paris) 3 August 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/space-cooperation-between-france-and-greece-cnes-signs-first-agreement-recently-founded-hellenic>.

³⁰³⁵ Space cooperation between France and Greece- CNES signs first agreement with recently founded Hellenic Space Agency, CNES (Paris) 3 August 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/space-cooperation-between-france-and-greece-cnes-signs-first-agreement-recently-founded-hellenic>.

³⁰³⁶ Space cooperation between France and Greece- CNES signs first agreement with recently founded Hellenic Space Agency, CNES (Paris) 3 August 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/space-cooperation-between-france-and-greece-cnes-signs-first-agreement-recently-founded-hellenic>.

³⁰³⁷ Australia partners with France for space program development, ZDNet (San Francisco) 2 September 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://www.zdnet.com/article/australia-partners-with-france-for-space-program-development/>.

and communications through partnerships with universities, research institutions, businesses, and communities.³⁰³⁸

On 7 October 2018, the CNES opened a new office at the French embassy in Abu Dhabi to strengthen French space cooperation with the United Arab Emirates.³⁰³⁹ This will enable greater progress in the partnership between the CNES and the UAE's Space Agency, which seeks to create a joint hyperspectral Earth observation satellite program.³⁰⁴⁰

On 9 October 2018, the CNES signed a framework agreement with Uzbekistan's Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdulaziz Kamilov.³⁰⁴¹ The agreement includes collaboration in space science, Earth observation, telecommunications satellites, space applications, space research and technology, and coordination of international regulatory issues.³⁰⁴²

On 15 October 2018, the leaders of CNES, the Korean Aerospace Research Institute and the Korean Meteorological Administration signed a letter of intent concerning the SCO, an initiative to share climate change data with countries around the world.³⁰⁴³ This bilateral agreement between France and Korea aims to aid the three agencies in establishing necessary infrastructure for the SCO and provide the observatory with satellite data on oceans, land surfaces and ecosystems.³⁰⁴⁴

From 18 to 19 October 2018, CNES, the French Alliance for Environmental Research and the French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development jointly hosted the Special Session of the UN Science-Policy-Business Forum on the Environment in Paris.³⁰⁴⁵ The event launched an international working group that will restructure funding models, integrate artificial intelligence and big data into the field of Earth observation technologies, and creates a multi-stakeholder climate change information platform.³⁰⁴⁶

³⁰³⁸ Australia partners with France for space program development, ZDNet (San Francisco) 2 September 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://www.zdnet.com/article/australia-partners-with-france-for-space-program-development/>.

³⁰³⁹ France-UAE Space Cooperation — CNES Opens Office in Abu Dhabi, CNES (Paris) 8 October 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/france-uae-space-cooperation-cnes-opens-office-abu-dhabi>.

³⁰⁴⁰ France-UAE Space Cooperation — CNES Opens Office in Abu Dhabi, CNES (Paris) 8 October 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/france-uae-space-cooperation-cnes-opens-office-abu-dhabi>.

³⁰⁴¹ France-Uzbekistan Space Cooperation — CNES Signs Framework Agreement with Uzbekistan's Minister of Foreign Affairs, CNES (Paris) 9 October 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/france-uzbekistan-space-cooperation-cnes-signs-framework-agreement-uzbekistans-ministry-foreign>.

³⁰⁴² France-Uzbekistan Space Cooperation — CNES Signs Framework Agreement with Uzbekistan's Minister of Foreign Affairs, CNES (Paris) 9 October 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/france-uzbekistan-space-cooperation-cnes-signs-framework-agreement-uzbekistans-ministry-foreign>.

³⁰⁴³ France-Uzbekistan Space Cooperation — CNES Signs Framework Agreement with Uzbekistan's Minister of Foreign Affairs, CNES (Paris) 9 October 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/france-uzbekistan-space-cooperation-cnes-signs-framework-agreement-uzbekistans-ministry-foreign>.

³⁰⁴⁴ France-South Korea Space Cooperation — CNES, KARI and KMA Commit Together to Space Climate Observatory, CNES (Paris) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/france-south-korea-space-cooperation-cnes-kari-and-kma-commit-together-space-climate-observatory>.

³⁰⁴⁵ CNES hosts Special Session of the UN Science-Policy-Business Forum on the Environment, CNES (Paris) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/cnes-hosts-special-session-un-science-policy-business-forum-environment>.

³⁰⁴⁶ CNES hosts Special Session of the UN Science-Policy-Business Forum on the Environment, CNES (Paris) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/cnes-hosts-special-session-un-science-policy-business-forum-environment>.

On 26 October 2018, the CNES officially assumed its role as chair of the International Charter on Space and Major Disasters for the next six months on behalf of France.³⁰⁴⁷ The Charter was created in 1999, and it has 17 member agencies operating Earth-imaging satellites with a commitment to sharing disaster imagery among affected countries.³⁰⁴⁸

From 2 November to 4 November 2018, the CNES signed agreements with the Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology, the University of Science and Technology of Hanoi, the Institute of Marine Environment and Resources, the Space Technology Institute and the Institute of Oceanography with the aim of bolstering French-Vietnamese space cooperation.³⁰⁴⁹ The agreements focus on the importance of bilateral involvement in the development of climate research, specifically with regards to space geophysics, oceanography and satellite technology.³⁰⁵⁰

On 19 November 2018, the CNES and the Belgian Science Policy Office signed a letter of intent to increase French-Belgian space and climate change research cooperation.³⁰⁵¹ The two countries will create a joint working group to support Earth observation technologies, water resource management, and the SCO.³⁰⁵²

On 5 December 2018, the leaders of CNES and the National Forests Office (ONF) met in Paris to sign a five-year agreement.³⁰⁵³ The framework will promote greater collaboration between the ONF and the CNES regarding Earth remote-sensing data on forestry and biodiversity management.³⁰⁵⁴ With a heavy emphasis on forestry, this partnership highlights the role of space technologies in developing research and innovation in environmental management.³⁰⁵⁵

³⁰⁴⁷ CNES Takes Over Chair For Next Six Months of International Charter on Space And Major Disasters, CNES (Paris) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/cnes-takes-over-chair-next-six-months-international-charter-space-and-major-disasters>.

³⁰⁴⁸ CNES Takes Over Chair For Next Six Months of International Charter on Space And Major Disasters, CNES (Paris) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/cnes-takes-over-chair-next-six-months-international-charter-space-and-major-disasters>.

³⁰⁴⁹ Prime Minister's Official Visit to Vietnam, Significant Strengthening of France-Vietnam Space Cooperation, CNES (Paris) 3 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/prime-ministers-official-visit-vietnam-significant-strengthening-france-vietnam-space-cooperation>.

³⁰⁵⁰ Prime Minister's Official Visit to Vietnam, Significant Strengthening of France-Vietnam Space Cooperation, CNES (Paris) 3 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/prime-ministers-official-visit-vietnam-significant-strengthening-france-vietnam-space-cooperation>.

³⁰⁵¹ Space Cooperation Between France and Belgium, Supporting Research Into Climate Change and Technological Innovation, CNES (Paris) 19 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/space-cooperation-between-france-and-belgium-supporting-research-climate-change-and-technological>.

³⁰⁵² Space Cooperation Between France and Belgium, Supporting Research Into Climate Change and Technological Innovation, CNES (Paris) 19 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/space-cooperation-between-france-and-belgium-supporting-research-climate-change-and-technological>.

³⁰⁵³ CNES and ONF Sign Framework Agreement - Space Science Serving Forestry, CNES (Paris) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 19 December 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/cnes-and-onf-sign-framework-agreement-space-science-serving-forestry>.

³⁰⁵⁴ CNES and ONF Sign Framework Agreement - Space Science Serving Forestry, CNES (Paris) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 19 December 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/cnes-and-onf-sign-framework-agreement-space-science-serving-forestry>.

³⁰⁵⁵ CNES and ONF Sign Framework Agreement - Space Science Serving Forestry, CNES (Paris) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 19 December 2018. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/cnes-and-onf-sign-framework-agreement-space-science-serving-forestry>.

On 1 February 2019, CNES hosted the first international meeting of the SCO in Paris.³⁰⁵⁶ 25 space agencies and four international organizations (including the European Commission, the African Union, and the United Nations) worked collectively to assess the progress and goals of the SCO in sharing Earth observation satellite data.³⁰⁵⁷ The meeting focused on increasing access to this data and tailoring it to the study of climate change.³⁰⁵⁸

From 27-28 February 2019, CNES leaders signed an agreement with the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation to jointly track development goals in the Pacific Islands region using Australia's Data Cube geoscience EO technology.³⁰⁵⁹

On 28 February 2019, CNES met with the leader of the South African National Space Agency to sign a foundational agreement between France and South Africa that will guide future space cooperation between the two countries.³⁰⁶⁰ The agreement outlines commitments to advancing EO, space science, space operations, and research and technology, among others.³⁰⁶¹ This was a key moment in developing France's relations with Pan-African space agencies, and the agreement will pave the way for future developmental support in the field of Earth observation on the African continent.³⁰⁶²

On 6 March 2019, CNES leaders signed an agreement with the Indian Space Research Organization to establish a joint program and develop a maritime surveillance system using EO technologies.³⁰⁶³

Through its bilateral agreements in support of advancing Earth observation and its leadership of the SCO, France fully complied with its commitment to leveraging innovation in the field of EO technologies and making them broadly available in the most vulnerable regions of the world to support infrastructure and building design.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Harrison Myles and Gautier Boyrie

³⁰⁵⁶ International Meeting at CNES Head Office of Space Climate Observatory (SCO), CNES (Paris) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/international-meeting-cnes-head-office-space-climate-observatory-sco>.

³⁰⁵⁷ International Meeting at CNES Head Office of Space Climate Observatory (SCO), CNES (Paris) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/international-meeting-cnes-head-office-space-climate-observatory-sco>.

³⁰⁵⁸ International Meeting at CNES Head Office of Space Climate Observatory (SCO), CNES (Paris) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/international-meeting-cnes-head-office-space-climate-observatory-sco>.

³⁰⁵⁹ France-Australia Space Cooperation - Climate Change, Innovation and Exploration: CNES Signs Three Partnership Agreements, CNES (Paris) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/france-australia-space-cooperation-climate-innovation-and-exploration-cnes-signs-three-partnership>.

³⁰⁶⁰ France-South Africa Space Cooperation - CNES and SANSa Sign Founding Agreement Outlining Future Projects, CNES (Paris) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/france-south-africa-space-cooperation-cnes-and-sansa-sign-founding-agreement-outlining-future>.

³⁰⁶¹ France-South Africa Space Cooperation - CNES and SANSa Sign Founding Agreement Outlining Future Projects, CNES (Paris) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/france-south-africa-space-cooperation-cnes-and-sansa-sign-founding-agreement-outlining-future>.

³⁰⁶² France-South Africa Space Cooperation - CNES and SANSa Sign Founding Agreement Outlining Future Projects, CNES (Paris) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/france-south-africa-space-cooperation-cnes-and-sansa-sign-founding-agreement-outlining-future>.

³⁰⁶³ France-India Space Cooperation - CNES and ISRO Sign Agreement to Establish Maritime Surveillance Centre in India, CNES (Paris) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://presse.cnes.fr/en/france-india-space-cooperation-cnes-and-isro-sign-agreement-establish-maritime-surveillance-centre>.

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to leverage innovation in the field of Earth observation technologies and related applications and make them broadly available in the most vulnerable regions of the world to support infrastructure and building design.

On 29 June 2018, the German Aerospace Center (DLR) Earth Sensing Imaging Spectrometer (DEGIS) was launched to the ISS from Cape Canaveral on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket.³⁰⁶⁴ DEGIS is an environmental and resource monitoring system developed by Germany's DLR Institute of Optical Sensor Systems. It observes the Earth and provides hyperspectral data to support scientific, humanitarian, and commercial objectives.³⁰⁶⁵ This device will enable "an excellent degree of flexibility in response to environmental disasters or humanitarian crises through the rapid supply of information to emergency services."³⁰⁶⁶

On 11 July 2018, the Sentinel-5P data services operation began.³⁰⁶⁷ The Earth observation satellite involved in these operations provides daily global measurements of "ozone, nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide, and aerosol and cloud properties."³⁰⁶⁸ DLR is responsible for analyzing the satellite data and provides its findings over an open web service.³⁰⁶⁹ Government agencies, companies, and the scientific community can "view or download the data for selected regions in different projections and data formats, or to integrate them directly into their own systems."³⁰⁷⁰

From 14 to 22 July 2018, Chair of the Executive Board at the German Aerospace Center Pascale Ehrenfreund and DLR Executive Board Member for Space Research and Technology Hansjörg Dittus attended the Committee on Space Research World Space Congress.³⁰⁷¹ The forum aims to promote international collaboration for scientific research in space, and establishes and strengthens

³⁰⁶⁴ Hyperspectral Earth observation instrument DEGIS sets off for the ISS, DLR (Cologne) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 11 September 2018. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-28665/year-all/151_page-2/#/gallery/30169.

³⁰⁶⁵ Hyperspectral Earth observation instrument DEGIS sets off for the ISS, DLR (Cologne) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 11 September 2018. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-28665/year-all/151_page-2/#/gallery/30169.

³⁰⁶⁶ Hyperspectral Earth observation instrument DEGIS sets off for the ISS, DLR (Cologne) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 11 September 2018. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-28665/year-all/151_page-2/#/gallery/30169.

³⁰⁶⁷ Accurate air pollution measurements—the Sentinel-5P data service commences operations, DLR (Cologne) 11 July 2018. Access Date: 11 September 2018. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-28852/#/gallery/31346.

³⁰⁶⁸ Accurate air pollution measurements—the Sentinel-5P data service commences operations, DLR (Cologne) 11 July 2018. Access Date: 11 September 2018. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-28852/#/gallery/31346.

³⁰⁶⁹ Accurate air pollution measurements—the Sentinel-5P data service commences operations, DLR (Cologne) 11 July 2018. Access Date: 11 September 2018. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-28852/#/gallery/31346.

³⁰⁷⁰ Accurate air pollution measurements—the Sentinel-5P data service commences operations, DLR (Cologne) 11 July 2018. Access Date: 11 September 2018. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-28852/#/gallery/31346.

³⁰⁷¹ Major participation by the DLR in the COSPAR World Space Congress, DLR (Cologne) 23 July 2018. Access Date: 11 September 2018. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-29059/year-all/151_page-1/#/gallery/31492.

space research partnerships.³⁰⁷² Hansjörg Dittus gave a presentation outlining the current state and future requirements for space-based Earth observation systems.³⁰⁷³

On 18 July 2018, DLR initiated the Big Data Platform cross-sectoral project.³⁰⁷⁴ The project aims to explore and improve analytical techniques that make use of data mining and machine learning, which are often used in Earth observation research.³⁰⁷⁵ This means that “buildings, roads and even types of vegetation can be detected with far greater accuracy on the basis of aerial and satellite images.”³⁰⁷⁶ Smart data analysis using machine-learning methods has also proven useful for climate computing and obtaining a better understanding of climate mechanisms.³⁰⁷⁷

On 14 September 2018, the DLR F-SAR radar system began operations in Canada’s Northwest Territories to record highly accurate observations of permafrost.³⁰⁷⁸ Scientists from the DLR are working in collaboration with Canada’s Centre for Mapping and Earth Observation to carry out a comprehensive analysis of vegetation and various soil conditions.³⁰⁷⁹ This Earth observation project is one of few to provide observations with extremely high temporal and spatial resolution.³⁰⁸⁰

On 2 October 2018, DLR unveiled the first images from the DESIS hyperspectral Earth observation instrument to the International Astronautical Congress.³⁰⁸¹ The data, made available in collaboration with the Multiple User System for Earth Sensing platform, will make it possible for scientists to gain precise details about changing ecosystems and environmental monitoring.³⁰⁸²

³⁰⁷² Major participation by the DLR in the COSPAR World Space Congress, DLR (Cologne) 23 July 2018. Access Date: 11 September 2018. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-29059/year-all/151_page-1/#/gallery/31492.

³⁰⁷³ Major participation by the DLR in the COSPAR World Space Congress, DLR (Cologne) 23 July 2018. Access Date: 11 September 2018. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-29059/year-all/151_page-1/#/gallery/31492.

³⁰⁷⁴ DLR’s Big Data Platform cross-sectoral project begins, DLR (Cologne) 18 July 2018. Access Date: 11 September 2018. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-28966/year-all/151_page-2/#/gallery/31429.

³⁰⁷⁵ DLR’s Big Data Platform cross-sectoral project begins, DLR (Cologne) 18 July 2018. Access Date: 11 September 2018. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-28966/year-all/151_page-2/#/gallery/31429.

³⁰⁷⁶ DLR’s Big Data Platform cross-sectoral project begins, DLR (Cologne) 18 July 2018. Access Date: 11 September 2018. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-28966/year-all/151_page-2/#/gallery/31429.

³⁰⁷⁷ DLR’s Big Data Platform cross-sectoral project begins, DLR (Cologne) 18 July 2018. Access Date: 11 September 2018. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-28966/year-all/151_page-2/#/gallery/31429.

³⁰⁷⁸ Permafrost monitoring with latest radar technology in German-Canadian cooperation, DLR (Cologne) 14 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-29824/#/gallery/31985.

³⁰⁷⁹ Permafrost monitoring with latest radar technology in German-Canadian cooperation, DLR (Cologne) 14 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-29824/#/gallery/31985.

³⁰⁸⁰ Permafrost monitoring with latest radar technology in German-Canadian cooperation, DLR (Cologne) 14 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-29824/#/gallery/31985.

³⁰⁸¹ First processed images from DESIS hyperspectral Earth observation instrument, DLR (Cologne) 2 October 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-30091/year-all/#/gallery/32211.

³⁰⁸² First processed images from DESIS hyperspectral Earth observation instrument, DLR (Cologne) 2 October 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-30091/year-all/#/gallery/32211.

On 8 October 2018, DLR freely released the TanDEM-X Digital Elevation Model, a global earth observation dataset that covers all 148 million square kilometres of Earth's land surfaces thirty times more accurately than any other global dataset.³⁰⁸³

On 2 November 2018, Germany contributed an initial pledge of EUR100,000 to the new GEO Land Degradation Neutrality Initiative.³⁰⁸⁴ The initiative will coordinate data providers and governments to support global efforts to reduce and reverse land degradation.³⁰⁸⁵ Germany's pledge will contribute to the development and accessibility of Earth observation datasets for immediate action in the field of sustainable land development.³⁰⁸⁶

On 29 January 2019, DLR supported crises management activities related to the dam collapse in Brazil by releasing RapidEye data and studying pre and post-event satellite data.³⁰⁸⁷ Data was made available through the "Space and Major Disasters" International Charter.³⁰⁸⁸

On 6-7 February 2019, DLR launched an event dedicated to high-tech solutions in humanitarian aid.³⁰⁸⁹ Participants included representatives from the German Remote Sensing Data Centre and the UN Platform for Space-Based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response.³⁰⁹⁰ This pioneering event hosted 80 scientists, humanitarian workers, and funding organizations to solve current crises and create long-term prevention mechanisms using technology such as EO data gathering.³⁰⁹¹

On 19-20 February 2019, DLR hosted the "Big Data from Space" conference in Munich, which gathered more than 650 experts to discuss the efficient and meaningful analysis of vast quantities of EO data.³⁰⁹²

³⁰⁸³ Global 3D elevation model from the TanDEM-X mission now freely available, DLR (Cologne) 8 October 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-30139/year-all/#/gallery/32238.

³⁰⁸⁴ New GEO Land Degradation Neutrality Initiative — Germany pledges an initial €100,000, UN (Bonn) 2 November 2018. Access Date: 13 December 2018. <https://www.unbonn.org/node/13211?fbclid=IwAR3Z7XsSIz7xPDu7dDJDjBTOqo27PHF9c7YXZtpMZU6rJ8zLITdBlv-P-eig>.

³⁰⁸⁵ New GEO Land Degradation Neutrality Initiative — Germany pledges an initial €100,000, UN (Bonn) 2 November 2018. Access Date: 13 December 2018. <https://www.unbonn.org/node/13211?fbclid=IwAR3Z7XsSIz7xPDu7dDJDjBTOqo27PHF9c7YXZtpMZU6rJ8zLITdBlv-P-eig>.

³⁰⁸⁶ New GEO Land Degradation Neutrality Initiative — Germany pledges an initial €100,000, UN (Bonn) 2 November 2018. Access Date: 13 December 2018. <https://www.unbonn.org/node/13211?fbclid=IwAR3Z7XsSIz7xPDu7dDJDjBTOqo27PHF9c7YXZtpMZU6rJ8zLITdBlv-P-eig>.

³⁰⁸⁷ Dam Collapse in Brazil, DLR (Cologne) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 11 February 2019.

<https://activations.zki.dlr.de/en/activations/items/ACT141.html>.

³⁰⁸⁸ Dam Collapse in Brazil, DLR (Cologne) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 11 February 2019.

<https://activations.zki.dlr.de/en/activations/items/ACT141.html>.

³⁰⁸⁹ 'DLR Humanitarian Technology Days' – UN World Food Programme and DLR sign Memorandum of Understanding: High-tech support for humanitarian aid, DLR (Cologne) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 11 February 2019.

https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-32109/#/gallery/33438.

³⁰⁹⁰ 'DLR Humanitarian Technology Days' – UN World Food Programme and DLR sign Memorandum of Understanding: High-tech support for humanitarian aid, DLR (Cologne) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 11 February 2019.

https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-32109/#/gallery/33438.

³⁰⁹¹ 'DLR Humanitarian Technology Days' – UN World Food Programme and DLR sign Memorandum of Understanding: High-tech support for humanitarian aid, DLR (Cologne) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 11 February 2019.

https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-32109/#/gallery/33438.

³⁰⁹² Big Data from space – seeking a solution for the flood of data from space, DLR (Cologne) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. https://www.dlr.de/eoc/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-13247/23165_read-54096.

On 3 April 2019, DLR successfully executed the first laser communications test using the Optical Space Infrared Downlink System.³⁰⁹³ This technology will improve the speed of Earth observation data transmission and further assist on-the-ground disaster recovery operations.³⁰⁹⁴

On 6 May 2019, data acquired from DLR's TanDEM-X radar satellite mission was used to create global forest maps.³⁰⁹⁵ The global maps show forested areas at a resolution of 50 metres, and it free of charge to "scientific users."³⁰⁹⁶ The new map will help scientists more precisely determine forest biomass, close gaps in previous data, and provide a more uniform survey of rainforests in South America, Southeast Asia and Africa.³⁰⁹⁷

Germany has supported collaborative innovations through technological advancements in Earth observation coverage. However, it has yet to make these innovations available to the poorest and most vulnerable nations through open data sharing.

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

Analysts: David Manocchio and Michael Zusev

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to leverage innovation in the field of Earth observation technologies and related applications and make them broadly available in the most vulnerable regions of the world to support infrastructure and building design.

On 6 July 2018, the Italian Space Agency Agenzia Spaziale Italiana (ASI) signed a joint declaration with Virgin Galactic of the Virgin Group conglomerate.³⁰⁹⁸ The parties agreed to collaborate on suborbital flight and microgravity education, astronaut training, and biology and biotechnology research and technology.³⁰⁹⁹ The agreement also discussed the development of a space vehicle system by Virgin's Spaceship Company, to be used at the future Grottaglie Spaceport in Italy.³¹⁰⁰ This infrastructure would be used by both ASI and private customers, with the potential to launch satellites capable of Earth observation.³¹⁰¹

On 28 September 2018, the Florence Division of the Institute of Atmospheric Pollution Research, an affiliate of the National Research Council, announced the 11th International Symposium on Digital

³⁰⁹³ DLR and University of Stuttgart test the transmission of Earth observation data using laser communications, DLR (Cologne) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-33097/year-all/151_page-2/#!/gallery/33951.

³⁰⁹⁴ DLR and University of Stuttgart test the transmission of Earth observation data using laser communications, DLR (Cologne) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-33097/year-all/151_page-2/#!/gallery/33951.

³⁰⁹⁵ Global TanDEM-X forest map is available, DLR (Cologne) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-33241/year-all/151_page-1/#!/gallery/34002.

³⁰⁹⁶ Global TanDEM-X forest map is available, DLR (Cologne) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-33241/year-all/151_page-1/#!/gallery/34002.

³⁰⁹⁷ Global TanDEM-X forest map is available, DLR (Cologne) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. https://www.dlr.de/dlr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-10081/151_read-33241/year-all/151_page-1/#!/gallery/34002.

³⁰⁹⁸ Italian Space Agency and Virgin Galactic sign a Joint Declaration, ASI (Rome) 6 July 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://www.asi.it/en/news/italian-space-agency-and-virgin-galactic-sign-a-joint-declaration-0>.

³⁰⁹⁹ Italian Space Agency and Virgin Galactic sign a Joint Declaration, ASI (Rome) 6 July 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://www.asi.it/en/news/italian-space-agency-and-virgin-galactic-sign-a-joint-declaration-0>.

³¹⁰⁰ Italian Space Agency and Virgin Galactic sign a Joint Declaration, ASI (Rome) 6 July 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://www.asi.it/en/news/italian-space-agency-and-virgin-galactic-sign-a-joint-declaration-0>.

³¹⁰¹ Virgin Group companies sign new agreements with Italy, Geospatial World (Amsterdam) 9 July 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://www.geospatialworld.net/news/virgin-group-companies-italy/>.

Earth from 24 to 27 September 2019 in Florence.³¹⁰² The conference will discuss how digital Earth technology is changing and what future innovations are on the horizon.³¹⁰³

From 29 October to 2 November 2018, Italy participated in GEO Week 2018, alongside 104 other member governments and 127 participating organizations.³¹⁰⁴ Participants discussed the future use of Earth observation technology for the benefit of humankind in relation to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Paris Climate Agreement, and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.³¹⁰⁵

On 22 March 2019, Italy successfully launched its PRISMA satellite. According to ASI, the satellite “will be operational for five years and will make available to a national and international community of users images of great scientific interest.”³¹⁰⁶ The satellite uses hyperspectral technology to capture EO images relating to environmental change, pollution, and natural resource management.³¹⁰⁷

Through its support of space infrastructure, Italy has enhanced the capacity of its Earth observation projects and encouraged innovation. However, Italy does not specifically make Earth observation technologies widely available to poor and vulnerable parts of the world.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Harrison Myles and Jessica Afonso

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to leverage innovation in the field of Earth observation technologies and related applications and make them broadly available in the most vulnerable regions of the world to support infrastructure and building design.

On 12 June 2018, the Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd. launched a rocket containing an intelligence-gathering reconnaissance satellite from the Tanegashima Space Center.³¹⁰⁸ The IGS-Radar 6 satellite carries a radar with the capability of capturing ground-level images day or night and regardless of weather conditions.³¹⁰⁹ The new satellite will join the government’s Information Gathering Satellite series.³¹¹⁰

³¹⁰² 11th International Symposium on Digital Earth — ISDE 11, GEO Italy (Italy) 28 September 2018. Access Date: 31 October 2018. <http://www.geoitaly.org/11th-international-symposium-on-digital-earth-isde-11/>.

³¹⁰³ 11th International Symposium on Digital Earth — ISDE 11, GEO Italy (Italy) 28 September 2018. Access Date: 31 October 2018. <http://www.geoitaly.org/11th-international-symposium-on-digital-earth-isde-11/>.

³¹⁰⁴ GEO Week 2018, GEO Italy (Italy) 2 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <http://www.geoitaly.org/geo-week-2018/>.

³¹⁰⁵ GEO Week 2018, GEO Italy (Italy) 2 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <http://www.geoitaly.org/geo-week-2018/>.

³¹⁰⁶ PRISMA satellite successfully launched, ASI (Rome) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 27 May 2019. <https://www.asi.it/en/news/prisma-satellite-successful-launched>.

³¹⁰⁷ PRISMA satellite successfully launched, ASI (Rome) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 27 May 2019. <https://www.asi.it/en/news/prisma-satellite-successful-launched>.

³¹⁰⁸ Japan launches H-IIA rocket carrying intelligence-gathering satellite, Japan Times (Tokyo) 12 June 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/06/12/national/science-health/japan-launches-h-ii-a-rocket-carrying-intelligence-gathering-satellite/#.W5h5h5NKiCV>.

³¹⁰⁹ Japan launches H-IIA rocket carrying intelligence-gathering satellite, Japan Times (Tokyo) 12 June 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/06/12/national/science-health/japan-launches-h-ii-a-rocket-carrying-intelligence-gathering-satellite/#.W5h5h5NKiCV>.

³¹¹⁰ Japan launches H-IIA rocket carrying intelligence-gathering satellite, Japan Times (Tokyo) 12 June 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/06/12/national/science-health/japan-launches-h-ii-a-rocket-carrying-intelligence-gathering-satellite/#.W5h5h5NKiCV>.

On 2 October 2018, the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs and JAXA announced the beginning of the fourth round of the KiboCUBE program.³¹¹¹ The capacity-building project provides developing countries with the opportunity to create cube satellites capable of Earth observation and launch them from the Japanese module on the International Space Station.³¹¹²

On 18 October 2018, the Vietnam National Space Center announced the December 2019 launch of the MicroDragon.³¹¹³ The MicroDragon is a joint Vietnam-Japan EO satellite project created to mitigate the impacts of disasters and climate change.³¹¹⁴

On 29 October 2018, Japanese satellite Ibuki-2, also known as the Second Greenhouse Gases Observing Satellite (GOSAT-2), was successfully launched into the orbit.³¹¹⁵ The satellite was developed by JAXA, and it will measure atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide, methane, and other greenhouse gases to advance the fight against climate change.³¹¹⁶

From 29 October to 2 November 2018, Japan hosted GEO Week 2018, during which member organizations and governments met to discuss Earth observation technology, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Paris Climate Agreement, and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.³¹¹⁷

On 1 November 2018, JAXA expanded the domain of the JAXA Realtime Rainfall Watch website to include GEO-satellite data.³¹¹⁸ The site provides the public with global real-time rainfall information, especially in areas lacking ground-observation networks, such as the Asian Pacific.³¹¹⁹

On 30 November 2018, JAXA announced the anticipated January 2019 launch of Epsilon-4, the fourth Epsilon Launch Vehicle with satellite technology.³¹²⁰ Epsilon rockets are designed to reduce operating costs and launch more frequently than the H-2A and H-2B rockets.³¹²¹

³¹¹¹ UNOOSA and JAXA open fourth round of KiboCUBE, SpaceRef (Reston) 2 October 2018. Access Date: 31 October 2018. <http://spaceref.com/news/viewpr.html?pid=53154>.

³¹¹² UNOOSA and JAXA open fourth round of KiboCUBE, SpaceRef (Reston) 2 October 2018. Access Date: 31 October 2018. <http://spaceref.com/news/viewpr.html?pid=53154>.

³¹¹³ Vietnam to Launch MicroDragon Earth Observation Satellite in December, Via Satellite (Rockville) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 31 October 2018. <https://www.satellitetoday.com/launch/2018/10/22/vietnam-to-launch-microdragon-earth-observation-satellite-in-december/>.

³¹¹⁴ Vietnam to Launch MicroDragon Earth Observation Satellite in December, Via Satellite (Rockville) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 31 October 2018. <https://www.satellitetoday.com/launch/2018/10/22/vietnam-to-launch-microdragon-earth-observation-satellite-in-december/>.

³¹¹⁵ Ibuki-2 earth observation satellite launched, Japan News (Tokyo) 29 October 2018. Access Date: 31 October 2018. <http://www.the-japan-news.com/news/article/0004927232>.

³¹¹⁶ Ibuki-2 earth observation satellite launched, Japan News (Tokyo) 29 October 2018. Access Date: 31 October 2018. <http://www.the-japan-news.com/news/article/0004927232>.

³¹¹⁷ GEO Week 2018 in Kyoto, Japan, GEO (Geneva) 29 October 2018- 2 November 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. <https://www.earthobservations.org/geo15.php>.

³¹¹⁸ Extension of the domain of JAXA Realtime Rainfall Watch (GSMaP_NOW), JAXA (Tokyo) 1 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.eorc.jaxa.jp/en/news/2018/nw181101.html>.

³¹¹⁹ Extension of the domain of JAXA Realtime Rainfall Watch (GSMaP_NOW), JAXA (Tokyo) 1 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.eorc.jaxa.jp/en/news/2018/nw181101.html>.

³¹²⁰ Launch of Epsilon-4 with the Innovative Satellite Technology Demonstration-1 on Board, JAXA (Tokyo) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. http://global.jaxa.jp/press/2018/11/20181130_epsilon4.html.

³¹²¹ Japan's Epsilon-3 rocket successfully places private NEC satellite into orbit, Japan Times (Tokyo) 18 January 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/01/18/national/japans-epsilon-3-rocket-successfully-places-private-nec-satellite-orbit/?_ga=2.134704433.1902603116.1544196501-365853416.1544196501#.XAqRtxNKjBK.

On 18 January 2019, “RAPIS-1” was launched into space from the Uchinoura Space Center in Kagoshima, Japan.³¹²² RAPIS-1 is a satellite commissioned by JAXA to perform several in-orbit experiments that will inform future satellite technology, some of which will be used for Earth observation.³¹²³

Through its development of new Earth observation satellites and advancements in making Earth observation data accessible to poor and vulnerable regions in Asia, Japan has leveraged innovation to enhance the capabilities of Earth observation technology.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Sofia Louise Lopez and Jessica Afonso

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to leverage innovation in the field of Earth observation technologies and related applications and make them broadly available in the most vulnerable regions of the world to support infrastructure and building design.

On 27 June 2018, Avanti Communications announced the Satellite Enablement for Disaster Risk Reduction in Kenya to enhance the country’s disaster planning and response mechanisms.³¹²⁴ The initiative is funded by the International Partnership Program of the United Kingdom Space Agency (UKSA) and aims to distribute Earth observation disaster data to coastline countries.³¹²⁵

On 16 July 2018, the UK announced a partnership with Orbex and Lockheed Martin to develop new space launch technology.³¹²⁶ The UKSA provided Lockheed Martin with two grants totalling GBP23.5 million for the development of vertical launch operations in Sutherland and new systems in Reading for the deployment of satellites.³¹²⁷ GBP5.5 million was provided to Orbex to create a new rocket capable of launching small satellites into the orbit, and the satellites will have commercial and Earth observation uses.³¹²⁸

On 26 July 2018, a multispectral imaging device research project led by the University of Strathclyde received GBP719,000 in funding from the UKSA Centre for Earth Observation Instrumentation.³¹²⁹

³¹²² JAXA launches its first startup-built satellite RAPIS-1 & 6 other satellites, SpaceTech Asia (Singapore) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <http://www.spacetechnasia.com/jaxa-launches-its-first-startup-built-satellite-rapis-1-6-other-cubesats/>.

³¹²³ JAXA launches its first startup-built satellite RAPIS-1 & 6 other satellites, SpaceTech Asia (Singapore) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <http://www.spacetechnasia.com/jaxa-launches-its-first-startup-built-satellite-rapis-1-6-other-cubesats/>.

³¹²⁴ Avanti Communications to Strengthen Kenya’s Disaster Response Communications, Developing Telecoms (London) 27 June 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://www.developingtelecoms.com/business/humanitarian-comms/7885-avanti-communications-to-strengthen-kenya-s-disaster-response-communications.html>.

³¹²⁵ Avanti Communications to Strengthen Kenya’s Disaster Response Communications, Developing Telecoms (London) 27 June 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://www.developingtelecoms.com/business/humanitarian-comms/7885-avanti-communications-to-strengthen-kenya-s-disaster-response-communications.html>.

³¹²⁶ Lockheed Martin and Orbex to launch UK into new space age, UKSA (Swindon) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/lockheed-martin-and-orbex-to-launch-uk-into-new-space-age>.

³¹²⁷ Lockheed Martin and Orbex to launch UK into new space age, UKSA (Swindon) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/lockheed-martin-and-orbex-to-launch-uk-into-new-space-age>.

³¹²⁸ Lockheed Martin and Orbex to launch UK into new space age, UKSA (Swindon) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/lockheed-martin-and-orbex-to-launch-uk-into-new-space-age>.

³¹²⁹ Lockheed Martin and Orbex to launch UK into new space age, UKSA (Swindon) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/lockheed-martin-and-orbex-to-launch-uk-into-new-space-age>.

The developing technology will fit on a nanosatellite and monitor climate change, ocean activity, forest fires, and shipping traffic.³¹³⁰

On 17 September 2018, two large Earth observation satellites, the NovaSAR-1, and SSTL S1-4, were launched in India.³¹³¹ The UKSA invested GBP2.1 million in the NovaSAR-1, and the satellite will “significantly boost the UK’s sovereign Earth observation capabilities.”³¹³²

On 3 October 2018, the UK signed a memorandum of understanding with Australia and Canada.³¹³³ The agreement will enhance trilateral cooperation between the space agencies in areas of space science, policy, law, and the NovaSAR earth observation satellite.³¹³⁴

On 5 November 2018, the Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on “Monitoring Atmospheric Conditions” began to provide accessible and free information on monitoring atmospheric conditions using in situ measurements, satellite observations, and numerical modelling.³¹³⁵ The course is a collaboration between the UK’s National Centre for Earth Observation, the European Union, the Copernicus Atmosphere Service, the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and other space partners.³¹³⁶ The MOOC will explore how threats to the atmosphere can affect human health, climate change, and ecosystems.³¹³⁷

On 30 November 2018, the UKSA launched a new pilot program in Kenya, Ghana, and Zambia. The program seeks to use satellite and meteorological data such as ground and soil temperatures to predict when pests and diseases may occur.³¹³⁸ The system will allow preventive action to be taken in order to save crops.³¹³⁹

³¹³⁰ Researchers to build spectral imaging for nanosats, Imaging and Machine Vision Europe (Cambridge) 26 July 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://www.imveurope.com/news/researchers-build-spectral-imaging-nanosats>.

³¹³¹ UK- Made Earth Observation Satellites Successfully Launched from India, The Engineer (London) 17 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.theengineer.co.uk/uk-made-earth-observation-satellites-successfully-launched/>.

³¹³² UK- Made Earth Observation Satellites Successfully Launched from India, The Engineer (London) 17 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.theengineer.co.uk/uk-made-earth-observation-satellites-successfully-launched/>.

³¹³³ Britain and Australia enter into space agreement, UKSA (Swindon) 3 October 2018. Access Date: 31 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/britain-and-australia-enter-into-space-agreement>.

³¹³⁴ Britain and Australia enter into space agreement, UKSA (Swindon) 3 October 2018. Access Date: 31 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/britain-and-australia-enter-into-space-agreement>.

³¹³⁵ Monitoring Atmospheric Composition: New Online Training Course, National Centre for Earth Observation (Leicester) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.nceo.ac.uk/article/monitoring-atmospheric-composition-new-online-training-course/>.

³¹³⁶ Monitoring Atmospheric Composition: New Online Training Course, National Centre for Earth Observation (Leicester) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.nceo.ac.uk/article/monitoring-atmospheric-composition-new-online-training-course/>.

³¹³⁷ Monitoring Atmospheric Composition: New Online Training Course, National Centre for Earth Observation (Leicester) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.nceo.ac.uk/article/monitoring-atmospheric-composition-new-online-training-course/>.

³¹³⁸ UK aid supporting more than 18 million farmers with plant doctors and new satellite ‘pest forecasts’, Department For International Development (London) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 17 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-supporting-more-than-18-million-farmers-with-plant-doctors-and-new-satellite-pest-forecasts>.

³¹³⁹ UK aid supporting more than 18 million farmers with plant doctors and new satellite ‘pest forecasts’, Department For International Development (London) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 17 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-supporting-more-than-18-million-farmers-with-plant-doctors-and-new-satellite-pest-forecasts>.

On 11 January 2019, UKSA signed a declaration of intent in tandem with the Mexican government to provide historical, statistical, and satellite data.³¹⁴⁰ The data will be used by Mexican farmers and other industry stakeholders to improve crop output and optimize yield.³¹⁴¹

On 28 January 2019, the Ministry of Defence invested GBP1 million into a new generation of deployable satellite antennas.³¹⁴² The antennas will be used in fine-resolution Low Earth Orbit Synthetic Aperture Radar imagery, which provides EO weather data.³¹⁴³

Through its support of satellite launching and imaging technology, the United Kingdom remains committed to innovation in the field of Earth observation technologies and making them broadly available in the most vulnerable regions of the world in support of infrastructure and building design.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Harrison Myles and Reema Bazzi

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to leverage innovation in the field of Earth observation technologies and related applications and make them broadly available in the most vulnerable regions of the world to support infrastructure and building design.

On 27 September 2018, the National Aeronautics and Space Association (NASA) signed a contract with the University of Alaska at Fairbanks for the operation of the Synthetic Aperture Radar Distributed Active Archive Center of NASA's Earth Observing System Data and Information System.³¹⁴⁴

On 28 September 2018, NASA sponsored DigitalGlobe, Planet, and Spire in a pilot program to evaluate the possibility of using commercial small-sat Earth data for scientific purposes.³¹⁴⁵

On 5 October 2018, the US Geological Survey and the Earth Resources Observation and Science Center (EROS) met with the Requirements, Capabilities, and Analysis for Earth Observation project at the Joint Agency Commercial Imagery Evaluation workshop. The workshop discussed how Earth

³¹⁴⁰ UK Space Agency COMPASS project aims to improve crop yields for Mexican farmers, Space Daily (Australia) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019.

http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/UK_Space_Agency_COMPASS_project_aims_to_to_improve_crop_yields_for_Mexican_farmers_999.html.

³¹⁴¹ UK Space Agency COMPASS project aims to improve crop yields for Mexican farmers, Space Daily (Australia) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019.

http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/UK_Space_Agency_COMPASS_project_aims_to_to_improve_crop_yields_for_Mexican_farmers_999.html.

³¹⁴² £1m injection into pioneering new space technology, Ministry of Defence (London) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/1m-injection-into-pioneering-new-space-technology>.

³¹⁴³ £1m injection into pioneering new space technology, Ministry of Defence (London) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/1m-injection-into-pioneering-new-space-technology>.

³¹⁴⁴ NASA Awards Contract for Archive Center Operations, NASA (Washington) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.nasa.gov/press-release/nasa-awards-contract-for-archive-center-operations>.

³¹⁴⁵ NASA Evaluates Commercial Small-Sat Earth Data for Science, NASA (Washington) 4 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.nasa.gov/press-release/nasa-evaluates-commercial-small-sat-earth-data-for-science>.

observation data can be collected to improve its use for scientific study.³¹⁴⁶ The workshop also explored the further integration of satellite systems to bolster the US's imagery capabilities.³¹⁴⁷

On 5 December 2018, the SpaceX Dragon spacecraft carried NASA's Global Ecosystem Dynamics Investigation (GEDI) into space.³¹⁴⁸ The GEDI will provide observations of forests and topography to advance research on carbon and water cycling processes, biodiversity, habitat, and the potential for forests to absorb carbon.³¹⁴⁹

On 22 February 2019, LANDFIRE staff at EROS used new Landsat imagery to produce vegetation and fuel maps that will inform wildland fire and ecological decision support systems.³¹⁵⁰

On 28 May 2019, NASA released its first Ice, Cloud and land Elevation Satellite-2 (ICESat-2) observations, including more than one trillion new measurements of elevations in the polar regions.³¹⁵¹ This data was made available to the public, and it will allow scientists to track sea level and sea ice changes in relation to climate patterns in the North and South poles.³¹⁵²

The United States has strived to make innovations in the technological advancement of Earth observation coverage. However, it has not made these innovations explicitly available to the poorest and most vulnerable nations.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

Analysts: David Manocchio and Michael Zusev

European Union: +1

The European Union fully complied with its commitment to leverage innovation in the field of Earth observation technologies and related applications and make them broadly available in the most vulnerable regions of the world to support infrastructure and building design.

On 20 June 2018, Commissioner for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship, and Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises Elżbieta Bieńkowska announced the launch of the Copernicus Data and Information Access Services.³¹⁵³ The initiative will make obtaining and downloading satellite data more accessible, simple and affordable.³¹⁵⁴ Copernicus satellites are used to improve responses to

³¹⁴⁶ EROS Leads Dialogue on Future of Earth Observation, NASA (Washington) 5 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://eros.usgs.gov/headlines/eros-leads-dialogue-future-earth-observation>.

³¹⁴⁷ EROS Leads Dialogue on Future of Earth Observation, NASA (Washington) 5 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://eros.usgs.gov/headlines/eros-leads-dialogue-future-earth-observation>.

³¹⁴⁸ NASA Sends New Research, Hardware to Space Station on SpaceX Mission, NASA (Washington) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.nasa.gov/press-release/nasa-sends-new-research-hardware-to-space-station-on-spacex-mission>.

³¹⁴⁹ NASA Sends New Research, Hardware to Space Station on SpaceX Mission, NASA (Washington) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.nasa.gov/press-release/nasa-sends-new-research-hardware-to-space-station-on-spacex-mission>.

³¹⁵⁰ LANDFIRE Remap Begins to Roll Out, USGS (Reston) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. https://www.usgs.gov/center-news/landfire-remap-begins-roll-out?qt-news_science_products=1#qt-news_science_products.

³¹⁵¹ First ICESat-2 Global Data Released: Ice, Forests and More, NASA (Washington) 28 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.nasa.gov/feature/goddard/2019/icesat-2-global-height-data-available-to-public>.

³¹⁵² First ICESat-2 Global Data Released: Ice, Forests and More, NASA (Washington) 28 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.nasa.gov/feature/goddard/2019/icesat-2-global-height-data-available-to-public>.

³¹⁵³ Daily News Daily News 20/06/2018, EC (Brussels) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 8 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-4_232_en.htm.

³¹⁵⁴ Daily News Daily News 20/06/2018, EC (Brussels) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 8 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-4232_en.htm.

natural disasters by monitoring six areas: land, ocean, atmosphere, climate change, emergency management response, and security.³¹⁵⁵ The European Commission also proposed expanding these services under the EUR16 billion EU Space Programme beyond 2020 to adapt to emerging needs such as carbon dioxide monitoring and polar missions to fight the effects of climate change.³¹⁵⁶

On 22 June 2018, the EU Civil Protection Mechanism sent EUR400,000 in aid to Guatemala following a volcanic eruption.³¹⁵⁷ Such assistance included basic healthcare supplies, water, sanitation, and psychological support. The Copernicus satellite's mapping service generated 18 maps to assist in identifying the most affected areas.³¹⁵⁸

On 25 July 2018, the EU launched four additional Galileo satellites, expected to generate precise signals for the EU's global satellite navigation system.³¹⁵⁹ Galileo provides three types of navigation services: Galileo Open Service for positioning and timing purposes (such as communicating a vehicle's location to emergency services), Galileo's Search and Rescue Service to locate distress signals, and Galileo Public Regulated Service for security purposes such as military operations and national emergencies.³¹⁶⁰ This recent launch brings Galileo to a total of 26 satellites and brings the EU closer to Galileo's full completion in 2020.³¹⁶¹

On 26 July 2018, the European Commission and the African Union reached a deal that will expand Copernicus data access to African researchers studying Earth observation.³¹⁶² Through the satellites, researchers will have access to photographs of sea topography, land temperature, vegetation changes, and weather patterns.³¹⁶³ African scientists and institutions will also receive technical support from European research and space agencies.³¹⁶⁴ The EU intends to promote the use of satellite technology to support sustainable development, especially in Africa, which experiences more intense and frequent extreme weather events as a result of climate change.³¹⁶⁵

³¹⁵⁵ Daily News Daily News 20/06/2018, EC (Brussels) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 8 September 2018.

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-4232_en.htm.

³¹⁵⁶ Daily News Daily News 20/06/2018, EC (Brussels) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 8 September 2018.

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-4232_en.htm.

³¹⁵⁷ Daily News Daily News 22/06/2018, EC (Brussels) 22 June 2018. Access Date: 8 September 2018.

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-4266_en.htm.

³¹⁵⁸ Daily News Daily News 22/06/2018, EC (Brussels) 22 June 2018. Access Date: 8 September 2018.

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-4266_en.htm.

³¹⁵⁹ Press release Space: 26 Galileo satellites now in orbit for improved EU satellite navigation signal, EC (Brussels) 25 July 2018. Access Date: 8 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4603_en.htm.

³¹⁶⁰ Press release Space: 26 Galileo satellites now in orbit for improved EU satellite navigation signal, EC (Brussels) 25 July 2018. Access Date: 8 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4603_en.htm.

³¹⁶¹ Press release Space: 26 Galileo satellites now in orbit for improved EU satellite navigation signal, EC (Brussels) 25 July 2018. Access Date: 8 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4603_en.htm.

³¹⁶² African scientists will now access Europe's satellite data for free, Quartz (New York City) 26 July 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. <https://qz.com/africa/1340769/african-researchers-to-have-free-access-to-europes-earth-observation-data/>.

³¹⁶³ African scientists will now access Europe's satellite data for free, Quartz (New York City) 26 July 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. <https://qz.com/africa/1340769/african-researchers-to-have-free-access-to-europes-earth-observation-data/>.

³¹⁶⁴ African scientists will now access Europe's satellite data for free, Quartz (New York City) 26 July 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. <https://qz.com/africa/1340769/african-researchers-to-have-free-access-to-europes-earth-observation-data/>.

³¹⁶⁵ African scientists will now access Europe's satellite data for free, Quartz (New York City) 26 July 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. <https://qz.com/africa/1340769/african-researchers-to-have-free-access-to-europes-earth-observation-data/>.

On 6 August 2018, the EU sent aid to Sweden to fight forest fires.³¹⁶⁶ The EU used the Copernicus program to produce 37 satellite maps that identified the most impacted areas.³¹⁶⁷

On 8 August 2018, the EU provided aid to thousands of people displaced by the earthquakes in Lombok, Indonesia.³¹⁶⁸ The Copernicus program was employed to assist Indonesian civil protection authorities.³¹⁶⁹

On 18 September 2018, at the ITS World Congress 2018 in the Bella Centre in Copenhagen, the European Global Navigation Satellite Systems Agency unveiled the eCall emergency response system and other innovations in EO technology to make “Europe’s roads smarter, greener and safe.”³¹⁷⁰

On 18 September 2018, the European Commission’s emergency satellite mapping service Copernicus delivered data on the most affected areas of Typhoon Mangkhut in the Philippines.³¹⁷¹

On 29 September 2018, Copernicus provided mapping services to Indonesian authorities after a deadly earthquake hit the island of Sulawesi.³¹⁷²

On 16 October 2018, following a flood in southeast France, French authorities accessed Copernicus to receive mapping data for the Hérault and Aude counties.³¹⁷³

On 29 October 2018, the EU committed EUR300 million to improve the health of the oceans.³¹⁷⁴ The Copernicus EO program received EUR12.9 million for maritime security and coastal environmental research.³¹⁷⁵

On 5 November 2018, the European Commission’s 24/7 Emergency Response Coordination Centre helped Italian authorities handle heavy floods affecting many parts of the country.³¹⁷⁶ The EU’s Copernicus satellite mapping service was activated for affected areas in Sicily and Veneto.³¹⁷⁷

On 7 November 2018, the European weather satellite MetOp-C was launched from French Guiana.³¹⁷⁸ The satellite was developed through a partnership with the European Organization for

³¹⁶⁶ Press release Record EU Civil Protection operation helps Sweden fight forest fires, EC (Brussels) 6 August 2018. Access Date: 8 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4803_en.htm.

³¹⁶⁷ Press release Record EU Civil Protection operation helps Sweden fight forest fires, EC (Brussels) 6 August 2018. Access Date: 8 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4803_en.htm.

³¹⁶⁸ Daily News 08/08/2018, EC (Brussels) 8 August 2018. Access Date: 8 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-4906_en.htm.

³¹⁶⁹ Daily News 08/08/2018, EC (Brussels) 8 August 2018. Access Date: 8 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-4906_en.htm.

³¹⁷⁰ Space-driven innovation for safer roads at ITS 2018, GSA (Prague) 14 September 2018. Access Date: 9 October 2018. <https://www.gsa.europa.eu/newsroom/news/space-driven-innovation-safer-roads-its-2018>.

³¹⁷¹ Daily News 18/09/2018, EC (Brussels) 18 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-5824_en.htm.

³¹⁷² Statement on the deadly earthquake and tsunami in Indonesia, EC (Brussels) 29 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-5950_en.htm.

³¹⁷³ Daily News 16/10/2018, EC (Brussels) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-6133_en.htm.

³¹⁷⁴ European Union commits €300 million for clean, healthy and safe oceans, EC (Brussels) 29 October 2018. Access Date: 31 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6209_en.htm.

³¹⁷⁵ European Union commits €300 million for clean, healthy and safe oceans, EC (Brussels) 29 October 2018. Access Date: 31 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6209_en.htm.

³¹⁷⁶ Daily News 5/11/2018, EC (Brussels) 5 November 2018. Access Date: 30 November 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-6304_en.htm.

³¹⁷⁷ Daily News 5/11/2018, EC (Brussels) 5 November 2018. Access Date: 30 November 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-6304_en.htm.

the Exploration of Meteorological Satellites and the European Space Agency (ESA).³¹⁷⁹ The satellite will monitor weather patterns, the ozone layer, gases, wind speeds, and climate change.³¹⁸⁰

From 12-16 November 2018, the ESA hosted Earth Observation Φ -week in Frascati, Italy.³¹⁸¹ Events during Φ -week discussed the future of several space domains, including Earth observation.³¹⁸²

On 20 November 2018, the ESA Vega rocket carried a Moroccan EO satellite from French Guinea into space.³¹⁸³ This satellite will assist in land-mapping, natural disaster prevention, and environmental monitoring.³¹⁸⁴

On 4 December 2018, over 40 entrepreneurs were awarded EUR1.6 million to create services and products using data provided by the Copernicus and Galileo satellite systems.³¹⁸⁵ The award will encourage innovation in various observational fields, including wildfire alerts and farming.³¹⁸⁶

On 18 January 2019, the Copernicus Climate Change Service released the ERA5 dataset that maps global climate fluctuations since 1979.³¹⁸⁷ ERA5 will allow researchers to accurately understand how the climate has changed and what can be done for the future.³¹⁸⁸

On 23 January 2019, the European Commission granted an additional EUR96 million to the Copernicus system over the next two years.³¹⁸⁹ This funding will further support satellite missions and the EO program.³¹⁹⁰

³¹⁷⁸ Europe's Third Polar-Orbiting Weather Satellite Lofted into Orbit, ESA (Paris) 7 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. https://www.esa.int/Our_Activities/Observing_the_Earth/MetOp/Europe_s_third_polar-orbiting_weather_satellite_lofted_into_orbit.

³¹⁷⁹ Europe's Third Polar-Orbiting Weather Satellite Lofted into Orbit, ESA (Paris) 7 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. https://www.esa.int/Our_Activities/Observing_the_Earth/MetOp/Europe_s_third_polar-orbiting_weather_satellite_lofted_into_orbit.

³¹⁸⁰ Europe's Third Polar-Orbiting Weather Satellite Lofted into Orbit, ESA (Paris) 7 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. https://www.esa.int/Our_Activities/Observing_the_Earth/MetOp/Europe_s_third_polar-orbiting_weather_satellite_lofted_into_orbit.

³¹⁸¹ ESA Earth Observation Φ -Week, Nov 12-16, 2018, Frascati, Italy (livestreamed), SpacePolicyOnline.com (Arlington) 9 November 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. <https://spacepolicyonline.com/events/esa-earth-observation-phi-week-nov-12-16-2018-frascati-italy/>.

³¹⁸² ESA Earth Observation Φ -Week, Nov 12-16, 2018, Frascati, Italy (livestreamed), SpacePolicyOnline.com (Arlington) 9 November 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. <https://spacepolicyonline.com/events/esa-earth-observation-phi-week-nov-12-16-2018-frascati-italy/>.

³¹⁸³ Arianespace Vega launches second Moroccan Earth-observation satellite, SpaceNews (Alexandria) 20 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://spacenews.com/arianespace-vega-launches-second-moroccan-earth-observation-satellite/>.

³¹⁸⁴ Arianespace Vega launches second Moroccan Earth-observation satellite, SpaceNews (Alexandria) 20 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://spacenews.com/arianespace-vega-launches-second-moroccan-earth-observation-satellite/>.

³¹⁸⁵ Daily News 16/11/2018, EC (Brussels) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-6658_en.htm.

³¹⁸⁶ Daily News 16/11/2018, EC (Brussels) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-6658_en.htm.

³¹⁸⁷ Copernicus lance une nouvelle base de données pour l'observation du climat Mondial, Environment Magazine (Paris) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 12 February 2019. <https://www.environnement-magazine.fr/politiques/article/2019/01/18/122603/copernicus-lance-une-nouvelle-base-donnees-pour-observation-climat-mondial>.

³¹⁸⁸ Copernicus lance une nouvelle base de données pour l'observation du climat Mondial, Environment Magazine (Paris) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 12 February 2019. <https://www.environnement-magazine.fr/politiques/article/2019/01/18/122603/copernicus-lance-une-nouvelle-base-donnees-pour-observation-climat-mondial>.

On 11 February 2019, four Galileo satellites were put into service.³¹⁹¹ This brings the Galileo system to a total of 22 active satellites.³¹⁹²

On 5 June 2019, the European Commission presented a proposal of the EU budget for 2020.³¹⁹³ The budget totalled EUR168.3 billion, of which EUR1.2 billion will go to the EU's Galileo satellite navigation system.³¹⁹⁴ This represents a 75% increase compared to the previous fiscal year. With this budget, the EU is aiming to reach 1.2 billion Galileo users by the end of 2020.³¹⁹⁵

Through its support of satellite launches, imaging technology, and disaster prevention in vulnerable coastline states, the EU remains committed to leveraging innovation in the field of EO technologies and making them broadly available in the most vulnerable regions of the world to support infrastructure and building design.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Sofia Louise Lopez and Elodie Girves

³¹⁸⁹ Copernicus budget gets budget boost from European Commission, SpaceNews (Alexandria) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://spacenews.com/copernicus-budget-gets-budget-boost-from-european-commission/>.

³¹⁹⁰ Copernicus budget gets budget boost from European Commission, SpaceNews (Alexandria) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://spacenews.com/copernicus-budget-gets-budget-boost-from-european-commission/>.

³¹⁹¹ Latest batch of Galileo satellites enters service, GSA (Prague) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 12 February 2019. <https://www.gsa.europa.eu/newsroom/news/latest-batch-galileo-satellites-enters-service>.

³¹⁹² Latest batch of Galileo satellites enters service, GSA (Prague) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 12 February 2019. <https://www.gsa.europa.eu/newsroom/news/latest-batch-galileo-satellites-enters-service>.

³¹⁹³ Daily News 05/06/2019, EC (Brussels) 5 June 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2809_en.htm.

³¹⁹⁴ Daily News 05/06/2019, EC (Brussels) 5 June 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2809_en.htm.

³¹⁹⁵ Daily News 05/06/2019, EC (Brussels) 5 June 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2809_en.htm.

14. Environment: Coastal Resilience

“Our efforts will support resilient and quality infrastructure in coasts and coastal communities, particularly in SIDS. This will include advancing the development and deployment of clean and resilient energy systems, including from renewable sources.”

Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities

Assessment

	Lack of Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany		0	
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.75	

Background

This commitment is a collective pledge by G7 members to protect coastal communities and low-lying coastal areas from the impact of environmental degradation and climate change. “Working together on climate change, oceans, and clean energy” was a major theme championed by the Canadian government during its Presidency of the G7.³¹⁹⁶ G7 leaders agreed that inter-sectoral partnerships are necessary to understand the vulnerabilities, needs, and expertise with regards to coasts and coastal communities. Infrastructure was specifically identified as an important component of protecting coastal communities.

The role of infrastructure in protecting coasts and coastal communities from the impact of climate change has been previously addressed in multilateral forums outside G7 summits.

On 15 November 2017, the World Bank released a report on improving the climate and disaster resilience of transport infrastructure in small island developing states (SIDS).³¹⁹⁷ The release occurred during the 2017 United Nations climate change conference, which was presided by Fiji. This report highlighted the unique climate and disaster risks faced by SIDS and proposed steps for building resilient transport infrastructure.³¹⁹⁸

On 11 August 2015, the draft outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda was published. In the introduction, the document identified

³¹⁹⁶ Canada’s G7 Themes, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2018.

<https://g7.gc.ca/en/g7-presidency/themes/>

³¹⁹⁷ Climate and Disaster Resilient Transport in Small Island Developing States: A Call for Action, World Bank (Washington, D.C.) 15 November 2017. Access Date: 5 September 2018.

<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/28798>

³¹⁹⁸ Climate and Disaster Resilient Transport in Small Island Developing States: A Call for Action, World Bank (Washington, D.C.) 15 November 2017. Access Date: 5 September 2018.

<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/28798>

climate change to be a particular challenge for low-lying coastal areas.³¹⁹⁹ The document also outlined 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Goal 14, the conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas, and marine resources, stipulates that the resilience of marine and coastal ecosystems need to be strengthened by 2020.³²⁰⁰

On 13 August 1992, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro culminated in the production of a non-binding action plan titled Agenda 21. Chapter 17 of Agenda 21 addresses the protection of oceans and coastal areas. It suggests coastal states to set up “coordinating mechanism for the integrated management and sustainable development of coastal and marine areas and their resources.” This mechanism for cooperation was established to provide contingency plans to respond to climate change, and improve coastal human settlements, infrastructure adaptation, and environmentally sound technology, among other things.³²⁰¹

Climate change and infrastructure have a long history of being discussed as independent issues at G7 summits. It was not until the recent decade that G7 summits examined how infrastructure can be used to help coasts and coastal communities adapt to the impacts of climate change.

On 26 May 2016, at the Ise-Shima summit, G7 leaders released a document titled Principles for Promoting Quality Infrastructure Investment. Principle four of the document states that climate change resilience should be considered a part of infrastructure investment, specifically by promoting ecosystem-based approaches and green infrastructure.³²⁰²

On 7-8 June 2015, the G7 Elmau Summit released a background report on long-term climate finance. The document mentions that in 2013, multilateral development banks spent USD 5 billion adapting to climate change. Of this amount, 22 percent was allocated to building coastal and riverine infrastructure.³²⁰³

On 26 June 2010, the leaders’ declaration adopted at the G8 Muskoka Summit was published. The declaration reports that leaders discussed the importance of ensuring economies, particularly the poorest and most vulnerable, are climate resilient. Infrastructure and technological innovation were specified as options for adapting to the effects of climate change.³²⁰⁴

On 8 July 2009, the leaders’ declaration released at the G8 L’Aquila Summit states that the leaders recognize that climate change adaptation policies needed to be defined and implemented, especially

³¹⁹⁹ Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, United Nations Development Programme (New York) 11 August 2015. Access Date: 6 September 2018. https://www.un.org/pga/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2015/08/120815_outcome-document-of-Summit-for-adoption-of-the-post-2015-development-agenda.pdf

³²⁰⁰ Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, United Nations Development Programme (New York) 11 August 2015. Access Date: 6 September 2018. https://www.un.org/pga/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2015/08/120815_outcome-document-of-Summit-for-adoption-of-the-post-2015-development-agenda.pdf

³²⁰¹ Report of the United Nations Conference ON Environment and Development, Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro) 13 August 1992. Access Date: 5 September 2018. http://www.un.org/Depts/los/consultative_process/documents/A21-Ch17.htm

³²⁰² G7 Ise-Shima Principles for Promoting Quality Infrastructure Investment, G7 Information Centre (Ise-Shima) 26 May 2016. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/infrastructure-investment.html>

³²⁰³ Background Report on Long-Term Climate Finance, G7 Information Centre (Schloss Elmau) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-climate-finance.pdf>

³²⁰⁴ G8 Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Muskoka) 26 June 2010. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>

for least developed countries and SIDS. The declaration also highlighted the use of ecosystems in adaptation measures.³²⁰⁵

Commitment Features

This commitment includes several terms that need to be understood in the wider context of the Charlevoix Blueprint For Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities. The most important term used is infrastructure, which includes both physical and natural infrastructure. Examples of physical infrastructures used to adapt to the impact of climate change include sea-wall and drainage systems. Natural infrastructure is defined as the strategic management of natural lands and features, which conserve and enhance ecosystems.³²⁰⁶ Examples of natural infrastructure include restoring coral reefs, mangroves, wetlands, and seagrass beds.³²⁰⁷

The first part of the commitment states that the infrastructure built to protect coasts and coastal communities from the impacts of climate change should be resilient and of quality. This means that coastal infrastructure should be built to withstand ocean warming, ocean acidification, sea-level rise, and extreme weather events. “Support” is defined as “the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity,” a definition that characterizes the threshold of action necessary for the G7 member to achieve full compliance in this part of the commitment.³²⁰⁸ This could also include developing standards and best practices for coastal management strategies to ensure resilience and quality.³²⁰⁹

The Charlevoix Blueprint For Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities also identifies coasts and coastal communities as areas where climate change adaptation infrastructure needs to be built. Coasts are defined as low-lying regions close to water, while coastal communities refer to human settlements in low-lying regions close to water.³²¹⁰ Of particular concern are SIDS. SIDS were recognized as a group of countries with unique economic and environmental challenges during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro. SIDS are located in three geographical regions: the Caribbean, the Pacific and Atlantic, Indian Ocean, Mediterranean and South China Sea (AMIS).³²¹¹ SIDS are directly mentioned in this commitment because they are home to a significant number and population of coastal communities.

The second part and corollary of the commitment are advancing the development and deployment of clean energy systems in coastal regions and communities, including from renewable sources. The G7 members pledge to “advance” the aforementioned energy infrastructure, “advance” defined as “to move or push forward, make progress, give active support to, promote, cause an event to occur at an

³²⁰⁵ G8 Leaders Declaration: Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G8 Information Centre (L’Aquila) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.html>

³²⁰⁶ Benedict and McMahon 2006 in Natural Infrastructure in the Nexus, International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (Gland) 2015. Access Date: 7 September 2018. http://www.iwa-network.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Natural-Infrastructure-in-the-Nexus_Final-Dialogue-Synthesis-Paper-2015.pdf

³²⁰⁷ Adaptation to Sea Level Rise, United Nations Environmental Program (Nairobi) Access Date: 6 September 2018. <https://www.unenvironment.org/news-and-stories/video/adaptation-sea-level-rise>

³²⁰⁸ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 23 September 2018.

³²⁰⁹ Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/official-documents/charlevoix-blueprint-healthy-oceans-seas-resilient-coastal-communities/>

³²¹⁰ Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/official-documents/charlevoix-blueprint-healthy-oceans-seas-resilient-coastal-communities/>

³²¹¹ About the Small Island Developing States, UN-OHRLS (New York) Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://unohrlls.org/about-un-ohrlls/>

earlier date.”³²¹² To “develop” is defined as “to cause something to grow into a more advanced, larger, or stronger form.” “To deploy” is understood to mean “to place in appropriate formation, or to spread out, utilize, or arrange for a deliberate purpose.”

The Fifth Assessment Report of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change defines an energy system as “all components related to the production, conversion, delivery, and use of energy.”³²¹³ For an energy system to be clean, it should produce minimal amounts of carbon dioxide emissions. Examples of clean energy include solar, wind, water, geothermal, bioenergy, and nuclear.³²¹⁴ Although clean energy and renewable energy are not synonymous terms, the majority of clean energy is renewable.

To achieve full compliance, the G7 member first needs to have demonstrated support for the development of quality infrastructure to improve the climate resilience of coasts and coastal communities. Directing support at SIDS is required for compliance as a prioritized and emphasized area of evidence for compliance because SIDS is highlighted explicitly in the commitment. Supporting either human-made or natural infrastructure is adequate for compliance. It is necessary that the developmental and infrastructural contributions of G7 members have an explicit focus on climate and disaster resilience. Secondly, full compliance also requires the G7 member to advance the development and deployment of clean energy systems in coasts and coastal regions. Similar to the first part of the commitment, the clean energy systems advanced by G7 members must also seek to ameliorate climate resilience.

In the first part of the commitment, to “support” is defined as “the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity.”³²¹⁵ This definition informs the threshold of action necessary for a G7 member to achieve full compliance. In the second part of the commitment, to “advance” requires the G7 member to build upon existing measures that develop and deploy clean and resilient energy systems. Thus, G7 members must act to strengthen the cause. Examples of support and advancement include but are not limited to providing financing to climate-resilient infrastructure in coastal communities, sharing best practices and technical expertise and more. Specifically, “advance” points to a stronger threshold of action than “support,” with the former meaning more than a mere verbal reiteration of support or participation in a relevant conference.

Partial compliance will be scored if the G7 member complies with only the former part of this commitment. For instance, partial compliance applies in a scenario where a G7 member’s support for quality and resilient infrastructure does not include assisting the development and deployment of clean energy. According to the text of the commitment, actions to support resilient and quality infrastructure *includes* the deployment of clean and renewable energy sources. This is an example of supporting climate-resilient infrastructure and should be considered as a priority in assessing compliance.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be assigned to G7 members that do not demonstrate compliance in either component of this commitment, i.e. it did not support resilient and quality

³²¹² Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 23 September 2018.

³²¹³ Working Group III Contribution to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (New York) 2014. Access Date: 7 September 2018. http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar5/wg3/ipcc_wg3_ar5_full.pdf

³²¹⁴ Clean Energy, US Department of Energy (Washington, D.C.) Access Date: 7 September 2018. <https://www.energy.gov/science-innovation/clean-energy>

³²¹⁵ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018.

infrastructure in coasts and coastal communities, nor advance the development and deployment of clean and resilient energy systems.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member does NOT support resilient and quality infrastructure in coasts and coastal communities; NOR advances the development and deployment of clean and resilient energy systems.
0	The G7 member supports resilient and quality infrastructure in coasts and coastal communities, particularly in SIDS; but does NOT include advancing the development and deployment of clean and resilient energy systems, including from renewable sources.
+1	The G7 member supports resilient and quality infrastructure in coasts and coastal communities, particularly in SIDS; AND advances the development and deployment of clean and resilient energy systems, including from renewable sources.

Compliance Director: Ivan Hsieh

Lead Analyst: Juliana Forner

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to support resilient and quality infrastructure in coasts and coastal communities, particularly in small island developing states, and advance the development and deployment of clean energy systems, including from renewable sources.

On 10 June 2018, Canada announced that it will invest CAD 100 million to expand the Climate Risk Insurance coverage for countries vulnerable to climate change, and contribute CAD 60 million to energy and technology efforts that include the expansion of clean energy systems and infrastructure.³²¹⁶ A further CAD 2 million will be provided to assist developing countries with climate change adaptation.³²¹⁷

On 26 June 2018, Canada's Expert Panel on Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience released a report evaluating progress on climate resilience with recommendations for the government.³²¹⁸ Recommendations directly referenced changes required in infrastructure.³²¹⁹

On 24 August 2018, a tender was issued by Public Services and Procurement Canada, which was tasked with conducting a risk assessment for infrastructure vulnerable to "sea level rise, increased storm activities, and changing wave climate" to understand the impacts on infrastructure.³²²⁰

Between 19-21 September 2018, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans, and the Canadian Coast Guard, and the Minister of Natural Resources hosted a meeting for G7 Environment, Energy, and Oceans Ministers to discuss "global climate action, clean

³²¹⁶ Working together on climate change, oceans, and clean energy, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Quebec City) 10 June 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/06/10/working-together-climate-change-oceans-and-clean-energy>

³²¹⁷ Working together on climate change, oceans, and clean energy, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Quebec City) 10 June 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/06/10/working-together-climate-change-oceans-and-clean-energy>

³²¹⁸ Expert Panel on Climate Change Adaptation Releases Findings, Water Canada, 27 June 2018. <https://www.watercanada.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/En4-329-2018-eng.pdf>

³²¹⁹ Expert Panel on Climate Change Adaptation Releases Findings, Water Canada, 27 June 2018. <https://www.watercanada.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/En4-329-2018-eng.pdf>

³²²⁰ Feds want study on how climate change will impact ferries, Confederation Bridge (Nova Scotia) 26 August 2018. Access Date: 31 November 2018. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/climate-change-eastern-canada-study-risk-confederation-bridge-1.4798254>

growth and sustainable finance, resilient coasts and fisheries, plastic pollution, energy security and clean energy.”³²²¹

On 20 September 2018, the Canadian Minister of National Resources announced that CAD 29.8 million would be allocated to Halagonia Tidal Energy Ltd.’s renewable tidal energy project, which aims to provide clean electricity to Nova Scotia.³²²² The project is part of Natural Resources Canada’s Emerging Renewable Power Program, dedicated to promoting clean growth and fighting climate change.³²²³

On 26 November 2018, the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, the Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, announced that Canada will be supporting coastal communities through two investments. Canada will grant CAD10 million to the Pacific Initiative for Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Resilience to help the Pacific region adapt to climate change, protect biodiversity, and improve ocean and fisheries health. Another CAD20 million will be granted to capacity development and technical assistance in small island developing states with a focus on fostering inclusive growth.³²²⁴

On 3 April 2019, Natural Resources Canada published a report highlighting the impacts of climate change on coastal infrastructure and communities, including threats like sea-level rise, flooding, and wave impacts in Canada.³²²⁵

On 8 June 2019, the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans, and the Canadian Coast Guard reaffirmed Canada’s commitment to invest over CAD13.6 million in Coastal Restoration Fund (CRF) projects led by communities across the country. This fund will contribute to mitigating the impacts of infrastructure development on coastal ecosystems. An additional CAD5 million will be invested in collecting data on how climate change impacts the coastal ports of British Columbia to inform future action.³²²⁶

Canada has supported the development of infrastructure designed to improve the climate resilience of coasts and coastal communities. It has also advanced the development and deployment of clean energy systems in coasts and coastal communities.

Therefore, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Mary Shin

³²²¹ Canada to host G7 ministerial meeting on Working Together on Climate Change, Oceans, and Clean Energy Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 9 July 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/canada-to-host-g7-ministerial-meeting-working-together-climate-change-oceans-clean-energy/>

³²²² Minister Sohi announces major investment in renewable tidal energy that will power 2500 homes in Nova Scotia, Natural Resources Canada, 20 September 2018. Access Date: 13 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/09/minister-sohi-announces-major-investment-in-renewable-tidal-energy-that-will-power-2500-homes-in-nova-scotia.html>

³²²³ Minister Sohi announces major investment in renewable tidal energy that will power 2500 homes in Nova Scotia, Natural Resources Canada, 20 September 2018. Access Date: 13 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/09/minister-sohi-announces-major-investment-in-renewable-tidal-energy-that-will-power-2500-homes-in-nova-scotia.html>

³²²⁴ Fighting back against climate change: Canada helps create more resilient coastal communities, Cision (Nairobi) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 24 June 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/fighting-back-against-climate-change-canada-helps-create-more-resilient-coastal-communities-701249112.html>

³²²⁵ What You Need to Know About the New Climate Change Report, CBC News, 3 April 2019. Access Date: 24 June 2019. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/climate-report-1.5081643>

³²²⁶ Government of Canada marks World Oceans Day with new investments to protect our oceans and coasts, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Vancouver) 8 June 2019. Access Date: 23 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/06/government-of-canada-marks-world-oceans-day-with-new-investments-to-protect-our-oceans-coasts.html>

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to support resilient and quality infrastructure in coasts and coastal communities, particularly in small island developing states, and advance the development and deployment of clean energy systems, including from renewable sources.

On 14 June 2018, the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) Steering Committee, led by France, held a meeting to discuss the findings of a report on Caribbean communities' preparedness for hurricane response.³²²⁷ The committee also identified potential countries in Africa and Asia where new projects could be financed in the upcoming two years.³²²⁸ "The objective of the CREWS initiative is to significantly increase the capacity to generate and communicate effective impact-based, multi-hazard, gender-informed, early warnings and risk information to protect lives, livelihoods, and assets in least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS)."³²²⁹ The program has been extended to cover the Caribbean and West African regions.^{3230,3231}

From 20-22 June 2018, at the VI Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas, the CREWS Steering Committee presented a report on hurricane season in the Caribbean. The report identified "how to enhance the early warning systems and increase the preparedness of Caribbean communities for the 2018 season," and emphasized how different genders are affected differently by natural disasters.⁵

On 21 September 2018, the World Meteorological Organization launched a West Africa project funded in part by France through the CREWS initiative. The project will test and promote early warning systems in Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger.⁶

On 27 September 2018, in conjunction with the European Union and New Zealand, France launched a Pacific initiative during the Planet Summit in New York.³²³² The initiative aims to "help the Pacific region adapt to the effects of climate change, protect biodiversity, and to increase resilience."³²³³

³²²⁷ Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems initiative expands its coverage, Crews Initiative (Geneva) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.crews-initiative.org/en/news/news/climate-risk-and-early-warning-systems-initiative-expands-its-coverage>

³²²⁸ Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems initiative expands its coverage, Crews Initiative (Geneva) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.crews-initiative.org/en/news/news/climate-risk-and-early-warning-systems-initiative-expands-its-coverage>

³²²⁹ Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems initiative expands its coverage, Crews Initiative (Geneva) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.crews-initiative.org/en/news/news/climate-risk-and-early-warning-systems-initiative-expands-its-coverage>

³²³⁰ Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems initiative expands its coverage, Crews Initiative (Geneva) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.crews-initiative.org/en/news/news/climate-risk-and-early-warning-systems-initiative-expands-its-coverage>

³²³¹ West Africa regional institutions to provide better support for early warnings, Crews Initiative (Geneva) 19 September 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://www.crews-initiative.org/en/news/news/west-africa-regional-institutions-provide-better-support-early-warnings>

³²³² EU, France, Australia and New Zealand launch Pacific initiative for biodiversity, climate change and resilience, European Commission (Brussels) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-france-and-new-zealand-launch-pacific-initiative-biodiversity-climate-change-and_en

³²³³ EU, France, Australia and New Zealand launch Pacific initiative for biodiversity, climate change and resilience, European Commission (Brussels) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-france-and-new-zealand-launch-pacific-initiative-biodiversity-climate-change-and_en

On 14 March 2019, at the 3rd edition of the One Planet Summit in Nairobi, Kenya, President Macron confirmed an additional contribution of EUR500 million to the International Solar Alliance, bringing France's total investment in the coalition to EUR1.5 billion by 2022.³²³⁴ This announcement highlighted the vulnerability of African countries to the effects of climate change.

France has supported the development of infrastructure designed to improve the climate resilience of coasts and coastal communities. While France has not advanced the development and deployment of clean energy systems in small island developing states (SIDS), it has worked with African partners to provide solar power to climate-vulnerable communities.

Therefore, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Jolie Leung

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to support resilient and quality infrastructure in coasts and coastal communities, particularly in small island development states, and advance the development and deployment of clean energy systems, including from renewable sources.

On 14 June 2018, Germany participated in a Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) Steering Committee meeting.³²³⁵ “The objective of the CREWS initiative is to significantly increase the capacity to generate and communicate effective impact-based, multi-hazard, gender-informed, early warnings and risk information to protect lives, livelihoods, and assets in least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).”³²³⁶ CREWS supports LDCs and SIDS by “[providing] technical assistance and capacity development in a variety of ways, including the twinning of institutions (i.e., between two or more National Meteorological and Hydrological Services) and by leveraging the expertise of regional and international institutions.”³²³⁷ Financing under the CREWS initiative has been extended to cover the Caribbean and West African regions.³²³⁸

On 20-22 June 2018, at the VI Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas, the CREWS Steering Committee in which Germany participates presented a report on hurricane season in the Caribbean. The report identified “how to enhance the early warning systems and increase the preparedness of Caribbean communities for the 2018 season,” and emphasized how different genders are affected differently by natural disasters.⁵

³²³⁴ In Nairobi, Macron Makes New Commitments for the Planet, Le Figaro (Nairobi) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 20 August 2019. <http://www.lefigaro.fr/conjoncture/2019/03/14/20002-20190314ARTFIG00038--nairobi-macron-prend-de-nouveaux-engagements-pour-la-planete.php>

³²³⁵ Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems initiative expands its coverage, Crews Initiative (Geneva) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.crews-initiative.org/en/news/news/climate-risk-and-early-warning-systems-initiative-expands-its-coverage>

³²³⁶ Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems initiative expands its coverage, Crews Initiative (Geneva) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.crews-initiative.org/en/news/news/climate-risk-and-early-warning-systems-initiative-expands-its-coverage>

³²³⁷ CREWS Report Series Annual Report 1, World Meteorological Organization (Geneva) 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://ane4bf-datap1.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/wmocrews/s3fs-public/ckeditor/files/CREWS_AR_2017_20180420_EN_with_links_interactive_0.pdf

³²³⁸ Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems initiative expands its coverage, Crews Initiative (Geneva) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.crews-initiative.org/en/news/news/climate-risk-and-early-warning-systems-initiative-expands-its-coverage>

On 21 September 2018, the World Meteorological Organization launched a West Africa project funded in part by Germany through the CREWS initiative.³²³⁹ The project will test and promote early warning systems in Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger.³²⁴⁰

On 12 October 2018, the German Government, in partnership with the World Bank and the United Kingdom, announced a USD145 million contribution to the Global Risk Financing Facility.³²⁴¹ This contribution was allocated to help vulnerable countries manage the financial impact of climate change and natural hazard-induced shocks.³²⁴²

Germany has assisted in the development of infrastructure to improve the climate resilience of coasts and coastal communities. However, Germany has not advanced the development and deployment of clean energy systems in the coasts and coastal regions.

Therefore, Germany receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Jolie Leung

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to support resilient and quality infrastructure in coasts and coastal communities, particularly in small island developing states (SIDS), and advance the development and deployment of clean energy systems, including from renewable sources.

On 29 October 2018, with principal funding from Italy, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs convened for the Samoa Partnership Dialogue in Apia, Samoa.³²⁴³ The purpose of this dialogue was to undertake a midterm review of the Accelerated Modalities of Action) Pathway for SIDS.³²⁴⁴ Francesco La Camera, the Director General of Sustainable Development, Energy and Climate at the Ministry of Environment, Land, and Sea, mentioned that Italy's partnerships with the Pacific region have expired but expressed an interest in a follow-up.³²⁴⁵ He also reiterated Italy's continued commitment to capacity-building in SIDS and the empowerment of local communities through climate-friendly partnerships.³²⁴⁶

³²³⁹ West Africa regional institutions to provide better support for early warnings, Crews Initiative (Geneva) 19 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.crews-initiative.org/en/news/news/west-africa-regional-institutions-provide-better-support-early-warnings>

³²⁴⁰ West Africa regional institutions to provide better support for early warnings, Crews Initiative (Geneva) 19 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.crews-initiative.org/en/news/news/west-africa-regional-institutions-provide-better-support-early-warnings>

³²⁴¹ WORLD BANK GROUP, GERMANY, AND UK LAUNCH \$145 MILLION FINANCING FACILITY TO SUPPORT EARLIER ACTION ON CLIMATE AND DISASTER SHOCKS, InsuResilience 12 October 2018. Access Date: 21 August 2019. <https://www.insuresilience.org/world-bank-group-germany-and-uk-launch-145-million-financing-facility-to-support-earlier-action-on-climate-and-disaster-shocks/>.

³²⁴² WORLD BANK GROUP, GERMANY, AND UK LAUNCH \$145 MILLION FINANCING FACILITY TO SUPPORT EARLIER ACTION ON CLIMATE AND DISASTER SHOCKS, InsuResilience 12 October 2018. Access Date: 21 August 2019. <https://www.insuresilience.org/world-bank-group-germany-and-uk-launch-145-million-financing-facility-to-support-earlier-action-on-climate-and-disaster-shocks/>.

³²⁴³ Samoa Partnership Dialogue, Apia, Samoa, 29 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/21123Samoa_Partnership_Dialogue_Summary_final.pdf

³²⁴⁴ Samoa Partnership Dialogue, Apia, Samoa, 29 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/21123Samoa_Partnership_Dialogue_Summary_final.pdf

³²⁴⁵ Samoa Partnership Dialogue, Apia, Samoa, 29 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/21123Samoa_Partnership_Dialogue_Summary_final.pdf

³²⁴⁶ Samoa Partnership Dialogue, Apia, Samoa, 29 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/21123Samoa_Partnership_Dialogue_Summary_final.pdf

On 28 November 2018, the Caribbean Climate Change Centre (CCCC), in collaboration with the governments of Belize and Italy, opened a new multi-purpose facility that will serve as a community centre and an emergency disaster shelter.³²⁴⁷ The purpose of this shelter is to improve residents' capacities to combat climate change in the event of hurricanes, floods, and other climatic inevitabilities and variabilities.³²⁴⁸

On 1 December 2018, the CCCC recognized the government's financial commitments to operating a newly acquired Light Detection and Ranging system.³²⁴⁹ This contribution will help the organization map 10,000 square miles of vulnerable coastal areas.³²⁵⁰ Italy will provide funding worth USD600,000 in this respect.³²⁵¹

On 22 March 2019, Italy attended the first International Forum on Water Scarcity in Agriculture. The forum identified practical solutions, including architectural designs, to address water scarcity induced by climate change in SIDS and African countries. At the event, governments pledged to conduct 17 actions to diminish water scarcity, including improved financing for farmers and water management services.³²⁵²

In conclusion, Italy has supported the development of infrastructure designed to improve the climate resilience of coasts and coastal communities. However, it has not advanced the development and deployment of clean energy systems in coasts and coastal communities.

Therefore, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Syed Haider

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to support resilient and quality infrastructure in coasts and coastal communities, particularly in small island development states (SIDS), and advance the development and deployment of clean energy systems, including from renewable sources.

On 13 June 2018, the Japanese Diet enacted the Climate Change Adaptation Act.³²⁵³ This act assigns roles to national and local governments, the private sector, and citizens to promote climate change

³²⁴⁷ CCCCC, Govts of Belize, Italy Break Ground for Multi-Purpose Facility, CARICOM Today, 4 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://today.caricom.org/2018/12/01/ccccc-govts-of-belize-italy-break-ground-for-multi-purpose-facility/>

³²⁴⁸ CCCCC, Govts of Belize, Italy Break Ground for Multi-Purpose Facility, CARICOM Today, 4 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://today.caricom.org/2018/12/01/ccccc-govts-of-belize-italy-break-ground-for-multi-purpose-facility/>

³²⁴⁹ CCCCC adds LiDar to Caribbean Climate change fight, Caribbean News Service, 1 Dec 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://caribbeannewsservice.com/now/ccccc-adds-lidar-to-caribbean-climate-change-fight/>

³²⁵⁰ CCCCC adds LiDar to Caribbean Climate change fight, Caribbean News Service, 1 Dec 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://caribbeannewsservice.com/now/ccccc-adds-lidar-to-caribbean-climate-change-fight/>

³²⁵¹ US Government continues to support Caribbean in managing impacts of natural disasters, 6 December 2016. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.breakingbelizenews.com/2018/12/06/us-government-continues-to-support-caribbean-in-managing-impacts-of-natural-disasters/>

³²⁵² Water Scarcity forum Calls of Urgently Adapting Agriculture, Food Systems, 2 April 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/water-scarcity-forum-calls-for-urgently-adapting-agriculture-food-systems/>

³²⁵³ Climate Change Adaptation Act, Ministry of the Environment Government of Japan (Tokyo) 13 June 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.env.go.jp/en/earth/cc/adaptation/mat01.pdf>

adaptation efforts.³²⁵⁴ Adaptation measures include setting up fishing grounds based on changes in fish distribution, maintaining flood control facilities, and developing flood risk maps.³²⁵⁵

On 29 June 2018, the Japan International Cooperation Agency signed a grant agreement with the Government of the Republic of Guyana, dedicating JPY 1,848,000,000 to the Project for the Introduction of Renewable Energy and the Improvement of Power System.³²⁵⁶ The project aims to improve the efficiency and sustainability of power supply by installing renewable energy and energy conservation technologies in Georgetown and its surrounding area.³²⁵⁷

On 10 July 2018, the government registered three new projects in Indonesia under the Joint Crediting Mechanism.³²⁵⁸ The mechanism aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by diffusing Japan's low carbon technologies and implementing emission-reducing activities in developing countries.³²⁵⁹ The three new projects will diffuse technology necessary for optimizing operation control in oil refinement and power plants and optimize power in cell-phone base stations.³²⁶⁰

On 12 July 2018, the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry and the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry of Vietnam convened for the Japan-Vietnam Energy Working Group's first official meeting in Hanoi, Vietnam.³²⁶¹ Issues addressed by the group include energy policy, efficiency, and conservation, particularly the usage of oil, natural gas, coal, and renewable energy.³²⁶²

On 10 August 2018, the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization, Japanese research and development governmental organization, completed the construction of a floating wind turbine at Kisuya Port.³²⁶³ The project is designed to improve the cost-effectiveness of floating wind technology suitable for depths between 50 metres and 100 metres.³²⁶⁴

On 10 September 2018, the government contributed 63.9 million USD to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).³²⁶⁵ Japan was the largest donor to UNDP in 2017 and continues

³²⁵⁴ Climate Change Adaptation Act, Ministry of the Environment Government of Japan (Tokyo) 13 June 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.env.go.jp/en/earth/cc/adaptation/mat01.pdf>

³²⁵⁵ Climate Change Adaptation Act, Ministry of the Environment Government of Japan (Tokyo) 13 June 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <https://www.env.go.jp/en/earth/cc/adaptation/mat01.pdf>

³²⁵⁶ Signing of Grant Agreement with Guyana: Contributing to climate change mitigation through the achievement of an efficient, sustainable power supply, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180629_01.html

³²⁵⁷ Signing of Grant Agreement with Guyana: Contributing to climate change mitigation through the achievement of an efficient, sustainable power supply, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180629_01.html

³²⁵⁸ Three JCM Projects in Indonesia Newly Registered, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 13 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/0713_001.html

³²⁵⁹ Three JCM Projects in Indonesia Newly Registered, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 13 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/0713_001.html

³²⁶⁰ Three JCM Projects in Indonesia Newly Registered, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 13 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/0713_001.html

³²⁶¹ Japan and Viet Nam Hold the First Energy Working Group, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 12 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/0712_001.html

³²⁶² Japan and Viet Nam Hold the First Energy Working Group, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 12 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/0712_001.html

³²⁶³ Japanese flater ready for installation, Windpower Offshore (Japan) 13 August 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.windpoweroffshore.com/article/1490217/japanese-floater-ready-installation>

³²⁶⁴ Japanese flater ready for installation, Windpower Offshore (Japan) 13 August 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://www.windpoweroffshore.com/article/1490217/japanese-floater-ready-installation>

³²⁶⁵ UNDP welcomes Japan's increased contribution to core funding, United Nations Development Programme (New York) 10 September 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/news-centre/news/2018/UNDP_welcomes_Japan_increased_contribution_to_core_funding.html

to support UNDP's commitment to disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, and the sustainable development goals writ large.³²⁶⁶

On 16 November 2018, the government provided financial assistance amounting to USD378,309 to the Disaster Risk Reduction Strengthening Project in the Chitwan District.³²⁶⁷ The project aims to strengthen community resistance to disasters in the Madi Municipality, a flood-prone area.³²⁶⁸

From 28-30 January 2019, the Japanese Ministry of the Environment collaborated with the International Renewable Energy Agency to organize a three-day training program in Male, Maldives. The purpose of this training program was to “support the development of project proposals to access climate finance by various SIDS stakeholders through various entities including local banks and climate finance entities.”³²⁶⁹

On 19 February 2019, the government of Japan announced a contribution of USD10.6 million to increase resilience to natural disasters in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh, and Balochistan provinces of Pakistan.³²⁷⁰

In conclusion, Japan has helped advance the development and deployment of clean energy systems in coasts and coastal regions, and it has also supported the development of quality infrastructure to improve climate resilience.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Christal Cheng

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to support resilient and quality infrastructure in coasts and coastal communities, particularly in small island development states, and advance the development and deployment of clean energy systems, including from renewable sources.

On 22 July 2018, the government announced that it will distribute up to GBP 557 million worth of subsidies for offshore wind energy.³²⁷¹ Companies were asked to bid for the acquisition of contracts for difference, which will allow them to sell electricity with a government-mandated minimum price.

³²⁶⁶ UNDP welcomes Japan's increased contribution to core funding, United Nations Development Programme (New York) 10 September 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/news-centre/news/2018/UNDP_welcomes_Japan_increased_contribution_to_core_funding.html

³²⁶⁷ Japanese Assistance for the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Strengthening Project in Chitwan District, Embassy of Japan in Nepal (Kathmandu) 16 November 2018. Access Date 5 December 2018. <https://www.np.emb-japan.go.jp/files/000420070.pdf>

³²⁶⁸ Japanese Assistance for the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Strengthening Project in Chitwan District, Embassy of Japan in Nepal (Kathmandu) 16 November 2018. Access Date 5 December 2018. <https://www.np.emb-japan.go.jp/files/000420070.pdf>

³²⁶⁹ Capacity building workshop on preparation of bankable concept notes for climate finance in SIDS, SIDS Lighthouses (Abu Dhabi) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://islands.irena.org/Events>

³²⁷⁰ Japan supports vulnerable families in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh and Balochistan, ReliefWeb (Islamabad) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/pakistan/japan-supports-vulnerable-families-khyber-pakhtunkhwa-sindh-and-balochistan>

³²⁷¹ A boost for North East innovation to promote high-quality jobs and growth, 23 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/a-boost-for-north-east-innovation-to-promote-high-quality-jobs-and-growth>

Depending on the price of wind energy, this policy will result in a 1-2 GW increase in offshore wind production between 2019 and 2020.³²⁷²

On 26 July 2018, the Department for International Development and the Caribbean Development Bank signed an agreement to contribute GBP 30 million to the United Kingdom Caribbean Infrastructure Partnership Fund. This fund is designed to drive economic growth and development across the Caribbean through the provision of infrastructure. All projects are required to build resilience against climate change.³²⁷³

On 26 September 2018, Prime Minister Theresa May approved over GBP 160 million to aid other countries in their transitions to cleaner energy systems and support communities affected by climate change. Of this amount, GBP 60 million will be used to provide technical assistance on energy market reform, transition to clean growth, green finance, and climate legislation. GBP 94.5 million of this amount will be used to provide direct support to families most affected by droughts in Northern Kenya. A further GBP 15 million will be allocated to make corporate purchases from smallholder farmers in Sub-Saharan Africa profitable, helping to build resilience against climate shocks.³²⁷⁴

On 8 February 2019, Floods Minister Dr. Therese Coffey opened the tidal flood defence barrier at Ipswich, which was built by the Environment Agency. The project's cost is GBP70 million. The defence barrier was built to combat the increasing risk of flooding due to the effects of climate change.³²⁷⁵

On 7 March 2019, the Minister of Energy and Clean Growth Claire Perry announced the launch of the new Offshore Wind Sector Deal. The deal includes a new fund named the Offshore Wind Growth Partnership, which will dedicate GBP250 million to making offshore wind competitive and increasing the rate of innovation. In addition, the deal will raise the target for national content in homegrown wind projects to 60%. As a result, the UK's previous GBP557 million pledge regarding clean power auctions will directly benefit coastal communities.³²⁷⁶

In conclusion, the United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to support resilient and quality infrastructure in coastal communities and encourage the deployment of clean resilient energy systems from renewable sources.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sinan Karamehmetoglu

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to support resilient and quality infrastructure in coasts and coastal communities, particularly in small island development states, and

³²⁷² Britain to hand out 557 million pounds of renewables funding via auctions, 23 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-britain-renewables/britain-to-hand-out-557-million-pounds-of-renewables-funding-via-auctions-idUKKBN1KD0NJ>

³²⁷³ CDB, UK sign agreement to add GBP30 million to infrastructure fund, 7 August 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <http://www.caribank.org/news/cdb-uk-sign-agreement-to-add-gbp30-million-to-infrastructure-fund>

³²⁷⁴ UK expertise to help developing countries tackle climate change and move to cleaner energy, 27 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-expertise-to-help-developing-countries-tackle-climate-change-and-move-to-cleaner-energy>

³²⁷⁵ £67.4 million Ipswich tidal flood barrier officially opened, Gov.uk (London) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/674-million-ipswich-tidal-flood-barrier-officially-opened>

³²⁷⁶ Offshore wind energy revolution to provide a third of all UK electricity by 2030, Gov.uk (London) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 17 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/offshore-wind-energy-revolution-to-provide-a-third-of-all-uk-electricity-by-2030>

advanced the development and deployment of clean energy systems, including from renewable sources.

On 10 August 2018, the State Department approved the Integrated Country Strategy for Papua New Guinea, Solomon Island, and Vanuatu.³²⁷⁷ The strategy includes a goal to “work with government partners to draft and implement policies to achieve adaptation goals, access more international climate change adaptation funding, and improve capacity to prepare for and respond to natural disasters.”³²⁷⁸

On 15 August 2018, the State Department approved the Integrated Country Strategy for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean.³²⁷⁹ The strategy includes the objective to promote “greater economic sustainability, energy independence, growth, and natural disaster resilience.”³²⁸⁰

On 15 August 2018, the State Department approved the Integrated Country Strategy for the Marshall Islands.³²⁸¹ The strategy includes an objective to “improve environmental resilience.”³²⁸²

On 28 August 2018, the State Department approved the Integrated Country Strategy for Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Tonga, and Tuvalu.³²⁸³ The strategy includes the goal to “improve island states’ resilience to natural disasters and access climate change financing and build regional maritime security partnerships.”³²⁸⁴

On 28 August 2018, the State Department approved the Integrated Country Strategy for Palau.³²⁸⁵ The strategy includes a mission goal to “support Palau’s climate adaption, mitigation, and renewable energy initiatives.”³²⁸⁶ The strategy did not include any plan or actions or to meet this objective.

On 26 September 2018, the State Department approved the Integrated Country Strategy for the Dominican Republic.³²⁸⁷ The strategy includes an objective to build “community resilience to the adverse impacts of environmental threats.”³²⁸⁸

³²⁷⁷ Integrated Country Strategy: Papua New Guinea, Solomon Island, and Vanuatu, United States State Department (Washington DC) 10 August 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/285004.pdf>

³²⁷⁸ Integrated Country Strategy: Papua New Guinea, Solomon Island, and Vanuatu, United States State Department (Washington DC) 10 August 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/285004.pdf>

³²⁷⁹ Integrated Country Strategy: Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean, United States State Department (Washington DC) 15 August 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/284660.pdf>

³²⁸⁰ Integrated Country Strategy: Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean, United States State Department (Washington DC) 15 August 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/284660.pdf>

³²⁸¹ Integrated Country Strategy: The Republic of the Marshall Islands, United States State Department (Washington DC) 15 August 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/284998.pdf>

³²⁸² Integrated Country Strategy: The Republic of the Marshall Islands, United States State Department (Washington DC) 15 August 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/284998.pdf>

³²⁸³ Integrated Country Strategy: Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Tonga, and Tuvalu, United States State Department (Washington DC) 28 August 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/284989.pdf>

³²⁸⁴ Integrated Country Strategy: Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Tonga, and Tuvalu, United States State Department (Washington DC) 28 August 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/284989.pdf>

³²⁸⁵ Integrated Country Strategy: Palau, United States State Department (Washington DC) 28 August 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/285003.pdf>

³²⁸⁶ Integrated Country Strategy: Palau, United States State Department (Washington DC) 28 August 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/285003.pdf>

³²⁸⁷ Integrated Country Strategy: Dominican Republic, United States State Department (Washington DC) 28 August 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/284649.pdf>

³²⁸⁸ Integrated Country Strategy: Dominican Republic, United States State Department (Washington DC) 28 August 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/284649.pdf>

On 27 September 2018, Deputy Secretary of State John J. Sullivan met with representatives from Fiji, Micronesia, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Tonga, the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, and the Pacific Communities.³²⁸⁹ They discussed several issues, including their collective interest in addressing climate change.³²⁹⁰

On 31 October 2018, the Environmental Protection Agency announced that it has allocated 348,648 USD to the Maryland Department of the Environment to expedite the review, approval, and construction of living shorelines.³²⁹¹ Living shorelines are a green infrastructure technique.³²⁹² The goal of this project is to reduce the loss of wetlands in Maryland by remediating pollution, buffering shorelines from waves and storms, and protecting fish habitat.³²⁹³

On 4 December 2018, the Environmental Protection Agency announced that it will provide a total of USD 2.57 million for 36 grants to improve the health and ecosystem of Long Island Sound in New England. The funding will go towards projects aimed at improving water quality and restoring the habitat of the Sound watershed in partnership with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. These projects include living shorelines, dams, and downspouts to protect against excess storm water.³²⁹⁴

On 7 December 2018, the United States Embassy in Belize announced that the United States Government delivered a USD 2 million Light Detection and Ranging System to the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre. The equipment will help countries in the Eastern and Southern Caribbean to observe conditions and changes on land and coastal areas before and after natural disasters so that decision makers are able to identify and address vulnerabilities in coastal infrastructure and the coastal environment.³²⁹⁵

On 13 February 2019, the United States' Embassy in Cote d'Ivoire announced a new initiative funded by the United States Agency for International Development. The initiative aims to support increased environmental and economic resilience in vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.³²⁹⁶

³²⁸⁹ Deputy Secretary Sullivan's Meeting with Pacific Island Leaders, United States State Department (Washington DC) 28 September 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/09/286308.htm>

³²⁹⁰ Deputy Secretary Sullivan's Meeting with Pacific Island Leaders, United States State Department (Washington DC) 28 September 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/09/286308.htm>

³²⁹¹ EPA Awards \$350,000 to Maryland for Protecting Shorelines, Streams and Wetlands, United States Environmental Protection Agency (Washington DC) 31 October 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-350000-maryland-protecting-shorelines-streams-and-wetlands>.

³²⁹² EPA Awards \$350,000 to Maryland for Protecting Shorelines, Streams and Wetlands, United States Environmental Protection Agency (Washington DC) 31 October 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018.

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-350000-maryland-protecting-shorelines-streams-and-wetlands>.

³²⁹³ EPA Awards \$350,000 to Maryland for Protecting Shorelines, Streams and Wetlands, United States Environmental Protection Agency (Washington DC) 31 October 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018.

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-350000-maryland-protecting-shorelines-streams-and-wetlands>.

³²⁹⁴ 2.57 Million in Grants Will Improve the Health of Long Island Sound, United States Environmental Protection Agency (Washington DC) 4 December 2018. Access Date 26 February 2019. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/257-million-grants-will-improve-health-long-island-sound-0>

³²⁹⁵ United States Government Continues to Support the Caribbean in Managing Impacts of Natural Disasters, United States Embassy in Belize (Belmopan, Belize) 7 December 2018. Access Date 28 February 2019.

<https://bz.usembassy.gov/united-states-government-continues-to-support-the-caribbean-in-managing-impacts-of-natural-disasters/>

³²⁹⁶ Coastal Resilience Project Launches in Fresco- Cote d'Ivoire, to Protect Ecosystems and Improve Lives of Thousands, Embassy of the United States in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire (Abidjan) 2 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://www.africanews.com/2019/02/13/coastal-resilience-project-launches-in-fresco-cote-divoire-to-protect-ecosystems-and-improve-lives-of-thousands/>

On 29 May 2019, the United States Environmental Protection Agency announced a USD200,000 grant for the University of Southern Mississippi. The grant will go towards the development and implementation of an educational tool to demonstrate the benefits of natural and living shorelines.³²⁹⁷

The United States has shown support in improving the resilience and infrastructure in several island state countries to combat the adverse and promoted the development and deployment of clean and resilient energy systems by supporting renewable energy initiatives.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Isaac Crawford-Ritchie

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to support resilient and quality infrastructure in coasts and coastal communities, particularly in small island development states, and advance the development and deployment of clean energy systems, including from renewable sources.

On 12 June 2018, the European Commission reaffirmed its support for transitioning the European fisheries sector towards more sustainable fishing practices by proposing a EUR6.14 billion fund “for European fisheries and the maritime economy.”³²⁹⁸ The contribution will go to “strengthening international ocean governance, for safer, cleaner, more secure, and sustainable managed seas and oceans.”³²⁹⁹ An expected 30 percent will go to climate change mitigation and adaptation.³³⁰⁰

On 13 June 2018, the EU announced the launch of the Green Fund for Central America, totalling EUR34 million.³³⁰¹ The fund will improve resilience to climate change by helping to restore forest landscapes and implement integrated ecosystems.³³⁰² It will also support micro, small and medium enterprises in generating renewable energy.³³⁰³

³²⁹⁷ University of Southern Mississippi Receives EPA Grant to Raise Awareness of Natural and Living Shorelines on the Gulf (Washington DC) 29 May 2019. Access Date: 13 June 2019. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/university-southern-mississippi-receives-epa-grant-raise-awareness-natural-and-living>

³²⁹⁸ EU budget: Commission proposes a new fund to invest in the maritime economy and support fishing communities, European Commission (Strasbourg) 12 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4104_en.htm

³²⁹⁹ EU budget: Commission proposes a new fund to invest in the maritime economy and support fishing communities, European Commission (Strasbourg) 12 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4104_en.htm

³³⁰⁰ EU budget: Commission proposes a new fund to invest in the maritime economy and support fishing communities, European Commission (Strasbourg) 12 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4104_en.htm

³³⁰¹ The EU launches a “Green Fund” for Central America to support the fight against climate change, European Commission (Brussels) 13 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-launches-green-fund-central-america-support-fight-against-climate-change_en

³³⁰² The EU launches a “Green Fund” for Central America to support the fight against climate change, European Commission (Brussels) 13 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-launches-green-fund-central-america-support-fight-against-climate-change_en

³³⁰³ The EU launches a “Green Fund” for Central America to support the fight against climate change, European Commission (Brussels) 13 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-launches-green-fund-central-america-support-fight-against-climate-change_en

On 18 September 2018, the EU contributed an investment grant to the construction of a wind farm on the west coast of the Red Sea in Egypt.³³⁰⁴ The EU also stated that it is committed to supporting Egypt in implementing energy sector reforms.³³⁰⁵

On 27 September 2018, the EU, with France and New Zealand, launched a Pacific initiative during the One Planet Summit in New York.³³⁰⁶ The EU contributed EUR10 million, to “help the Pacific region adapt to the effects of climate change, protect biodiversity, and to increase resilience.”³³⁰⁷

On 1 March 2019, the EU signed five cooperation programmes totalling EUR44 million at the 17th Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT)-EU Forum. EUR18 million will be allocated to a programme for climate change mitigation and sustainable energy, which will assist OCTs in building their resilience to climate change, curbing disaster risks, and moving towards low-carbon and energy-efficient economies.³³⁰⁸

On March 1 2019, as part of the OCT-EU Forum in Tahiti, the EU contributed EUR9 million to supporting reconstruction in the aftermaths of hurricanes Irma and Maria in Sint Maarten and the British Virgin Islands.³³⁰⁹

The EU thus has complied with its commitment to support resilient and infrastructure in coastal communities. It has also promoted the development and deployment of clean and resilient energy systems.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Filip Busic

³³⁰⁴ 200 MW wind farm in Gulf of Suez, European Commission (Brussels) 18 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/blending/200-mw-wind-farm-gulf-suez_en

³³⁰⁵ 200 MW wind farm in Gulf of Suez, European Commission (Brussels) 18 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/blending/200-mw-wind-farm-gulf-suez_en

³³⁰⁶ EU, France, Australia and New Zealand launch Pacific initiative for biodiversity, climate change and resilience, European Commission (Brussels) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-france-and-new-zealand-launch-pacific-initiative-biodiversity-climate-change-and_en

³³⁰⁷ EU, France, Australia and New Zealand launch Pacific initiative for biodiversity, climate change and resilience, European Commission (Brussels) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-france-and-new-zealand-launch-pacific-initiative-biodiversity-climate-change-and_en

³³⁰⁸ EU and Overseas Countries and Territories boost cooperation at annual Forum with €44 million, European Commission (Brussels) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-and-overseas-countries-and-territories-boost-cooperation-annual-forum-eu44_en

³³⁰⁹ EU and Overseas Countries and Territories boost cooperation at annual Forum with €44 million, European Commission (Brussels) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-and-overseas-countries-and-territories-boost-cooperation-annual-forum-eu44_en

15. Environment: Ocean Plastics Charter

“Supporting secondary markets for plastics including using policy measures and developing international incentives, standards or requirements for product stewardship, design and recycled content.”

G7 Charlevoix Ocean Plastics Charter

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany		0	
Italy		0	
Japan	N/A		
United Kingdom			+1
United States	N/A		
European Union			+1
Average		+0.67	

Background

With the importance of plastic to the economy and society at large, the plastics industry has surged in growth over the past 50 years. Between 1950 and 2015, 8.3 billion tonnes of plastic was manufactured while some 6.3 billion tonnes of plastic waste was produced, resulting in an inability to manage them effectively at their end-of-life.³³¹⁰ In 2017, only nine percent of plastic produced was recycled, 12 percent incinerated and the remaining 79 percent ending up in landfills or the natural environment.³³¹¹ Each year, it is estimated that 8-12 million tonnes of plastic waste ends up in our oceans, making up 80 percent of the litter found in aquatic environments.³³¹² If current production and waste management trends continue, 12 billion tonnes will have accumulated by 2050, at which point oceans will have more plastic than fish (by weight).³³¹³ Moreover, the production of plastics emits some 400 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions each year due to the energy used in their production, transport, and final waste treatment.³³¹⁴

The problem of plastics pollution has come to the forefront of public awareness across the world and public opinion now agrees that the pervasiveness of plastic in our everyday lives poses serious

³³¹⁰ Seven charts that explain the plastic pollution problem, BBC 10 December 2017. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-42264788>.

³³¹¹ Seven charts that explain the plastic pollution problem, BBC 10 December 2017. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-42264788>.

³³¹² Clean Seas Plastic Management Infographic, UN Environment (UNEP). Access Date: 4 September 2018. https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/21511/CleanSeas_final_Infographic.pdf?amp%3BisAllowed=y%2C%20thumbnail||https%3A/wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/21511/CleanSeas_Infographic_cover.png&sequence=1.

³³¹³ Clean Seas Plastic Management Infographic, UN Environment (UNEP). Access Date: 4 September 2018. https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/21511/CleanSeas_final_Infographic.pdf?amp%3BisAllowed=y%2C%20thumbnail||https%3A/wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/21511/CleanSeas_Infographic_cover.png&sequence=1.

³³¹⁴ Improving Markets for Recycled Plastics: Trends, Prospects, and Policy Responses, Page 1, OECD. 24 May 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/environment/improving-markets-for-recycled-plastics/executive-summary_9789264301016-4-en.

dangers to marine life, our natural environment, and public health.³³¹⁵ The current system of plastics recycling is resulting in low recovery rates of plastic waste while the poor quality of recycled plastic and lack of price incentives are holding back secondary plastic markets.³³¹⁶ Secondary Plastics Market is for “recycled plastics in its bid to create a truly circular economy.”³³¹⁷ A circular economy aims to “redefine growth, focusing on positive society-wide benefits and entails gradually decoupling economic activity from the consumption of finite resources and designing waste out of the system.”³³¹⁸ Given the scale of this challenge, it is recognized that technical, policy and regulatory improvements can create better and greater recycling rates and further support the secondary plastics market, which has a critical role to play in plastics management.³³¹⁹ This includes reducing and restricting plastic waste, particularly single-use plastics and microplastics such as takeaway cups, cutlery, plastic straws and microbeads in personal care products while also addressing issues in the supply chain, from plastics design, production and use to the end-of-life stage.³³²⁰ The end-of-life stage refers to plastics that have served their intended purpose and are then treated as waste and leaked into the environment or recovered and reused or refurbished into new goods.³³²¹ These options are dependent on type and quality of plastic material, and whether appropriate separation technologies are in place to separate, recover and reprocess these plastics. New innovations have the potential to bring improvements in plastic design, separation and reprocessing and in developing plastics that are renewably sourced and biodegradable.³³²² Currently, however, these technologies have not been scaled up due to fragmentation and lack of coordination in the plastics economy.³³²³

Plastics are made from a polymer mixed with additives such as stabilizers, plasticizers, and pigments, and can contain unintended contaminants such as bisphenol A (BPA) and certain phthalates, whose risks to human health and the environment have already been documented.³³²⁴ The secondary

³³¹⁵ Plastic waste threat to marine life, The Guardian 15 September 2007. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2007/sep/16/pollution.travelnews>.

³³¹⁶ Improving Markets for Recycled Plastics: Trends, Prospects, and Policy Responses, Page 1, OECD 24 May 2018. Access Date: 24 September 2018. https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/environment/improving-markets-for-recycled-plastics/executive-summary_9789264301016-4-en.

³³¹⁷ EU Plastics Strategy Aims to Build Secondary Markets to Make Recycling Plastics ‘Profitable’, resource 16 January 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://resource.co/article/eu-plastics-strategy-aims-build-secondary-markets-make-recycling-plastics-profitable-12352>.

³³¹⁸ What is a circular economy?, Ellen McArthur Foundation. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/circular-economy/concept>.

³³¹⁹ Improving Markets for Recycled Plastics: Trends, Prospects, and Policy Responses, Page 2, OECD 24 May 2018. Access Date: 24 September 2018. https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/environment/improving-markets-for-recycled-plastics/executive-summary_9789264301016-4-en

³³²⁰ World Economic Forum, Ellen MacArthur Foundation and McKinsey & Company, The New Plastics Economy — Rethinking the future of plastics (2016). Access Date: 24 September 2018. <https://www.mckinsey.com/~media/McKinsey/Business%20Functions/Sustainability%20and%20Resource%20Productivity/Our%20Insights/The%20new%20plastics%20economy/The%20New%20Plastics%20Economy.ashx>.

³³²¹ Global Forum on Environment — Plastics in a Circular Economy: Design of Sustainable Plastics from a Chemicals Perspective, Slide2, OECD 29 May 2018. Date Access: 24 September 2018. <https://www.slideshare.net/secret/tdTfwCh9qcUGpp>.

³³²² The New Plastics Economy — Rethinking the future of plastics, Page 17, World Economic Forum, Ellen MacArthur Foundation and McKinsey & Company, January 2016. Access Date: 24 September 2018. <https://www.mckinsey.com/~media/McKinsey/Business%20Functions/Sustainability%20and%20Resource%20Productivity/Our%20Insights/The%20new%20plastics%20economy/The%20New%20Plastics%20Economy.ashx>

³³²³ The New Plastics Economy — Rethinking the future of plastics, Page 17, World Economic Forum, Ellen MacArthur Foundation and McKinsey & Company January 2016. Access Date: 24 September 2018. <https://www.mckinsey.com/~media/McKinsey/Business%20Functions/Sustainability%20and%20Resource%20Productivity/Our%20Insights/The%20new%20plastics%20economy/The%20New%20Plastics%20Economy.ashx>.

³³²⁴ Briefing: Plastics in a Circular Economy, Page 4, European Parliament, May 2017. Access Date: 24 September 2018. [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2017/603940/EPRS_BRI\(2017\)603940_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2017/603940/EPRS_BRI(2017)603940_EN.pdf).

plastics market collects and sorts this primary plastic waste that is produced and reprocesses it back into raw material or recycles it into new plastic goods. Because most plastic produced has a “useful life” of less than one year, applying circular economy principles to reduce waste to a minimum and making the business case for plastics recycling can improve the economics and uptake of plastics recycling. By creating a better “after-use” or secondary plastics market, environmental outcomes will improve due to less leakage into natural systems such as oceans.³³²⁵

A major challenge in building a better and more effective secondary market lies in the fact that the plastics market is very fragmented due to the lack of standards and coordination across the value chain. This has resulted in the creation of different plastics such as polyethylene terephthalate (PET), high-density polyethylene (HDPE), polypropylene and polystyrene as well as varying approaches to labelling, collection schemes, and sorting and reprocessing systems.³³²⁶ Moreover, the development, design, and format of new plastic materials are disconnected from the development of after-use systems and infrastructure.³³²⁷ “

Finally, recycling rates for different polymers vary widely across countries, with PET and HDPE — which are mostly used for packaging — being recycled at high rates (19 percent to 85 percent), while polypropylene and polystyrene are much less recycled at 1-2 percent.³³²⁸ According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, overall plastics recycling rates range from 30 percent in the European Union to 10 percent in the United States while in many developing and emerging economies, uncontrolled waste collection and treatment is still the norm.³³²⁹

To address these challenges, G7 members — with the exception of Japan and the United States — agreed to and signed an Ocean Plastics Charter at the Charlevoix Summit held in June 2018. In this Charter, members pledge to “move toward a more resource-efficient and sustainable approach to the management of plastics,” which includes making all plastics recyclable by 2030, reducing single-use plastics and promoting the use of recycled plastic, improving and increasing recycling infrastructure, and creating more sustainable technologies.³³³⁰

On 25 September 2018, UN Environment launched a Global Plastics Platform to encourage and support commitments to reduce plastic pollution. The Platform will provide policy support and find ways “to change the design, production, consumption, and disposal of plastics around the world, in

³³²⁵ The New Plastics Economy — Rethinking the future of plastics, Page 15, World Economic Forum, Ellen MacArthur Foundation and McKinsey & Company January 2016. Access Date: 24 September 2018.

<https://www.mckinsey.com/~media/McKinsey/Business%20Functions/Sustainability%20and%20Resource%20Productivity/Our%20Insights/The%20new%20plastics%20economy/The%20New%20Plastics%20Economy.ashx>

³³²⁶ The New Plastics Economy — Rethinking the future of plastics, Page 25, World Economic Forum, Ellen MacArthur Foundation and McKinsey & Company January 2016. Access Date: 24 September 2018.

<https://www.mckinsey.com/~media/McKinsey/Business%20Functions/Sustainability%20and%20Resource%20Productivity/Our%20Insights/The%20new%20plastics%20economy/The%20New%20Plastics%20Economy.ashx>

³³²⁷ The New Plastics Economy — Rethinking the future of plastics, Page 25, World Economic Forum, Ellen MacArthur Foundation and McKinsey & Company January 2016. Access Date: 24 September 2018

<https://www.mckinsey.com/~media/McKinsey/Business%20Functions/Sustainability%20and%20Resource%20Productivity/Our%20Insights/The%20new%20plastics%20economy/The%20New%20Plastics%20Economy.ashx>

³³²⁸ Governments need to encourage plastic recycling markets, OECD Newsroom, OECD 4 May 2018. Access Date: 24 September 2018. <http://www.oecd.org/newsroom/governments-need-to-act-to-encourage-plastic-recycling-markets.htm>

³³²⁹ Improving Markets for Recycled Plastics: Trends, Prospects, and Policy Responses, Page 1, OECD 24 May 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/environment/improving-markets-for-recycled-plastics/executive-summary_9789264301016-4-en

³³³⁰ G7 Charlevoix Summit, Ocean Plastics Charter, G7 Presidency 11 June 2018. Access Date: 3 September 2018 <https://g7.gc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/OceanPlasticsCharter.pdf>

line with a transition to a more circular economy.”³³³¹ Furthermore, the Platform will look for opportunities to reduce economic and industrial waste. This initiative builds on the World Economic Forum-hosted Platform for Accelerating the Circular Economy, the work of the Regional Seas Conventions, and other existing partnerships.³³³²

Commitment Features

In the G7 Ocean Plastics Charter, leaders have committed to “supporting secondary markets for plastics including using policy measures and developing international incentives, standards or requirements for product stewardship, design and recycled content.”

The core of this commitment is to support secondary markets for plastics. To achieve this outcome, G7 leaders named two possible instruments. These are 1) by using policy measures; and 2) by developing international incentives, standards or requirements for product stewardship, design and recycled content.

The core commitment is a pledge to “support the secondary or ‘after-use’ market for plastics by developing various policies that encourage better and more recycling of plastic waste.” “Support” is defined as “the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity.”³³³³ The “after-use” market for plastics is part of the new plastics economy and is the redesign and convergence of materials, formats, and after-use systems to substantially improve the collection, sorting and reprocessing yields, quality, and economics, while allowing for regional differences and continued innovation.”³³³⁴

Such actions to support these goals include improving regulation at the production level, enforcing rules to tackle illegal dumping, setting recycling targets to drive the supply market, creating public awareness campaigns for consumers and manufacturers to create demand for plastics recycling and for goods made with recycled plastic, and supporting the development of more cost-effective collection, sorting and reprocessing systems.³³³⁵ In this regard, investing in domestic reprocessing capacity would decrease reliance on the limited number of global markets such as China, who in January 2018 decided to close their market to imports of plastic waste, thereby creating demand shocks due to this market concentration.³³³⁶ A combination of these and other policy interventions can help create a better functioning secondary plastics market. When G7 members pledge to support the secondary plastics market with policy actions that promote better plastics management, they recognize the economic, regulatory and technical obstacles to a well-functioning plastics market.

³³³¹ UN Environment Announces Global Plastics Platform, Highlights Countries’ Commitments, International Institute for Sustainable Development 2 October 2018. Access Date: 7 October 2018. <http://sdg.iisd.org/news/un-environment-announces-global-plastics-platform-highlights-countries-commitments/>

³³³² UN Environment Announces Global Plastics Platform, Highlights Countries’ Commitments, International Institute for Sustainable Development 2 October 2018. Access Date: 7 October 2018. <http://sdg.iisd.org/news/un-environment-announces-global-plastics-platform-highlights-countries-commitments/>

³³³³ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 2 May 2016. Access Date: 7 September 2018 <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>.

³³³⁴ The New Plastics Economy, Ellen Macarthur Foundation (Coves) 2017. Access Date: 28 September 2018. https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/assets/downloads/publications/NPEC-Hybrid_English_22-11-17_Digital.pdf.

³³³⁵ Improving Markets for Recycled Plastics: Trends, Prospects, and Policy Responses, Pages 3-4, OECD 24 May 2018. Access Date: 24 September 2018. https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/environment/improving-markets-for-recycled-plastics/executive-summary_9789264301016-4-en.

³³³⁶ Governments need to encourage plastic recycling markets, OECD Newsroom, OECD 24 May 2018. Access Date: 24 September 2018. <http://www.oecd.org/newsroom/governments-need-to-act-to-encourage-plastic-recycling-markets.htm>.

The first instrument, “by using policy measures” is a policy that is adopted by the member to target a local, regional or national objective regarding secondary plastics. This includes the fragmentation in the plastics market with regards to the collection, sorting and reprocessing of plastic waste into raw material or new goods.³³³⁷ In addition, recognizing that all plastics are not manufactured the same due to the purpose and length of time the plastic is used for, a categorization system would be needed to increase uptake in reusing, recycling, and recovery.³³³⁸ Simultaneously, investment, expansion, and innovation in end-user systems and infrastructure would also be required to capture plastic waste leakage and further improve the economics of plastics management.³³³⁹

The second instrument is “by developing international incentives, standards or requirements for product stewardship, design and recycled content.” “Develop” is “when a commitment states it will develop, it should be interpreted to mean that a new initiative will be established in the area. It should not apply to old initiatives.”³³⁴⁰ It should be interpreted to mean a brand-new initiative.³³⁴¹

International incentives motivate one to do something on a global scale, where each nation encourages each other. An example of this could be economic incentives to support secondary markets for plastics.³³⁴² “International standards” of behaviour for responsible practices should be clearly outlined and subscribed to surrounding how to act and approach these secondary markets for plastics.³³⁴³

Developing incentives to improve the design and chemistry of plastics that would increase the “useful life” beyond one year would reduce and potentially restrict consumption of single-use plastics such as shopping bags, food packaging, bottles, cups and drinking straws while creating higher quality plastic for the secondary market, thereby improving the economics of the value chain.³³⁴⁴

Full compliance is awarded to a G7 member who completes the core commitment and implements both instruments of 1) using policy measures and 2) developing EITHER international incentives or international standards or requirements for product stewardship, design, and recycled content. “Or” implies a list of possibilities so one out of the three suggested tools alongside policy measures, counts as full compliance.

³³³⁷ Improving Markets for Recycled Plastics: Trends, Prospects, and Policy Responses, Pages 3-4, OECD 24 May 2018. Access Date: 24 September 2018. https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/environment/improving-markets-for-recycled-plastics/executive-summary_9789264301016-4-en.

³³³⁸ Improving Markets for Recycled Plastics: Trends, Prospects, and Policy Responses, Pages 3-4, OECD 24 May 2018. Access Date: 24 September 2018. https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/environment/improving-markets-for-recycled-plastics/executive-summary_9789264301016-4-en.

³³³⁹ Improving Markets for Recycled Plastics: Trends, Prospects, and Policy Responses, Pages 3-4, OECD 24 May 2018. Access Date: 24 September 2018. https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/environment/improving-markets-for-recycled-plastics/executive-summary_9789264301016-4-en.

³³⁴⁰ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto). 2 May 2016. Access Date: 7 September 2018 <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>.

³³⁴¹ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto). 2 May 2016. Access Date: 7 September 2018 <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>.

³³⁴² Marine Litter: A Global Challenge, UNEP. April 2009. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <http://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/10744/MarineLitterAglobalChallenge.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>.

³³⁴³ Marine Litter: A Global Challenge, UNEP. April 2009. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <http://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/10744/MarineLitterAglobalChallenge.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>.

³³⁴⁴ Improving Markets for Recycled Plastics: Trends, Prospects, and Policy Responses, Pages 4-5, OECD 24 May 2018. Access Date: 24 September 2018. https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/environment/improving-markets-for-recycled-plastics/executive-summary_9789264301016-4-en.

Partial compliance will be awarded if the G7 member fulfills the core commitment but with only one of the two instruments. Non-compliance will be awarded if the G7 member does not fulfill the core commitment or its supporting instruments.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member does NOT support secondary markets for plastics nor does so 1) by using policy measures; and 2) by developing international incentives, standards or requirements for product stewardship, design and recycled content.
0	The G7 member supports secondary markets for plastics AND does so 1) by using policy measures; OR 2) by developing international incentives, standards or requirements for product stewardship, design and recycled content.
+1	The G7 member does supports secondary markets for plastics AND does so 1) by using policy measures; AND 2) by developing international incentives, standards or requirements for product stewardship, design and recycled content.

*Compliance Director: Laila Kanji
Lead Analyst: Sonja Dobson*

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to support secondary markets for plastics including using policy measures and developing international incentives, standards or requirements for product stewardship, design and recycled content.

On 10 June 2018, the Government of Canada pledged to invest CAD100 million in preventing plastic waste entering the oceans, investigate the issue of plastic waste on shorelines, and improve management of existing plastic resources.³³⁴⁵

On 1 August 2018, Canadian Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna, underlined the significance of the sustainable management of aquatic ecosystems, and the protection of the marine environment during a tour of environmental research and clean energy companies in Mont-Joli, Quebec.³³⁴⁶

On 8 September 2018, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna, launched the Community Cleanup, which called on Canadians to clean up plastics from their local shorelines, parks, and neighborhoods. The program encourages Canadians to connect with their local members of Parliament to organize community plastic cleanups.³³⁴⁷

On 17 September 2018, the Canadian Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna, introduced the new Ocean Plastics Education Kit for Canadian students in partnership with Ocean School, Ocean Wise, Sea Smart, Students on Ice and WE. The kit is meant to raise

³³⁴⁵ Working together on climate change, oceans, and clean energy, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Quebec City) 10 June 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/06/10/working-together-climate-change-oceans-and-clean-energy>

³³⁴⁶ Minister McKenna visits Mont-Joli to highlight clean energy and the protection of marine environment, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/07/minister-mckenna-visits-mont-joli-to-highlight-clean-energy-and-the-protection-of-marine-environment.html>

³³⁴⁷ Thousands of Canadians to tackle plastic pollution across the country, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 11 September 2018. Access Date: 31 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/09/thousands-of-canadians-to-tackle-plastic-pollution-across-the-country.html>

awareness of issues on marine plastics, as well as to empower Canadian students to develop solutions toward the marine litter issues.³³⁴⁸

On 20 September 2018, the Government of Canada announced its “Greening Government Strategy,” which includes commitments to “increase plastic waste diversion,” “reduce single-use plastic use in operations, meetings and events,” and “procure sustainable plastics products.” The objective is to redirect at least 75 percent of plastic waste from federal operations by 2030.³³⁴⁹

On 20 September 2018, the Government of Canada hosted the Oceans Inspiration Expo in partnership with GLOBE Series and Delphi Group. The Expo, held in Halifax, facilitated a discussion on acknowledging marine issues such as sustainable oceans and fisheries and ocean plastics and marine litter.³³⁵⁰

On 28 September 2018, the G7 Innovation Challenge to Address Marine Plastic Litter was recognized by plastic makers in Canada and the United States. The new G7 Innovation Challenge aims to encourage the development of new technology to build on the successes and innovations in the plastics value chain.³³⁵¹

On 12 October 2018, Environment and Climate Change Canada published feedback received from Canadians between April and September 2018 regarding their views on “Moving Canada Toward Zero Plastic Waste.” These consultations discussed how Canada can reduce plastic waste and marine litter and help develop a federal-provincial-territorial approach to keep plastic within the economy and out of landfills and the environment.³³⁵²

On 14 November 2018, the Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau met the Premier of the State Council of People’s Republic of China, Li Keqiang at the third Canada-China Annual Leaders’ Dialogue. Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier Li issued the Joint Statement on Marine Litter and Plastics, acknowledging the negative impacts of plastic pollution and focusing on the significance of managing plastics and protecting oceans through a sustainable lifecycle approach.³³⁵³

On 23 November 2018, Minister McKenna, was joined by her provincial and territorial counterparts through a teleconference for the annual meeting of Canadian Council of Minister of the Environment in Ottawa. Federal, provincial, and territorial environment ministers agreed to support

³³⁴⁸ Government of Canada partners on new tool to help students learn about plastic pollution, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 17 September 2018. Access date: 11 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/09/government-of-canada-partners-on-new-tool-to-help-students-learn-about-plastic-pollution.html>

³³⁴⁹ Government of Canada actions on plastic waste in federal operations, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/treasury-board-secretariat/services/innovation/greening-government/government-canada-actions-plastic-waste-federal-operations.html>

³³⁵⁰ Media Advisory — G7 Oceans Inspiration Expo Opens to the Public, Canada News Wire (Halifax) 19 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/media-advisory---g7-oceans-inspiration-expo-opens-to-the-public-693758321.html>

³³⁵¹ Media Statement: Plastic makers endorse new G7 Innovation Challenge to address marine plastic litter, Canadian Plastics Industry Association (Mississauga) 28 September 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018. https://plastics.ca/_resources/Innovation%20Challenge%20Media%20Statement%20CPIA.pdf

³³⁵² Moving Canada toward zero plastic waste: Closed consultation, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 31 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/managing-reducing-waste/consultations/moving-toward-zero-plastic-waste.html>

³³⁵³ Joint Statement between the Government of Canada and the Government of the People’s Republic of China on Marine Litter and Plastics, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 20 December 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/11/14/joint-statement-between-government-canada-and-government-peoples-republic-china>

the Canada-wide zero-plastic-waste strategy to “prevent, reduce, reuse, and clean up plastic waste.” The ministers also agreed to in principle an updated memorandum of understanding for mutual aid for environmental emergencies. The council affirmed its commitment to the joint work on shared environmental priorities, such as the quality of air and water, climate change, and other effects.³³⁵⁴

On 8 February 2019, the Honorable Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, announced a new policy to prevent the use and purchase of single-use plastics.³³⁵⁵ This new policy that established by Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Canadian Coast Guard issued an associated directive to limit the purchase and use for federal government meetings, conferences, and events. Minister McKenna says “with the longest coastline in the world, and thousands of communities and wildlife that depend on our oceans, lakes and rivers, we need to beat plastic pollution together with actions big and small. By reducing, reusing and recycling plastic pollution, we can protect our nature, create thousands of new jobs, grow our economy and cut our emissions.”³³⁵⁶

On 15 March 2019, following five days of discussion at the UN Environment Assembly in Kenya, Canada was one of 170 countries who signed onto a non-binding UN resolution to “significantly reduce” the use of plastics by 2030.³³⁵⁷

On 24 May 2019 in Boisbriand, Linda Lapointe, Member of Parliament for Rivière-des-Mille-Îles, announced that KWI Polymers is receiving CAD150, 000 under the Canadian Plastic Innovation Challenge on behalf of the Minister of Transport, the Honourable Marc Gerneau.³³⁵⁸ It is supported and funded by the Innovative Solutions Canada program, in order to develop feasible solutions for recycling fiberglass, which will reduce the marine litter, and marine pollution.³³⁵⁹

On 4 June 2019, Minister McKenna and Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, announced that Canada would host the 2020 World Circular Economy Forum (WCEF2020), in partnership with Finnish Innovation Fund, Sitra.³³⁶⁰ This event will bring business and thought leaders together from around the world to share ideas on innovative product

³³⁵⁴ Federal government, provinces, and territories push forward a Canada-wide zero-plastic-waste strategy, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 23 November 2018. Access date: 25 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/11/federal-government-provinces-and-territories-push-forward-on-a-canada-wide-zero-plastic-waste-strategy.html>

³³⁵⁵ Curbing plastic pollution in our oceans: Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard take action, Government of Canada, 2 February 2019. Access date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/02/curbing-plastic-pollution-in-our-oceans-fisheries-and-oceans-and-the-canadian-coast-guard-take-action.html>.

³³⁵⁶ Curbing plastic pollution in our oceans: Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard take action, Government of Canada, 2 February 2019. Access date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/02/curbing-plastic-pollution-in-our-oceans-fisheries-and-oceans-and-the-canadian-coast-guard-take-action.html>.

³³⁵⁷ UN resolution pledges to plastic reduction by 2030, BBC News (London). 15 March 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-47592111>.

³³⁵⁸ New Funding Will Support Research to Develop Recycling Solutions for Fiberglass. CISION, 24 May 2019. Access date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/new-funding-will-support-research-to-develop-recycling-solutions-for-fiberglass-882522906.html>.

³³⁵⁹ New Funding Will Support Research to Develop Recycling Solutions for Fiberglass. CISION, 24 May 2019. Access date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/new-funding-will-support-research-to-develop-recycling-solutions-for-fiberglass-882522906.html>.

³³⁶⁰ Canada to host the 2020 World Circular Economy Forum, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 4 June 2019: Access date: 18 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/06/canada-to-host-the-2020-world-circular-economy-forum.html>

design and business models for reusing and remanufacturing materials, and create new economic opportunities.³³⁶¹

On 6 June 2019, in order to celebrate Environment Week, the Canadian Plastics Industry Association and the Chemistry Industry Association of Canada highlighted their actions on making strides to tackle plastic waste.³³⁶²

On 10 June 2019, Prime Minister Trudeau announced that “as early as 2021, Canada will ban harmful single-use plastics from coast to coast.”³³⁶³ The government is looking at items such as water bottles, straws and plastic bags, which will be determined by a science-based review.³³⁶⁴ In addition, he shared that the government will work with provinces and territories to introduce standards and targets for companies that manufacture plastic products or sell items with plastic packaging, so they become responsible for their plastic waste.”³³⁶⁵

Canada has fully complied with the Oceans Plastics Charter goals by supporting secondary markets for plastics using policy measures to promote the reduction and recycling of plastics as well as through public engagement on encouraging a zero plastic waste future.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Angelab Liu

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to support secondary markets for plastics including using policy measures and developing international incentives, standards or requirements for product stewardship, design and recycled content.

On 25 June 2018, the French Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition, Nicolas Hulot, and the Secretary of State to the Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition, Brune Poirson, participated in the Council of the European Ministers of the Environment. Mr. Poirson reiterated support for a ban on single-use plastics, stating that “France ... supports at the European level the ban on single-use plastic objects that generate a lot of marine litter.”³³⁶⁶ This follows the Roadmap for the Circular Economy adopted on 23 April 2018.³³⁶⁷

³³⁶¹ Canada to host the 2020 World Circular Economy Forum, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 4 June 2019: Access date: 18 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/06/canada-to-host-the-2020-world-circular-economy-forum.html>

³³⁶² Canada's Chemistry and Plastics Industries Making Strides to Tackle Plastic Waste, CISION, 6 June 2019. Access date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/canada-s-chemistry-and-plastics-industries-making-strides-to-tackle-plastic-waste-846513867.html>.

³³⁶³ Canada will ban 'harmful' single-use plastics as early as 2021, The Guardian, 10 June 2019. Access Date: 18 June 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/jun/10/canada-ban-single-use-plastics-bags-bottles-straws-2021>

³³⁶⁴ Canada to ban harmful single-use plastics and hold companies responsible for plastic waste, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa), 10 June 2019. Access Date: 18 June 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2019/06/10/canada-ban-harmful-single-use-plastics-and-hold-companies-responsible-plastic-waste>

³³⁶⁵ Canada to ban harmful single-use plastics and hold companies responsible for plastic waste, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa), 10 June 2019. Access Date: 18 June 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2019/06/10/canada-ban-harmful-single-use-plastics-and-hold-companies-responsible-plastic-waste>

³³⁶⁶ Conseil des ministres européens de l'environnement, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 25 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/conseil-des-ministres-europeens-l'environnement-france-emmene-leurope-sur-voie-lambition>

³³⁶⁷ Roadmap for the Circular Economy, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 23 April 2018. Access Date: 30 October 2018. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/FREC%20anglais.pdf>

On 25 June 2018, the French Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition released a Corporate Social Responsibility framework for the logistics industry that called on operators to promote the reuse or recycling of resources used by the industry such as plastic packaging and film.³³⁶⁸

On 2 July 2018, the French Secretary of State to the Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition, Brune Poirson and the Secretary of State to the Minister of Economy and Finance, Delphine Gény-Stephann, obtained commitments from 55 companies and industry groups to incorporate an additional 300,000 tonnes of recycled plastics into their products by 2025, doubling the current rate of recycled plastics usage, as well as commitments to design, obtain, and recycle materials in an environmentally conscious way.³³⁶⁹

On 26 July 2018, the French Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition released a fact sheet on governmental actions to promote a circular economy titled “Three Months of Work: An Advancing Roadmap.” It indicated that by 2020, the French “will have more opportunities to purchase products made of materials from recycling” and “will sort their waste more easily thanks to harmonization in the colour of waste bins through all French territory by 2022.”³³⁷⁰

On 1 August 2018, Poirson announced the launch of an “Oceans Mission” that would include new measures to protect the oceans from waste, in particular, plastic pollution.³³⁷¹

On 12 August 2018, Poirson announced plans to introduce a penalty system that would make packaging made with non-recycled plastic up to 10 percent more expensive.³³⁷² Poirson indicated: “Tomorrow, when there is a choice between two bottles, one made with recycled plastic, the other not, the first one will be cheaper.” Poirson also announced that the government would increase taxes on landfills and reduce taxes on recycling activities.³³⁷³

On 14-15 October 2018, Poirson held consultations at the Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition with a variety of stakeholders with a view to preparing a law on the circular economy.

³³⁶⁸ Référentiel de responsabilité sociétale des entreprises (RSE) en logistique, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 25 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/R%E2%94%9C%C2%AEf%E2%94%9C%C2%AErentiel%20RSE%20en%20logistique%20version%20compl%E2%94%9C%C2%BFte.pdf>

³³⁶⁹ 100% plastiques recyclés en 2025 : 55 industriels et fédérations s’engagent en faveur du recyclage et de l’éco-conception, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 2 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/100-plastiques-recycles-en-2025-55-industriels-et-federations-sengagent-en-faveur-du-recyclage-et>

³³⁷⁰ Trois mois de travail, une feuille de route qui avance, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 26 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/bilanpersFREC_web.pdf

³³⁷¹ Pollution des océans et des récifs coralliens, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/pollution-des-oceans-et-des-recifs-coralliens-brune-poirson-sattaque-aux-substances-chimiques-et-aux>

³³⁷² France to set penalties on non-recycled plastic next year, France24 (Paris) 12 August 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.france24.com/en/20180812-france-plastic-penalties-recycling-environment-reduce-reuse-pollution>

³³⁷³ France to make unrecycled plastic bottles more expensive, Reuters (Paris) 13 August 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-plastics/france-to-make-unrecycled-plastic-bottles-more-expensive-idUSKBN1KY13T>

Stakeholders consulted included manufacturers, local authorities, representatives of the recycling industry, and environmental organizations.³³⁷⁴

From 15 October 2018 to 15 December 2018, the Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition, supported by the French Environment and Energy Management Agency, ran a national audiovisual campaign discussing the environmental and economic benefits of recycling and encouraging citizens to move towards a circular economy. The campaign was co-funded by 13 recycling sector organizations and had a budget of EUR3.6 million.³³⁷⁵

On 10 January 2019, Poirson jointly launched a call for innovative packaging and paper waste collection solutions with Arnaud Leroy, president of the French Environment and Energy Management Agency (ADEME), and Jean Hornain, director general of recycling non-profit Citeo.³³⁷⁶ The government, ADEME, and Citeo will offer financial and technological support to communities, companies, and other groups putting forward projects, with Citeo providing EUR6 million.³³⁷⁷

On 18 January 2019, Poirson, along with Agnès Pannier-Runacher, Secretary of State to the Minister of Economy and Finance, signed a contract by the strategic committee of the waste transformation and recovery sector.³³⁷⁸ This contract committed to six projects, which aim to increase the ratio of recycled materials in new products while ensuring quality, safety, and traceability; support a network of expertise on product recyclability and eco-design; accelerate the growth of French companies in the environmental sector; support skill development in the sector; and accelerate the automation of waste sorting.³³⁷⁹ The contract is in line with the Roadmap for the Circular Economy adopted on 23 April 2018, which aims to halve landfilling and bring about a 100 per cent recycling rate for plastics.³³⁸⁰

³³⁷⁴ Note aux rédactions — Économie circulaire: Brune Poirson consulte l'ensemble des parties prenantes, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018.

<https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/note-aux-redactions-economie-circulaire-brune-poirson-consulte-lensemble-des-parties-prenantes>

³³⁷⁵ "Ensemble, continuons de recycler!" Brune Poirson lance une grande campagne de communication inter-filière sur le recyclage, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/ensemble-continuons-recycler-brune-poirson-lance-grande-campagne-communication-inter-filiere-sur>

³³⁷⁶ Le Gouvernement, l'ADEME et Citeo s'associent pour une collecte des emballages innovante, performante et solidaire, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/gouvernement-lademe-et-citeo-sassocient-collecte-des-emballages-innovante-performante-et-solidaire>.

³³⁷⁷ Le Gouvernement, l'ADEME et Citeo s'associent pour une collecte des emballages innovante, performante et solidaire, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/gouvernement-lademe-et-citeo-sassocient-collecte-des-emballages-innovante-performante-et-solidaire>.

³³⁷⁸ Signature du Contrat du comité stratégique de filière "Transformation et valorisation des déchets", Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/cp-signature-du-contrat-du-comite-strategique-filiere-transformation-et-valorisation-des-dechets>.

³³⁷⁹ Signature du Contrat du comité stratégique de filière "Transformation et valorisation des déchets", Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/cp-signature-du-contrat-du-comite-strategique-filiere-transformation-et-valorisation-des-dechets>.

³³⁸⁰ France Unveils Circular Economy Roadmap, Latham & Watkins LLP 27 April 2018. Access Date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.globalelr.com/2018/04/france-unveils-circular-economy-roadmap/>.

On 31 January 2019, Poirson met with representatives of major French fast food chains to present a timeline for better waste management.³³⁸¹ By the end of March 2019, companies are to communicate their strategy for compliance with regulations on the sorting of different waste streams, including plastic.³³⁸² These strategies will be studied and presented by the end of April and begin to be implemented by the beginning of September. Poirson indicated: “It would not occur to any restaurant to compromise on the rules of hygiene.³³⁸³ The same must apply to the sorting of waste.”³³⁸⁴

On 21 February 2019, Poirson signed a National Pact on Plastic Packaging Auchan Retail France, Biscuits Bouvard, Carrefour, Casino, Coca-Cola European Partners, Danone, Franprix, L’Oréal, LSDH, Monoprix, Nestlé France, Système-U, Unilever, the Tara Expeditions Foundation, and WWF France.³³⁸⁵ Commitments in the Pact include developing a list of problematic and unnecessary packaging elements and creating measures to eliminate them; collectively recycling 60 per cent of plastic packaging by 2022; using eco-design to make 100 per cent of packaging reusable, recyclable, or compostable by 2025; and conducting information and education campaigns to raise awareness of plastic pollution among the general public.³³⁸⁶ Progress will be assessed every six months starting 2021, and progress will also be made public annually.³³⁸⁷

On 15 March 2019 following five days of discussion at the UN Environment Assembly in Kenya, France was one of 170 countries who signed onto a non-binding UN resolution to “significantly reduce” the use of plastics by 2030.³³⁸⁸

On 26 March 2019, French President Emmanuel Macron and Chinese President Xi Jinping issued a joint declaration in which their nations committed to “strongly support international action against

³³⁸¹ Brune Poirson a convoqué les patrons de la restauration rapide pour leur rappeler leurs obligations réglementaires en matière de gestion des déchets, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/brune-poirson-convoque-patrons-restauration-rapide-leur-rappeler-leurs-obligations-reglementaires-en>.

³³⁸² Brune Poirson a convoqué les patrons de la restauration rapide pour leur rappeler leurs obligations réglementaires en matière de gestion des déchets, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/brune-poirson-convoque-patrons-restauration-rapide-leur-rappeler-leurs-obligations-reglementaires-en>.

³³⁸³ Brune Poirson a convoqué les patrons de la restauration rapide pour leur rappeler leurs obligations réglementaires en matière de gestion des déchets, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/brune-poirson-convoque-patrons-restauration-rapide-leur-rappeler-leurs-obligations-reglementaires-en>.

³³⁸⁴ Brune Poirson a convoqué les patrons de la restauration rapide pour leur rappeler leurs obligations réglementaires en matière de gestion des déchets, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/brune-poirson-convoque-patrons-restauration-rapide-leur-rappeler-leurs-obligations-reglementaires-en>.

³³⁸⁵ Pacte National sur les emballages plastiques: le Gouvernement, des entreprises françaises et des ONG s’engagent, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/pacte-national-sur-emballages-plastiques-gouvernement-des-entreprises-francaises-et-des-ong>.

³³⁸⁶ Pacte National sur les emballages plastiques: le Gouvernement, des entreprises françaises et des ONG s’engagent, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/pacte-national-sur-emballages-plastiques-gouvernement-des-entreprises-francaises-et-des-ong>.

³³⁸⁷ Pacte National sur les emballages plastiques: le Gouvernement, des entreprises françaises et des ONG s’engagent, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/pacte-national-sur-emballages-plastiques-gouvernement-des-entreprises-francaises-et-des-ong>.

³³⁸⁸ UN resolution pledges to plastic reduction by 2030, BBC News (London). 15 March 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-47592111>.

plastic pollution of the ocean and land through the strengthening of existing arrangements, including the Basel Convention.”³³⁸⁹

On 5 April 2019, Poirson and Stientje van Veldhoven, Dutch Secretary of State for Infrastructure and Water Management, co-chaired a meeting to begin the development of a European pact on plastic packaging attended by plastics industry representatives and officials from Norway, Luxembourg, Denmark, Belgium, Germany, and Austria.³³⁹⁰ The pact builds on the French and Dutch national pacts on plastic packaging, both of which focus on promoting recyclability and recycling. It is expected to be presented in the fall of 2019 and will followed by a European Plastics Summit in 2020.³³⁹¹

On 19 April 2019, the French Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition launched consultations on a draft national waste management plan, whose goals included using tax measures to make waste recovery cheaper than disposal, accelerating the collection of recyclable packaging, and including sorting instructions with all plastic packaging. The consultation closed at the end of May 2019.³³⁹²

On 6 May 2019 following the G7 Environment Ministers’ Meeting held in Metz, France, a communiqué was issued stating France’s offer “to host, under its G7 Presidency, a scientific workshop dedicated to the standardization and harmonization of microplastics monitoring, including biomonitoring, and the potential contribution of behavioural sciences to designing strategies to reduce microplastics and plastic pollution.”³³⁹³

France has fully complied with the Oceans Plastics Charter goals through supporting secondary markets for plastics by using tax policy measures, public engagements, and other initiatives to promote recycling, recovery, and reduction of plastics waste while contributing to international requirements for better product stewardship.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Zhenglin Liu

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to support secondary markets for plastics including using policy measures and developing international incentives, standards or requirements for product stewardship, design and recycled content.

³³⁸⁹ Déclaration conjointe entre la France et la Chine, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/declaration-conjointe-entre-france-et-chine>.

³³⁹⁰ Réunion de mobilisation de pays européens pour la création d’un pacte plastique sur les emballages en Europe, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/reunion-mobilisation-pays-europeens-creation-dun-pacte-plastique-sur-emballages-en-europe>.

³³⁹¹ Franco-Dutch plastic ‘coalition of the willing’ takes shape, EURACTIV (Brussels) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/energy-environment/news/franco-dutch-plastic-coalition-of-the-willing-takes-shape/>.

³³⁹² Plan national de gestion des déchets: la concertation du public est lancée, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 19 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/plan-national-gestion-des-dechets-concertation-du-public-est-lancee>.

³³⁹³ G7 Environment Ministers’ Meeting Communiqué, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris), 6 May 2019. Access Date: 18 June 2019. https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/Communiqu%C3%A9%20G7_Version%20EN.pdf

On 18 September 2018, German Federal Environment Minister Svenja Schulze released a statement prior to the G7 Environment Ministers meeting stating that “we must work for sustainable and resource-efficient use of plastics along the entire life cycle, from product design and manufacture to recycling.”³³⁹⁴

On 26 November 2018, Minister Schulze announced a strategy for combatting plastic waste. This strategy is a five-point plan that will focus on circumventing unnecessary packaging, making products more environmentally friendly, increasing recycling, preventing plastics from entering organic waste, and increasing donations for international actions which eliminate plastic waste from the oceans and rivers.³³⁹⁵

On 1 January 2019, Germany introduced a new Packaging Act. Companies that produce volumes of packaging over 30,000 kilograms of plastic and compounds sold in Germany must submit a declaration of compliance to the Federal Government or they will incur a EUR50,000 fine.³³⁹⁶ The German government aims of reaching a target of 70 per cent reusable beverage packaging with the Act. The Act introduces incentives for packaging producers to incorporate recyclable designs into their products. The Act requires retailers to indicate whether beverage packaging is reusable or disposable.³³⁹⁷ Online retailers must register with a central packaging agency to maintain domestic market access. The German government aimed to increase plastic recycling rates to 58.5 per cent from 36 per cent with the new Packaging Act.³³⁹⁸

In February 2019, German Environmental Minister Schulz met with sales representatives from a variety of industries to discuss how to avoid plastic, which she said would result in new plastic laws that would be introduced in the autumn.³³⁹⁹ Minister Schulze said she expected “retailers and manufacturers to commit themselves to using alternatives to plastic across the board” by the time the next meeting takes place in fall.”³⁴⁰⁰

On 15 March 2019, following five days of discussion at the UN Environment Assembly in Kenya, Germany was one of 170 countries who signed onto a non-binding UN resolution to “significantly reduce” the use of plastics by 2030.³⁴⁰¹

On 21 May 2019, Minister Schulze called for swift implementation of the EU Single-Use Plastics Directive, which will ban selected single-use plastic products that end up as marine litter, require plastic bottles to have a minimum of 30 per cent of recycled plastic, and give the plastics industry a

³³⁹⁴ G7 environment ministers discuss measures to combat climate change, marine litter and resource inefficiency, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 18 September 2018. Access Date: 30 October 2018. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/g7-umweltministerinnen-und-minister-diskutieren-massnahmen-gegen-klimawandel-meeresmuell-und-ressour/>

³³⁹⁵ Germany unveils 5-point plan to reduce plastic waste, DW News (Berlin) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 12 December 2018. <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-unveils-5-point-plan-to-reduce-plastic-waste/a-46455503>

³³⁹⁶ Getting Ready for Germany’s New Packaging Law, Packaging Europe. 20 June 2018. Accessed 12 November 2018. <https://packagingeurope.com/getting-ready-for-germanys-new-packaging-law/>.

³³⁹⁷ New Packaging Law Introduced in Germany, Clarity EU. 28 June 2017. Access Date: 12 November 2018. https://www.clarity.eu.com/home/news/news.php?news_id=363&type_id=1®ion_id=&story=New+packaging+law+approved+in+Germany.

³³⁹⁸ The New Packaging Law: What Will Change?, Landbell. 12 December 2017. Access Date: 12 November 2018. https://verpackungsgesetz-info.de/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/20171019_landbell_verpackg-factsheet_en_final.pdf.

³³⁹⁹ Are plastic bags on the way out in Germany? The Local de. 17 May 2019. Access Date: 23 May 2019. <https://www.thelocal.de/20190517/are-plastic-bags-finally-on-the-way-out-in-germany>.

³⁴⁰⁰ Large majority of German consumers supports EU ban on disposable plastics, Xinhua News (Berlin) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 18 June 2019. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/12/c_137972584.htm

³⁴⁰¹ UN resolution pledges to plastic reduction by 2030, BBC News (London). 15 March 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-47592111>.

larger share of waste removal costs. These regulations are to be national law in two years' time across EU member states. Schulze stated "As plastic waste accounts for the largest share of marine litter, it is only right that we ban disposable plates and cutlery and other single-use plastic products as quickly as possible. In Germany, these products are to set vanish from our shelves even before 2021."³⁴⁰²

Germany has partially complied with the Oceans Plastics Charter goals by stating its support for the secondary plastics market and called for a ban on single use plastics however has yet to implement policy measures or international incentives, standards or requirements for product stewardship, design, and recycled content.

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Heerea Rikbraj

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to support secondary markets for plastics including using policy measures and developing international incentives, standards or requirements for product stewardship, design and recycled content.

On 28 June 2018, Italian Minister of the Environment, Sergio Costa, announced that an amendment to Italy's Code on the Environment was being developed to involve Italy's fishermen in the clean-up of marine litter and allow them to bring plastic waste recovered from its waters to land. Currently, they are not allowed to bring this ashore for the purposes of reusing, recycling and recovering. According to Minister Costa, this is the first step "towards a circular economy."³⁴⁰³

On 26 September 2018, Italian Undersecretary for the Environment, Salvatore Micillo, spoke at a conference celebrating the 20th anniversary of the establishment of Corepla, the National Consortium for the collection, recycling and recovery of plastic packaging. There he reiterated that a law was being developed to allow the country's fisherman to recover plastic waste from Italy's waters and bring it back to shore, in efforts to tackle marine plastic pollution. Micillo further stated that "the circular economy is the future, and we want to develop it."³⁴⁰⁴

On 1 October 2018, the Directorate General for Waste and Pollution at the Italian Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea Protection concluded a consultation on the document "The Circular Economy and the Efficient Use of Resources: Indicators for measuring the circular economy," which addresses plastics throughout. The consultation began on 30 July 2018, and the ministry indicated that it was a step towards creating a "National Action Plan for the Circular Economy."³⁴⁰⁵

³⁴⁰² Minister Schulze calls for swift implementation of EU rules on single-use plastics, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 21 May 2019. Access Date: 18 June 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/schulze-neue-eu-regeln-fuer-einwegplastik-rasch-umsetzen/>

³⁴⁰³ Mare, Costa: a breve legge per recupero plastica, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Rome) 28 June 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/mare-costa-breve-legge-recupero-plastica>

³⁴⁰⁴ Il Sottosegretario Micillo a Corepla: Italia leader nel riciclo, su plastica dobbiamo fare di più. Presto una legge per pulire i mari, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Rome) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://www.minambiente.it/notizie/il-sottosegretario-micillo-corepla-italia-leader-nel-riciclo-su-plastica-dobbiamo-fare-di>

³⁴⁰⁵ Documento "Economia Circolare ed Uso Efficiente Delle Risorse — Indicatori per la misurazione dell'economia circolare, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Rome) 1 October 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. <http://indicatoricircolari.consultazione.minambiente.it/>

On 19 December 2018, Minister Costa spoke in Brussels in anticipation of the EU Environment Council meeting, announcing that he will soon present a “Salvamare” bill to support fishermen in bringing plastic waste ashore for collection.³⁴⁰⁶

On 15 March 2019, following five days of discussion at the UN Environment Assembly in Kenya, Italy was one of 170 countries who signed onto a non-binding UN resolution to “significantly reduce” the use of plastics by 2030.³⁴⁰⁷

On 4 April 2019, the “Salvamare” bill was passed by the Italian Council of Ministers, rewarding fishermen to for bringing plastic waste onshore for collection.³⁴⁰⁸ Prior to the passing of this bill, they risked being charged for its disposal or were suspected of waste trafficking.

Italy has partially complied with its commitment by developing the policy measure of its “Salvamare” bill for fishermen, but has not contributed to international incentives, standards or requirements for product stewardship, design and recycled content.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Zhenglin Liu

Japan: N/A

Japan has not signed the Ocean Plastics Charter but has taken steps to reduce the amount of plastic waste disposed into the ocean by passing a bill that reduces the amount of microplastics leaked into the ocean and has initiated plans to recycle disposable plastics.

On 11 June 2018, Minister Yasunari Morino of the Japanese foreign ministry stated in an interview “[The Charter] expects the countries to institute a wide range of regulatory measures around plastic goods, including various commonplace goods in our lives.” He went on further saying, “we need to look at the implications of this document for how it will affect our lives and industry. And also we believe that all countries, not only G-7 but all countries including developing countries, need to be involved in the discussion efforts to tackle this global issue.”³⁴⁰⁹

On 15 June 2018, the Japanese parliament approved a bill intended to decrease the amount of microplastics dumped into the ocean, but it included no sanctions for failure to comply.³⁴¹⁰

On 4 July 2018, the Japanese Environment Ministry started planning on how to increase recycling of disposable plastics. One idea is administering subsidies to help waste management companies build state of the art recycling facilities.³⁴¹¹

³⁴⁰⁶ Plastica, ministro Costa: "Giornata importante. Avviato cammino di tutela dei mari e dell'ambiente", Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Rome) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2018. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/plastica-ministro-costa-giornata-importante-avviato-cammino-di-tutela-dei-mari-e>.

³⁴⁰⁷ UN resolution pledges to plastic reduction by 2030, BBC News (London). 15 March 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-47592111>.

³⁴⁰⁸ Costa: con la legge Salvamare iniziamo a ripulire il mare dalla plastica, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Rome) 4 April 2018. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/costa-con-la-legge-salvamare-iniziamo-ripulire-il-mare-dalla-plastica>.

³⁴⁰⁹ Japan Needs Longer Look at Oceans Plastics Charter After G-7 Summit, Bloomberg News (Washington D.C) 11 June 2018. Access Date: 07 October 2018. <https://www.bna.com/japan-needs-longer-n73014476401/>

³⁴¹⁰ Japan passes anti-plastic law but with no sanctions for polluters, The Jakarta Post (Tokyo) 16 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <http://www.thejakartapost.com/life/2018/06/16/japan-passes-anti-plastic-law-but-with-no-sanctions-for-polluters.html>

On 17 August 2018, a Japanese government panel commenced discussions on an action plan to reduce plastic waste. The panel will evaluate “how to efficiently recover and recycle disposable plastic items, promote bioplastics that are derived from biomass sources and easily decomposable in nature.”³⁴¹²

On 14 October 2018, the Japanese government announced a 25 percent reduction in disposable plastics by 2030, making it mandatory for shops to charge for plastic bags and slashing the use of microplastics in facial scrubs and toothpaste. In addition, the government intends to increase monitoring of illegal dumping and promote the use of environmentally friendly bioplastics made from plants.³⁴¹³

On 7 November 2018, the Ministry of the Environment presented a policy that would request companies to curb the use of microbeads used in facewash and toothpaste, and restaurants and shops to not use plastic bags and straws.³⁴¹⁴

On 22 February 2019, a Japanese government council finalised environmental policy draft for 25 per cent reduction in disposable plastics by 2030. The policy advocates for complete recycling or reuse of plastic waste.³⁴¹⁵

On 27 February 2019, the Japanese government announced its plans to ban the export of dirty non-recyclable plastic wastes through revision of relevant ordinances on procedures for exporting such waste.³⁴¹⁶

On 4 March 2019, Japan in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme, announced its new initiative to boost knowledge on and develop measures against marine plastic litter.³⁴¹⁷ The Government of Japan stated “we will continue to exercise our leadership in promoting measures by the international community as a whole including emerging countries to combat marine plastic litter, to realize a world without additional pollution.”³⁴¹⁸

³⁴¹¹ How China’s plastic waste ban has left Japan to deal with mountains of trash, South China Morning Post (Hong Kong) 04 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.scmp.com/news/asia/east-asia/article/2153690/how-chinas-plastic-waste-ban-has-left-japan-deal-mountains-trash>

³⁴¹² Japanese government panel begins discussions on reducing plastic waste, Japan Times (Tokyo) 17 August 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/08/17/national/science-health/japanese-government-panel-begins-discussions-reducing-plastic-waste/#.W8hx4ktKjIU>

³⁴¹³ Japan eyes reducing amount of plastic waste by as much as 25% by 2030, Japan Times (Tokyo) 14 October 2018. Access Date: 11 November 2018. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/10/14/national/japan-eyes-reducing-amount-plastic-waste-much-25-2030/#.W-haBZNKjIU>

³⁴¹⁴ Japan gov’t to urge companies to curb use of microplastics, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 7 November 2018. Access Date: 21 December 2018. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2018/11/4279143ebb2f-govt-to-urge-companies-to-curb-use-of-microplastics.html>

³⁴¹⁵ Government panel finalises draft to cut plastic waste by 25% by 2030. The Mainichi (Tokyo) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20190222/p2g/00m/0dm/075000c>

³⁴¹⁶ Japan to ban exports of nonrecyclable dirty plastic waste, The Mainichi (Tokyo) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20190227/p2a/00m/0na/015000c>

³⁴¹⁷ Japan and United Nations Environment Programme Announce New Cooperation to Boost Knowledge on Marine Plastic Litter in Southeast Asia and in India, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo), 4 March 2019. Access Date: 18 June 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002357.html

³⁴¹⁸ Japan and United Nations Environment Programme Announce New Cooperation to Boost Knowledge on Marine Plastic Litter in Southeast Asia and in India, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo), 4 March 2019. Access Date: 18 June 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002357.html

On 15 March 2019, following five days of discussion at the UN Environment Assembly in Kenya, Japan was one of 170 countries who signed onto a non-binding UN resolution to “significantly reduce” the use of plastics by 2030.³⁴¹⁹

On 6 May 2019 following the G7 Environment Ministers’ Meeting held in Metz, France, a communiqué was issued highlighting Japan’s initiative to launch the “Project of Harmonization of Marine Microplastics Monitoring Methodologies” for standardizing and harmonizing monitoring methodologies for microplastics.³⁴²⁰

On 5 June 2019, the Japanese government announced their plan to ban the provision of single-use plastic bag for free by retail shops to shoppers, while leaving the price to be charged for a plastic bag to the retailers. Environment Minister Yoshiaki Harada, stated in a press conference that “the proportion of plastic bags among plastic waste is not big, but charging would be symbolic.”³⁴²¹

Although Japan has not signed on to the Ocean Plastics Charter, it plans on developing strategies and policies to reduce marine plastic pollution.

Analyst: Judith Nwachebelu

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to support secondary markets for plastics including using policy measures and developing international incentives, standards or requirements for product stewardship, design and recycled content.

On 18 June 2018, Innovate UK, as part of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), opened a competition that offers GBP4 million to businesses that intend on reducing or reusing plastic in innovative ways.³⁴²² Possible circular economy approaches could include but are not limited to, the development of new polymer materials, new product designs, new recycling processes, increasing the value of recycled polymer, and innovations that encourage people to change behaviour to reduce plastic waste.³⁴²³

On 18 June 2018, the UK launched the Plastics and Research Innovation Fund, amounting to GBP20 million.³⁴²⁴ The funding is to be managed by UKRI to develop a more sustainable approach to plastics to create “a new model where you use, you reuse, and you recycle.”³⁴²⁵

³⁴¹⁹ UN resolution pledges to plastic reduction by 2030, BBC News (London). 15 March 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-47592111>.

³⁴²⁰ G7 Environment Ministers’ Meeting Communiqué, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris), 6 May 2019. Access Date: 18 June 2019. https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/Communiqu%C3%A9%20G7_Version%20EN.pdf

³⁴²¹ Japan to ban free plastic bags at stores to fight marine pollution, Japan Today (Tokyo) 05 June 2019. Access Date 09 June 2019. <https://japantoday.com/category/business/japan-to-ban-free-plastic-bags-at-stores-to-fight-pollution-minister>.

³⁴²² Reducing plastic waste in the environment: apply for funding, UK Government (London) 18 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/reducing-plastic-waste-in-the-environment-apply-for-funding>

³⁴²³ Reducing plastic waste in the environment: apply for funding, UK Government (London) 18 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/reducing-plastic-waste-in-the-environment-apply-for-funding>

³⁴²⁴ Science Minister announces £20 million Plastics Research and Innovation Fund to turn the tide on plastics production, UK Research and Innovation (London) 18 June 2018. Access Date: 30 October 2018. <https://www.ukri.org/news/science-minister-announces-20-million-plastics-research-and-innovation-fund-to-turn-the-tide-on-plastics-production/>

On 19 June 2018, the UK government prohibited the sale of products containing microbeads in an attempt to prevent the small plastics from entering and harming the marine environment.³⁴²⁶

On 30 June 2018, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs offered a GBP 19,000 contract for research into the economic and environmental consequences of introducing a policy ban on all single-use plastics.³⁴²⁷ This ban would include plastic straws, plastic plates, and plastic cutlery.³⁴²⁸

On 30 August 2018, Prime Minister Theresa May confirmed that the government will deliberate a change to the national fee for plastic bags purchased from retailers, increasing the fee from GBP0.05 to GBP0.10.³⁴²⁹ It is proposed this fee is to be extended to smaller retail stores, as it was only applicable to those retailers with more than 250 employees.³⁴³⁰

On 30 August 2018, The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs announced a new partnership with the UK Scouts.³⁴³¹ The Government intends on creating a new “Plastics and Marine Environment Activity Pack” to reduce the amount of single-use plastics in the ocean.³⁴³² This will be supplemented through an international exchange programme that allows scouts from the United Kingdom and Kenya to interact and learn about the harmful impacts of plastic pollution.³⁴³³ The Prime Minister, during her visit to Africa in the same week, pledged approximately GBP40,000 for a new Girl Guides and Scouts Plastic Challenge Badge that aims to educate children from three African countries about the detriments posed by plastic consumption.³⁴³⁴

On 11 September 2018, the Environment Agency published the Packaging Producer Responsibility Monitoring Plan of 2018, which is meant to ensure that packaging producers in England meet EU packaging recovery and recycling targets and they are registered in accordance with these

³⁴²⁵ Science Minister announces £20 million Plastics Research and Innovation Fund to turn the tide on plastics production, UK Research and Innovation (London) 18 June 2018. Access Date: 30 October 2018. <https://www.ukri.org/news/science-minister-announces-20-million-plastics-research-and-innovation-fund-to-turn-the-tide-on-plastics-production/>

³⁴²⁶ World leading microbeads ban comes into force, UK Government (London) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-leading-microbeads-ban-comes-into-force>

³⁴²⁷ Plastic plates and cutlery to be banned from sale under government plans, Telegraph (London) 30 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/06/30/plastic-plates-cutlery-banned-sale-government-plans/>

³⁴²⁸ Plastic plates and cutlery to be banned from sale under government plans, Telegraph (London) 30 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/06/30/plastic-plates-cutlery-banned-sale-government-plans/>

³⁴²⁹ Plastic bags: Charge could rise to 10p and be extended to smaller shops, British Broadcasting Company (London) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-45353073>

³⁴³⁰ Plastic bags: Charge could rise to 10p and be extended to smaller shops, British Broadcasting Company (London) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-45353073>

³⁴³¹ Next Generation of Leaders to Join Fight Against Plastic Pollution, UK Government (London) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/next-generation-of-leaders-to-join-fight-against-plastic-pollution>

³⁴³² Next Generation of Leaders to Join Fight Against Plastic Pollution, UK Government (London) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/next-generation-of-leaders-to-join-fight-against-plastic-pollution>

³⁴³³ Next Generation of Leaders to Join Fight Against Plastic Pollution, UK Government (London) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/next-generation-of-leaders-to-join-fight-against-plastic-pollution>

³⁴³⁴ Next Generation of Leaders to Join Fight Against Plastic Pollution, UK Government (London) 30 August 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/next-generation-of-leaders-to-join-fight-against-plastic-pollution>

regulations.³⁴³⁵ In addition, the plan verifies data on recycling and recovery rates, ensures recycling and recovery of waste packaging meets standards, and that packaging is not disposed of through illegal avenues.³⁴³⁶ The plan enables the Environment Agency to exercise certain powers to guarantee the compliance of all packaging producers.³⁴³⁷

On 22 October 2018, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs set out a strategy to ban the circulation of straws, stirrers, and cotton buds.³⁴³⁸ An online consultation was opened to gather views of stakeholders.³⁴³⁹

On 29 October 2018, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs proposed a new tax on food and drink companies for plastic packaging that does not include at least 30 percent recycled content.³⁴⁴⁰ This tax, however, is subject to consultation and is due to come in to effect on 1 April 2022.³⁴⁴¹

On 29 October 2018, Chancellor Philip Hammond announced a GBP10 million fund to prevent the illegal industrial dumping of waste.³⁴⁴² Pledges of GBP20 million and GBP10 million were granted to augment recycling and help fund innovative approaches to reduce litter respectively.³⁴⁴³

On 29 October 2018, the UK government signed the Ellen MacArthur Foundation's New Plastics Economy Global Commitment to eradicate plastic waste and pollution.³⁴⁴⁴ The primary targets of this commitment are to eliminate single-use plastics in exchange for reusable packaging, encourage

³⁴³⁵ Packaging producer responsibility monitoring plan 2018, UK Government (London) 11 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/packaging-producer-responsibility-monitoring-plan-2018/packaging-producer-responsibility-monitoring-plan-2018>

³⁴³⁶ Packaging producer responsibility monitoring plan 2018, UK Government (London) 11 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/packaging-producer-responsibility-monitoring-plan-2018/packaging-producer-responsibility-monitoring-plan-2018>

³⁴³⁷ Packaging producer responsibility monitoring plan 2018, UK Government (London) 11 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/packaging-producer-responsibility-monitoring-plan-2018/packaging-producer-responsibility-monitoring-plan-2018>

³⁴³⁸ Government Launches Plan to ban Plastic Straws, Cotton-buds, and Stirrers, UK Government (London) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 9 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-plan-to-ban-plastic-straws-cotton-buds-and-stirrers>

³⁴³⁹ Consultation on Proposals to Ban the Distribution and/or Sale of Plastic Straws, Plastic-Stemmed Cotton-buds and Plastic Drink Stirrers in England, Department for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs (London) 22 October 2018. Date Accessed: 9 December 2018. <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/plastic-straws-stirrers-and-buds/>

³⁴⁴⁰ Budget: Tax on Plastic Packaging; £20m Investment in Recycling; PRN Reform, British Plastics and Rubber (London) 29 October 2018. Date Accessed: 9 December 2018. <https://www.britishplastics.co.uk/News/budget-tax-on-plastic-packaging-20m-investment-in-recycling/>

³⁴⁴¹ Budget: Tax on Plastic Packaging; £20m Investment in Recycling; PRN Reform, British Plastics and Rubber (London) 29 October 2018. Date Accessed: 9 December 2018. <https://www.britishplastics.co.uk/News/budget-tax-on-plastic-packaging-20m-investment-in-recycling/>

³⁴⁴² Budget: Tax on Plastic Packaging; £20m Investment in Recycling; PRN Reform, British Plastics and Rubber (London) 29 October 2018. Date Accessed: 9 December 2018. <https://www.britishplastics.co.uk/News/budget-tax-on-plastic-packaging-20m-investment-in-recycling/>

³⁴⁴³ Budget: Tax on Plastic Packaging; £20m Investment in Recycling; PRN Reform, British Plastics and Rubber (London) 29 October 2018. Date Accessed: 9 December 2018. <https://www.britishplastics.co.uk/News/budget-tax-on-plastic-packaging-20m-investment-in-recycling/>

³⁴⁴⁴ UK Signs Global Commitment to Eliminate Plastic Pollution, UK Government (London) 29 October 2018. Date Accessed: 9 December 2018. <https://deframedia.blog.gov.uk/2018/10/29/uk-signs-global-commitment-to-eliminate-plastic-pollution/>

innovation to ensure that all plastic packaging could be safely reused, recycled, or composted, and circulate the plastic produced by implementing reusing strategies.³⁴⁴⁵

On 27 November 2018, the Government announced a 97 percent drop in single-use plastics being used by Foreign office staff in the United Kingdom.³⁴⁴⁶

On 5 December 2018, UK Research and Innovation offered GBP60 million in funding to be distributed through the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund for innovative businesses to help develop new forms of packaging and plastic made from forms of waste to reduce oil-based plastic use, smart packaging labels to inform consumers of how to dispose of products, and a sell-by-date that deteriorates at the same rate as produce that show consumers when their food will spoil to reduce food waste. Businesses will be able to access funds through managed competitions when they overcome challenges of developing sustainable plastic packaging.³⁴⁴⁷

On 18 December 2018, the UK government launched a new plan for packaging and waste that requires businesses and manufacturers to pay for the full cost of the recycling or disposing of their packaging waste that is not made of at least 30 per cent recycled material.³⁴⁴⁸

On 27 December 2018, the Education Secretary publicly called on senior leaders to stop using single-use plastic items in an effort to urge all schools to eliminate their use of single use plastics by 2022.³⁴⁴⁹

On 16 January 2019, the Ministry of Justice published a single-use plastics policy report outlining the most effective methods to combating single-use plastic-related issues.³⁴⁵⁰

On 18 February 2019, the Department for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) opened an online consultation on proposals to introduce a deposit return scheme for drink containers in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland.³⁴⁵¹ Glass bottles, plastic bottles, and cans would all have an additional deposit price when the drinks are being purchases. The deposit would be reimbursed to the consumer once the empty drink containers are given to a designated return point after the consumption of the product.³⁴⁵²

³⁴⁴⁵ UK Signs Global Commitment to Eliminate Plastic Pollution, UK Government (London) 29 October 2018. Date Accessed: 9 December 2018. <https://deframedia.blog.gov.uk/2018/10/29/uk-signs-global-commitment-to-eliminate-plastic-pollution/>

³⁴⁴⁶ FCO Reaches Major Milestone in Plastic Elimination Campaign, UK Government (London) 27 November 2018. Date Accessed: 9 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/fco-reaches-major-milestone-in-plastic-elimination-campaign>

³⁴⁴⁷ Food scraps could be turned into environmentally friendly plastic packaging, UK Government (London). 5 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/food-scraps-could-be-turned-into-environmentally-friendly-plastic-packaging>.

³⁴⁴⁸ Gove launches landmark blueprint for resources and waste, Department for Environment, Food, & Rural Affairs (London) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/gove-launches-landmark-blueprint-for-resources-and-waste>.

³⁴⁴⁹ Schools challenged to go single-use plastic free by 2022, UK Government (London). 27 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/schools-challenged-to-go-single-use-plastic-free-by-2022>.

³⁴⁵⁰ Ministry of Justice: Single-use plastics policy, UK Government (London). 16 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ministry-of-justice-single-use-plastics-policy>.

³⁴⁵¹ Introducing a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) for drinks containers (bottles and cans), UK Government (London). 18 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/introducing-a-deposit-return-scheme-drs-for-drinks-containers-bottles-and-cans>.

³⁴⁵² Introducing a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) for drinks containers (bottles and cans), UK Government (London). 18 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/introducing-a-deposit-return-scheme-drs-for-drinks-containers-bottles-and-cans>.

On 25 February 2019, on-line consultation about the banning of the distribution and/or sale of plastic straws, stirrers and plastic-stemmed cotton buds in England was updated and DEFRA stated that it aims to publish feedback responses by the end of March.³⁴⁵³

On 15 March 2019, following five days of discussion at the UN Environment Assembly in Kenya, the UK was one of 170 countries who signed onto a non-binding UN resolution to “significantly reduce” the use of plastics by 2030.³⁴⁵⁴

On 22 May 2019, Michael Gove confirmed the ban on plastic straws, drinks stirrers, and plastic stemmed cotton buds in England, following an open consultation in February 2019.³⁴⁵⁵ The ban will come into effect in April 2020.³⁴⁵⁶

The United Kingdom has fully complied with the Oceans Plastics Charter goals by supporting the secondary plastics market through its funding incentives and policy measures to promote reduction, recovery, and recycling of plastic waste.

Thus, the UK receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Hamza Naim

United States: N/A

The United States has not signed the Ocean Plastics Charter but is working towards developing a secondary market for plastics through its newly enacted policy measures and solution-based discussions happening in the Senate.

On 1 July 2018, the Microbead-Free Waters Act of 2015 officially took effect. The bill, which was passed on 28 December 2015, restricts the manufacturing of rinse-off cosmetics and non-prescription drugs that contain plastic microbeads and prohibits the introduction or delivery of these products into interstate commerce.³⁴⁵⁷

On 26 September 2018, the US Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, held a hearing titled “Cleaning Up the Oceans: How to Reduce the Impact of Man-Made Trash on the Environment, Wildlife, and Human Health?” The Senate Committee examined the environmental impact of mismanaged plastic waste in the oceans and discussed various solutions to this bipartisan issue, welcoming proposals about how to incentivize plastic manufacturers to improve plastic design

³⁴⁵³ Single use plastic: banning the distribution and/or sale of plastic straws, stirrers and plastic-stemmed cotton buds in England, UK Government (London). 25 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/single-use-plastic-banning-the-distribution-and-or-sale-of-plastic-straws-stirrers-and-plastic-stemmed-cotton-buds-in-england>.

³⁴⁵⁴ UN resolution pledges to plastic reduction by 2030, BBC News (London). 15 March 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-47592111>.

³⁴⁵⁵ Gove takes action to ban plastic straws, stirrers, and cotton buds, UK Government (London). 22 May 2019. Access Date: 18 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/gove-takes-action-to-ban-plastic-straws-stirrers-and-cotton-buds>.

³⁴⁵⁶ Gove takes action to ban plastic straws, stirrers, and cotton buds, UK Government (London). 22 May 2019. Access Date: 18 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/gove-takes-action-to-ban-plastic-straws-stirrers-and-cotton-buds>.

³⁴⁵⁷ The Microbead-Free Waters Act: FAQs, United States Food and Drug Administration (New Hampshire) 3 November 2017. Access Date: 5 October 2018.

<https://www.fda.gov/cosmetics/guidanceregulation/lawsregulations/ucm531849.htm>

and production. The committee also recognized the importance of improving waste management and recycling infrastructures at the federal level.³⁴⁵⁸

On 11 October 2018, the Save Our Seas Act of 2018 was signed by President Trump and enacted into US public law.³⁴⁵⁹ The law helps guarantee the proper allocation of waste management resources, technologies, and investments. The law also reauthorizes the Marine Debris Act, which promotes marine debris research and land-based waste management solutions.³⁴⁶⁰ The legislation encourages the US federal government to collaborate with the governments of developing nations to enhance waste management infrastructure.³⁴⁶¹

On 14 November 2018, the US Senate Recycling Caucus held a briefing on Capitol Hill to evaluate the various opportunities and shortcomings of the current US recycling industry. The summit brought together multiple stakeholders within the recycling chain to discuss strengthening secondary markets for plastics.³⁴⁶²

On 15 March 2019, following five days of discussion at the United Nations Environment Assembly in Kenya, the United States was one of 170 countries who signed onto a non-binding UN resolution to “significantly reduce” the use of plastics by 2030.³⁴⁶³ However, it opposed an initial proposal to phase out single-use plastic by 2025.³⁴⁶⁴

On April 4, 2019, a new congressional resolution “Recognising the duty of the Federal Government to create a Green New Deal” was introduced in the House of Representatives.³⁴⁶⁵ The Green New Deal is a proposed strategy for the United States to address climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, investing in green technologies and promoting job growth in clean energy industries.³⁴⁶⁶ Furthermore, the resolution calls upon the federal government to invest in “promoting the widespread use and development of next-generation recycling and waste management technology,

³⁴⁵⁸ Cleaning Up the Oceans: How to Reduce the Impact of Man-Made Trash on the Environment, Wildlife, and Human Health, The Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works (Washington D.C.) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://www.epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=9DED4FB8-AFFC-490A-A80F-DE55626E3E5F>

³⁴⁵⁹ S.3508 — Save Our Seas Act of 2018, United States Congress (Washington D.C.) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 5 November <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3508?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22save+our+seas%22%5D%7D&r=2>

³⁴⁶⁰ Cleaning Up the Oceans: How to Reduce the Impact of Man-Made Trash on the Environment, Wildlife, and Human Health, American Chemistry Council Statement for the Record Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works (Washington D.C.) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. https://www.epw.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/e/7/e7e8aeaa-2e1b-42a4-9609-7d4ee98e4600/76D4592DB8DBB6A8A69FF6F5F17429E9.dooley-testimony-09.26.2018.pdf

³⁴⁶¹ America’s Plastics Makers Contribute To Solutions On Marine Litter, American Chemistry Council Statement for the Record Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works (Washington D.C.) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. https://www.epw.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/e/7/e7e8aeaa-2e1b-42a4-9609-7d4ee98e4600/76D4592DB8DBB6A8A69FF6F5F17429E9.dooley-testimony-09.26.2018.pdf

³⁴⁶² ISRI addresses Senate Recycling Caucus for America Recycles Day, Recycling Today (Washington D.C.) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 22 November 2018. <https://www.recyclingtoday.com/article/isri-address-recycling-caucus-america-recycles-day/>

³⁴⁶³ UN resolution pledges to plastic reduction by 2030, BBC News (London). 15 March 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-47592111>.

³⁴⁶⁴ UN resolution pledges to plastic reduction by 2030, BBC News (London). 15 March 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-47592111>.

³⁴⁶⁵ H. Res. 288 – Recognizing the duty of the Federal Government to create a Green New Deal, United States Congress (Washington D.C.) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-resolution/288/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22recycling%22%5D%7D&r=3&s=3>.

³⁴⁶⁶ What is the Green New Deal? A Climate Proposal Explained, The New York Times (New York, NY) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/02/21/climate/green-new-deal-questions-answers.html>.

such as plastics-to-fuel initiatives and transforming post-consumer recycled plastics into new materials such as asphalt.”³⁴⁶⁷

On 3 June 2019, the US Committee on Appropriations reported bill H.R. 3052 to the House of Representatives.³⁴⁶⁸ The bill makes appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending 30 September 2020.³⁴⁶⁹ The accompanying report expressed the committee’s concern “that the current system of recycling waste materials in the U.S. is unsustainable” and thereby directed the Environmental Protection Agency to develop a national recycling strategy which would include standardized labeling, increased public education and a number of comprehensive measures to decrease cross contamination in the recycling process.³⁴⁷⁰

Although the United States has not signed on to the Ocean Plastics Charter, it has displayed increased support for the development of a secondary market for plastics through the implementation of policy measures and growing concern about the lack of a national recycling strategy. Despite this however, the United States has yet to create “international incentives, standards or requirements for product stewardship, design and recycled content.”

Analyst: Emma Davy

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to support secondary markets for plastics including using policy measures and developing international incentives, standards or requirements for product stewardship, design and recycled content.

On 10 July 2018, the European Parliament’s environment committee proposed increased restrictions on plastic pollution under the Plastics Strategy.³⁴⁷¹ Actions include prohibiting microplastics, oxo-degradable plastics, and dangerous substances in plastics as well as collecting taxes from sales of plastics should be put towards preventing the creation of plastic waste.³⁴⁷² Nevertheless, the Committee failed to advocate for economic incentives to decrease the production and consumption of plastics and plastic pellets.³⁴⁷³

³⁴⁶⁷ H. Res. 288 – Recognizing the duty of the Federal Government to create a Green New Deal, United States Congress (Washington D.C.) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-resolution/288/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22recycling%22%5D%7D&r=3&s=3>.

³⁴⁶⁸ H.R. 3052 - Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020, United States Congress (Washington D.C.) 3 June 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/3052/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22H.R.+3052%22%5D%7D&r=1&s=2>.

³⁴⁶⁹ FY2020 Filed Report - 116 - 100, House Committee on Appropriations (Washington D.C.) 3 June 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://appropriations.house.gov/sites/democrats.appropriations.house.gov/files/FY2020%20Interior%20Filed%20Report%20-%20HR3052.pdf>.

³⁴⁷⁰ FY2020 Filed Report - 116 - 100, House Committee on Appropriations (Washington D.C.) 3 June 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://appropriations.house.gov/sites/democrats.appropriations.house.gov/files/FY2020%20Interior%20Filed%20Report%20-%20HR3052.pdf>.

³⁴⁷¹ Briefing EU Legislation in Progress, Single-use plastics and fishing gear: Reducing marine litter, Page 10. European Parliament (Brussels) 10 July 2018. Access Date: 30 October 2018. [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2018/625115/EPRS_BRI\(2018\)625115_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2018/625115/EPRS_BRI(2018)625115_EN.pdf)

³⁴⁷² Briefing EU Legislation in Progress, Single-use plastics and fishing gear: Reducing marine litter, Page 10. European Parliament (Brussels) 10 July 2018. Access Date: 30 October 2018. [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2018/625115/EPRS_BRI\(2018\)625115_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2018/625115/EPRS_BRI(2018)625115_EN.pdf)

³⁴⁷³ Briefing EU Legislation in Progress, Single-use plastics and fishing gear: Reducing marine litter, Page 10. European Parliament (Brussels) 10 July 2018. Access Date: 30 October 2018. [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2018/625115/EPRS_BRI\(2018\)625115_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2018/625115/EPRS_BRI(2018)625115_EN.pdf)

On 13 September 2018, EU members of parliament proposed actions for EU-wide measures on biodegradability and composability of plastics including making oxo-degradable plastics illegal by 2020, banning microplastic beads, and creating incentives for collecting plastic waste at sea.³⁴⁷⁴ The proposals were set out in the non-binding draft resolution and were adopted.³⁴⁷⁵

On 10 October 2018, the European Parliament's Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI) voted to approve the European Commission's proposed regulations to deal with the use and waste of single-use plastics, in a motion to be put before the European Parliament on 24 October.³⁴⁷⁶ The ENVI vote included affirmations to establish an extended producer responsibility plan, which creates guidelines enforcing plastic-producing companies to support the costs of ocean litter cleanup.³⁴⁷⁷ The vote also included the approval of structures that will enforce a 90 percent recycling rate of plastic beverage bottles by 2025 and called for a full ban of lightweight plastic bags on the EU market.³⁴⁷⁸ A collection target of 50 percent and a recycling target of 15 percent by 2025 was also set by the ENVI for abandoned plastic fishing gear.³⁴⁷⁹

On 11 October 2018, the European Commission reviewed and updated the 2012 European Bioeconomy Strategy.³⁴⁸⁰ The updates recognize that the European bio-economy, of which the bioplastics industry is a major component, is worth EUR2.1 trillion in Europe alone, and aims to incentivize research in the bioplastics industry.³⁴⁸¹ The Commission's updates also focus on driving research into marine biodegradability, while simultaneously scaling-up bio-based sectors to support plastics recycling and the circular economy.³⁴⁸²

On 24 October 2018, member of the European Parliament (MEPs) voted in favour of the ENVI-approved proposed a ban on single-use plastics, enforcing a total ban on the EU market by 2021.³⁴⁸³ MEPs also passed amendments calling for a further market ban of polystyrene food containers and

³⁴⁷⁴ EU strategy to cut plastic waste: more recycling, ban on micro-plastics, European Parliament (Brussels) 7 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018.

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/society/20180830STO11347/eu-strategy-to-cut-plastic-waste-more-recycling-ban-on-micro-plastics>

³⁴⁷⁵ MEPs propose ways to boost plastics recycling, European Parliament (Brussels) 13 September 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20180906IPR12112/meps-propose-ways-to-boost-plastics-recycling>

³⁴⁷⁶ MEPs fight to curb plastic pollution but miss key opportunity on microplastics, WWF: European Policy Office (Brussels) 10 October 2018. Access date: 4 November 2018. www.wwf.eu/media_centre/?uNewsID=336370

³⁴⁷⁷ MEPs fight to curb plastic pollution but miss key opportunity on microplastics, WWF: European Policy Office (Brussels) 10 October 2018. Access date: 4 November 2018. www.wwf.eu/media_centre/?uNewsID=336370

³⁴⁷⁸ MEPs fight to curb plastic pollution but miss key opportunity on microplastics, WWF: European Policy Office (Brussels) 10 October 2018. Access date: 4 November 2018. www.wwf.eu/media_centre/?uNewsID=336370

³⁴⁷⁹ MEPs fight to curb plastic pollution but miss key opportunity on microplastics, WWF: European Policy Office (Brussels) 10 October 2018. Access date: 4 November 2018. www.wwf.eu/media_centre/?uNewsID=336370

³⁴⁸⁰ A new bioeconomy strategy for a sustainable Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 2 November 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/new-bioeconomy-strategy-sustainable-europe-2018-oct-11-0_en

³⁴⁸¹ A new bioeconomy strategy for a sustainable Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 2 November 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/new-bioeconomy-strategy-sustainable-europe-2018-oct-11-0_en

³⁴⁸² A new bioeconomy strategy for a sustainable Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 2 November 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/new-bioeconomy-strategy-sustainable-europe-2018-oct-11-0_en

³⁴⁸³ A new bioeconomy strategy for a sustainable Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 2 November 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/new-bioeconomy-strategy-sustainable-europe-2018-oct-11-0_en

oxo-degradable plastics by 2021.³⁴⁸⁴ Under the amendments, plastic waste from tobacco products will also be reduced by 80 percent by 2030.³⁴⁸⁵ However, MEPs did not vote to pass the ENVI-approved proposed ban on lightweight plastic bags.³⁴⁸⁶

On 29-30 October 2018, the European Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs, and Fisheries, Karmenu Vella, led the EU delegation at the annual Our Ocean conference, in Bali.³⁴⁸⁷ Commissioner Vella announced the European Commission's initiative to launch a coalition of aquariums to fight plastic pollution, through a reduction in single-use plastics on the premises and an awareness campaign to highlight the effects of single-use plastics on marine life.³⁴⁸⁸ The initiative aims to have a minimum of 200 aquariums worldwide signed on by 2019 and will be sponsored and coordinated by the European Commission and the United Nations Environment Programme, with the support of the Oceanographic Museum of Monaco, the European Union of Aquarium Curators, the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums, the U.S. Aquarium Conservation Partnership and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO.³⁴⁸⁹

On 20 November 2018, the First Vice-President of the European Commission, Frans Timmermans, announced that as part of the European Plastics Strategy to boost the secondary plastics market, voluntary pledges by EU industries could result in 10 million tonnes of recycled plastics supplied by 2025.³⁴⁹⁰ However, pledges to recycle this plastic, required to match this number, only totalled 5 million tonnes; the European Commission acknowledged that more industry commitment will be required to move the secondary plastics market forward.³⁴⁹¹ Further detail on private recycled plastic pledges will be published in the first quarter of 2019.³⁴⁹²

On 11 December 2018, the European Commission launched the Circular Plastics Alliance, a working group that gathers large private stakeholders in plastics production and formally organizes their recycling pledges with EU supervision.³⁴⁹³ 30 stakeholder organizations participated in the formation of the Circular Plastics Alliance, which met on 5 February 2019, and signed agreements ensuring that

³⁴⁸⁴ A new bioeconomy strategy for a sustainable Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 2 November 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/new-bioeconomy-strategy-sustainable-europe-2018-oct-11-0_en

³⁴⁸⁵ A new bioeconomy strategy for a sustainable Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 2 November 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/new-bioeconomy-strategy-sustainable-europe-2018-oct-11-0_en

³⁴⁸⁶ A new bioeconomy strategy for a sustainable Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 2 November 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/new-bioeconomy-strategy-sustainable-europe-2018-oct-11-0_en

³⁴⁸⁷ European Commission joins forces with world aquariums to fight plastic pollution, European Commission (Brussels) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 04 November 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6203_en.htm

³⁴⁸⁸ European Commission joins forces with world aquariums to fight plastic pollution, European Commission (Brussels) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 04 November 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6203_en.htm

³⁴⁸⁹ European Commission joins forces with world aquariums to fight plastic pollution, European Commission (Brussels) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 04 November 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6203_en.htm

³⁴⁹⁰ EU Plastics Strategy: Commission welcomes voluntary pledges from industry to boost the market for recycled plastics and encourages further action, European Commission (Brussels) 20 November 2018. Access Date: 21 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6444_en.htm

³⁴⁹¹ EU Plastics Strategy: Commission welcomes voluntary pledges from industry to boost the market for recycled plastics and encourages further action, European Commission (Brussels) 20 November 2018. Access Date: 21 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6444_en.htm

³⁴⁹² EU Plastics Strategy: Commission welcomes voluntary pledges from industry to boost the market for recycled plastics and encourages further action, European Commission (Brussels) 20 November 2018. Access Date: 21 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6444_en.htm

³⁴⁹³ Industry: Circular Plastics Alliance, European Commission (Brussels) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/growth/industry/policy/circular-plastics-alliance_en.

10 million tons of plastics will be recycled in the EU by 2025, focusing their pledges on 5 key topics: collection and sorting of plastic waste; product design for recycling; recycled plastic content in products; R&D and investments, and monitoring of recycled plastics sold in the EU.³⁴⁹⁴

On 19 December 2018, the European Parliament reached a provisional agreement with the outgoing Austrian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, and adopted the newly drafted Single-Use Plastics Directive, designed to completely ban single-use plastics from EU markets by 2021, in accordance with measures passed by the European Parliament in October 2018.³⁴⁹⁵ The Single-Use Plastics Directive integrates ENVI-proposed guidelines on plastic beverage bottle bans, ocean cleanup guidelines, and oxo-degradable plastics, proposes a ban for single-use products that have readily available non-plastic alternatives, and focuses on new labeling, design, and cleanup requirements for products that do not.³⁴⁹⁶

On 18 January 2019, the European Council formally introduced the Single-Use Plastics Directive, setting requirements that will ensure that the Directive is transposed in all member states within 2 years.³⁴⁹⁷ The Directive sets formal guidelines for single-use plastic consumption reduction, the banning of all oxo-degradable plastic products, Extended Producer Responsibility trajectories, and awareness raising, among others.³⁴⁹⁸ The Directive also commissions an evaluation report to be written by the European Council, “most likely” by 2027.³⁴⁹⁹

On 30 January 2019, the European Chemical Agency (ECHA) released a draft law recommending that microplastics and microbeads be added to the EU’s Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) regulation.³⁵⁰⁰ This would place a ban on both microplastics, and plastic microbeads being added to several product types, including cosmetics, paints, detergents, and some medical and agricultural products, under the restriction dossier prepared by the ECHA that would be added to the EU’s REACH regulation, were the draft law to be approved.³⁵⁰¹ The ban would come into force immediately for firms that have already made commitments to the eradication of microplastics and would be enacted within 2-6 years for all other plastics producers.³⁵⁰² The draft

³⁴⁹⁴ Industry: Circular Plastics Alliance, European Commission (Brussels) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/growth/industry/policy/circular-plastics-alliance_en.

³⁴⁹⁵ Single-use plastics: Commission welcomes ambitious agreement on new rules to reduce marine litter, European Commission (Brussels) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6867_en.htm.

³⁴⁹⁶ Single-use plastics: Commission welcomes ambitious agreement on new rules to reduce marine litter, European Commission (Brussels) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6867_en.htm.

³⁴⁹⁷ The End Of Plastic Cutlery, Plates And Straws: EU Market Says Goodbye To Single-Use Plastic Products, Forbes (Brussels) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/anagarciavaldivia/2019/01/22/the-end-of-plastic-cutlery-plates-and-straws-eu-market-says-goodbye-to-single-use-plastic-products/#68d06cd15656>.

³⁴⁹⁸ The New EU Single-use Plastics Directive EU to Adopt Law on the Reduction of the Impact of Certain Plastic Products on the Environment, National Law Review (Brussels) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 30 May 2019. <https://www.natlawreview.com/article/new-eu-single-use-plastics-directive-eu-to-adopt-law-reduction-impact-certain>.

³⁴⁹⁹ The New EU Single-use Plastics Directive EU to Adopt Law on the Reduction of the Impact of Certain Plastic Products on the Environment, National Law Review (Brussels) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 30 May 2019. <https://www.natlawreview.com/article/new-eu-single-use-plastics-directive-eu-to-adopt-law-reduction-impact-certain>.

³⁵⁰⁰ EU moves to ban microplastics in most products, Rethink Plastic Alliance (Brussels) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://rethinkplasticalliance.eu/news/eu-moves-to-ban-microplastics-in-most-products/>.

³⁵⁰¹ EU moves to ban microplastics in most products, Rethink Plastic Alliance (Brussels) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://rethinkplasticalliance.eu/news/eu-moves-to-ban-microplastics-in-most-products/>.

³⁵⁰² EU moves to ban microplastics in most products, Rethink Plastic Alliance (Brussels) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://rethinkplasticalliance.eu/news/eu-moves-to-ban-microplastics-in-most-products/>.

law written by ECHA will be put to a vote in the European Parliament this summer, followed by a vote by the European Commission's REACH Committee before 2020.³⁵⁰³

On 27 March 2019, the European Parliament officially approved the Single-Use Plastics Directive to tackle marine litter coming from the 10 single-use plastic products most often found on European beaches, as well as abandoned fishing gear and oxo-degradable plastics.³⁵⁰⁴ The directive is part of the larger EU Plastics Strategy, which aims to have all plastic packaging in the EU reusable or recyclable by 2030.³⁵⁰⁵ This initiative is also a key element of the Commission's Circular Economy Action Plan as it stimulates the production and use of sustainable alternatives that avoid marine litter.³⁵⁰⁶

On 21 May 2019, the European Council approved the Single-Use Plastics Directive, officially replacing the EU's previous plastics regulation and cleanup legislation which was passed in 2003.³⁵⁰⁷

On 3 June 2019, the European Environment Agency released a report surveying and assessing plastic waste reduction targets and capabilities of 32 European Economic Area states, finding that nine had published sufficiently explicit numerical targets for plastic waste reduction.³⁵⁰⁸ The report recommended that the European Commission enforce more stringent, exact and member-state-specific waste reduction programs, in addition to the broader framework of the Single-Use Plastics Directive.³⁵⁰⁹

On 7 June 2019, the Single-Use Plastics Directive entered into the Official Journal of the Union, ensuring its adoption by all member states within two years of the entry date.³⁵¹⁰

The EU has fully complied with the Oceans Plastics Charter by contributing to the development of new incentives and standards of plastic production and recycling while supporting the secondary plastics market. Although the passage of the Single-Use Plastics Directive is encouraging, the Directive's legislation requires specification to the markets of specific EU member states, as well as further, stronger content to encourage ERP among EU member state corporations.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Arjun Kaul

³⁵⁰³ EU moves to ban microplastics in most products, Rethink Plastic Alliance (Brussels) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://rethinkplasticalliance.eu/news/eu-moves-to-ban-microplastics-in-most-products/>.

³⁵⁰⁴ Circular Economy: Commission welcomes European Parliament adoption of new rules on single-use plastics to reduce marine litter, European Commission (Brussels) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-1873_en.htm

³⁵⁰⁵ Circular Economy: Commission welcomes European Parliament adoption of new rules on single-use plastics to reduce marine litter, European Commission (Brussels) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-1873_en.htm

³⁵⁰⁶ Circular Economy: Commission welcomes European Parliament adoption of new rules on single-use plastics to reduce marine litter, European Commission (Brussels) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-1873_en.htm

³⁵⁰⁷ Circular Economy: Commission welcomes Council final adoption of new rules on single-use plastics to reduce marine plastic litter, European Commission (Brussels) 21 May 2019. Access Date: 30 May 2019. https://chemycal.com/news/9213e78d-903d-4c2a-b22f-521b4869034d/Circular_Economy_Commission_welcomes_Council_final_adoption_of_new_rules_on_single-use_plastics_to_reduce_marine_plastic_litter.

³⁵⁰⁸ Preventing plastic waste in Europe, European Environment Agency (Copenhagen) 03 June 2019. Access Date: 09 June 2019. <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/preventing-plastic-waste-in-europe/#page=1>.

³⁵⁰⁹ Preventing plastic waste in Europe, European Environment Agency (Copenhagen) 03 June 2019. Access Date: 09 June 2019. <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/preventing-plastic-waste-in-europe/#page=1>.

³⁵¹⁰ Register of Commission Documents, European Commission (Brussels) 07 June 2019. Access Date: 09 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regdoc/index.cfm?fuseaction=list&coteld=3&documentType=COMMISSION_REGULATION_UNDER_ECT&version=ALL.

16. Environment: Marine Litter

“Further, we will promote the harmonization of monitoring methodologies for marine litter and collaboration on research on its impacts, in cooperation, for example with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to facilitate this work.”

Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities

Assessment

	Lack of Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany		0	
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average		+0.63	

Background

According to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), “marine litter” is defined as “any persistent, manufactured or processed solid material discarded, disposed of or abandoned in the marine and coastal environment. Marine litter consists of items that have been made or used by people and deliberately discarded into the sea or rivers or on beaches; brought indirectly to the sea with rivers, sewage, stormwater or winds; accidentally lost, including material lost at sea in bad weather (fishing gear, cargo); or deliberately left by people on beaches and shores.”³⁵¹¹ Examples of marine litter include marine debris, anthropogenic underwater noise, accumulated physical waste and more.³⁵¹² The issue of marine litter affects coastal biodiversity, marine life, and ecosystems, all of which directly influence human well-being. Thus, actions to prevent and address waste in oceans have been undertaken by the G7 members since previous commitments, such as that made in the communiqué adopted at the G7 Toyama Environment Ministers’ Meeting.³⁵¹³

Marine litter is included in target 14.1 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals or 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The target states: “by 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution.”³⁵¹⁴ Similarly, this timeline and goal are found in paragraph 163 of the Rio+20 Declaration adopted in 2013.³⁵¹⁵

³⁵¹¹ Marine Litter: A Global Challenge, UNEP (Nairobi) April 2009. Access Date: 27 August 2018.

<https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/10744/MarineLitterAglobalChallenge.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

³⁵¹² Recommendation Adopted by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, UNEP (Nairobi) 3 May 2016. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/recommendations/sbstta-20/sbstta-20-rec-05-en.pdf>

³⁵¹³ Communiqué G7 Toyama Environment Ministers’ Meeting, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 May 2016. Access Date: 31 August 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/2016-environment.html>

³⁵¹⁴ Sustainable Development Goal 14, Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform (New York) Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg14>

³⁵¹⁵ Future We Want — Outcome Document, Sustainable Development Knowledge Network (New York) 27 July 2012. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/futurewewant.html>

In the context of the G7, the agenda of protecting marine environments can be traced back to the Elmau summit in 2015, under Germany's G7 presidency.³⁵¹⁶ One of the outcomes of the Elmau summit was the G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter, which can be found in the annex of the Leaders' Declaration published on 8 June 2015.³⁵¹⁷ The Leaders' Declaration itself also acknowledges the global challenge posed by marine litter, and commits to "priority actions and solutions to combat marine litter ... stressing the need to address land- and sea-based sources, removal actions, as well as education, research, and outreach."³⁵¹⁸

On 25-26 January 2016, the Japanese G7 presidency hosted a G7 workshop in Tokyo titled "Standardization and Harmonization of Marine Litter Monitoring."³⁵¹⁹ The workshop aimed to foster agreement and identify gaps regarding methods and metrics applied to monitor marine litter among G7 members.³⁵²⁰ The workshop hosted scientific and environmental experts, as well as representatives from the United States, France, Germany, Italy, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Japan.³⁵²¹

On 27 May 2016, the G7 summit in Japan produced the Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration. The document reaffirmed the G7's commitment to "address marine litter, recognizing that our efforts on resource efficiency and the 3Rs also contribute to the prevention and reduction of marine litter, particularly plastic, from land-based sources."³⁵²² In the same summit cycle, the Toyama environment ministers' meeting similarly acknowledged the need for climate adaptation in both terrestrial and marine ecosystems.³⁵²³ The Toyama meeting also reaffirmed the importance of the G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter, recalling the outcomes of the Elmau summit.

On 15-17 May 2017, under the Italian G7 presidency, the Tsukuba communiqué produced at the G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting referred to the issue of marine litter in the context of further research.³⁵²⁴ The document "reaffirmed the importance of our scientific work to better understand the extent and impacts of marine litter," and the language of this commitment was echoed at the Charlevoix summit via the commitment analyzed by this report.³⁵²⁵

³⁵¹⁶ Report from the 10th Meeting of the MSFD Technical Group on Marine Litter (TGML), European Commission — Directorate-General Joint Research Centre — Institute for Environment and Sustainability (Palermo) 6-7 April 2016. Access Date: 21 July 2018.

http://mcc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/documents/TG_ML_Meeting/MSFD_TGMarine_Litter_meetingminutesPalermo.pdf

³⁵¹⁷ Annex to the Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 21 July 2018.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-annex-en.pdf>

³⁵¹⁸ Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 21 July 2018.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

³⁵¹⁹ G7 Marine Litter Workshop, NOAA Office of response and Restoration (Tokyo) 5 February 2016. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://response.restoration.noaa.gov/about/media/g7-marine-litter-workshop.html>

³⁵²⁰ G7 Marine Litter Workshop, NOAA Office of response and Restoration (Tokyo) 5 February 2016. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://response.restoration.noaa.gov/about/media/g7-marine-litter-workshop.html>

³⁵²¹ G7 Marine Litter Workshop, NOAA Office of response and Restoration (Tokyo) 5 February 2016. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://response.restoration.noaa.gov/about/media/g7-marine-litter-workshop.html>

³⁵²² G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 21 July 2018.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

³⁵²³ G7 Environment Ministers Communiqué, Toyama Meeting, United Nations Climate Change (Toyama) 17 May 2016. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://unfccc.int/news/g7-environment-ministers-communiqué-toyama-meeting>

³⁵²⁴ Tsukuba Communiqué, G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting (Tsukuba) 17 May 2016. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <http://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/english/others/20160517communiqué.pdf>

³⁵²⁵ Tsukuba Communiqué, G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting (Tsukuba) 17 May 2016. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <http://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/english/others/20160517communiqué.pdf>

On 20-21 April 2017, the Italian Ministry for Environment, Land and Sea co-hosted a Workshop on Marine Litter with UNEP and the Mediterranean Action Plan.³⁵²⁶ The workshop discussed methods to implement the G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter, as well as aspects of the issue area such as pollution of coastlines and ocean floors, sustainable growth, recycling culture, fisheries industries, best practices nationally and regionally, and monitoring systems.³⁵²⁷ This workshop also produced a report titled “Mainstreaming the Work of the Regional Seas Programmes Towards the Better Implementation of the G7 Action Plan and the Achievement of Global Commitments on Marine Litter.”³⁵²⁸

On 20 April 2017, Italy hosted a G7 workshop on the topic of marine litter in Rome. The workshop was titled “Actions and Strategies on Harmonization of Monitoring Procedures of Microplastics in the Ocean — A Cooperation Programme for Pursuing the Accuracy of Data.”³⁵²⁹ This workshop hosted representatives from the Office of Marine Environment in the Japanese Ministry of the Environment. The event emphasized the collective pledge reached at the Toyoma environmental ministers’ meeting, which commits the G7 to reduce marine litter by taking action to collect and remove plastics before they degrade into micro-plastics.³⁵³⁰

On 9 June 2018, at the Charlevoix summit in Canada, the majority of G7 members agreed and signed on to the Ocean Plastics Charter.³⁵³¹ This Charter emerged out of an ambitious commitment to combat marine waste by endorsing a zero-plastics waste model. However, this document was not joined by the United States and Japan.³⁵³²

Marine litter is key to ocean health, which is one of the core summit priorities of the Charlevoix 2018 summit under the Canadian presidency.³⁵³³ The issue of marine litter is not only vital for marine sustainability and human health — but it is also closely related to transitions to circular economies and sustainable development.

³⁵²⁶ G7 Workshop on Marine Litter, Italian G7 Presidency 2017 (Rome) 21 April 2018. Access Date: 21 July 2018.
<http://www.g7italy.it/en/news/g7-workshop-marine-litter>

³⁵²⁷ G7 Workshop on Marine Litter, Italian G7 Presidency 2017 (Rome) 21 April 2018. Access Date: 21 July 2018.
<http://www.g7italy.it/en/news/g7-workshop-marine-litter>

³⁵²⁸ Mainstreaming the Work of the Regional Seas Programmes Towards the Better Implementation of the G7 Action Plan and the Achievement of Global Commitments on Marine Litter, Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea (Rome) 21 April 2017. Access Date: 21 July 2018.
http://www.minambiente.it/sites/default/files/archivio/allegati/sviluppo_sostenibile/Background_Document_ML_FINALE.pdf

³⁵²⁹ Actions and Strategies on Harmonization of Monitoring Procedures of Microplastics in the Ocean — A Cooperation Programme for Pursuing the Accuracy of Data, Office of Marine Environment — Ministry of the Environment, Japan (Rome) 20 April 2017. Access Date: 21 July 2018.
http://www.minambiente.it/sites/default/files/archivio/allegati/sviluppo_sostenibile/g7_ml_presentation_Japan.pdf

³⁵³⁰ Actions and Strategies on Harmonization of Monitoring Procedures of Microplastics in the Ocean — A Cooperation Programme for Pursuing the Accuracy of Data, Office of Marine Environment — Ministry of the Environment, Japan (Rome) 20 April 2017. Access Date: 21 July 2018.
http://www.minambiente.it/sites/default/files/archivio/allegati/sviluppo_sostenibile/g7_ml_presentation_Japan.pdf

³⁵³¹ Annex: G7 Ocean Plastics Charter, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 21 July 2018.
<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html#annex>

³⁵³² Annex: G7 Ocean Plastics Charter, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 21 July 2018.
<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html#annex>

³⁵³³ Canada’s G7 Themes, G7 2018 Charlevoix (Ottawa) 14 December 2017. Access Date: 21 July 2018.
<https://g7.gc.ca/en/g7-presidency/themes/>

Commitment Features

At the Charlevoix summit, G7 leaders pledged to “promote the harmonization of monitoring methodologies for marine litter and collaboration on research on its impacts, in cooperation, for example with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to facilitate this work.”

This excerpt from the Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities is identified as a commitment because the term “promote” indicates the G7’s collective intention to impose politically binding obligations on G7 members to change or improve their behavior in this issue area. “Promote” is understood as actions that “support or renew old efforts or create new efforts in the area. It should not have to be a brand new initiative. To contribute to growth or prosperity of, to help bring into being.”³⁵³⁴

This commitment contains two parts: 1) “the promotion of harmonization of monitoring methodologies for marine litter,” and 2) the promotion of “collaboration on research on the impacts of marine litter, in cooperation with institutions such as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).”

The first part of the commitment requires G7 members to promote ventures and efforts to harmonize various approaches to marine litter. “Harmonization” is defined as making diverging actions consistent and/or compatible. In the context of this commitment, “harmonization” requires G7 members to collaborate and standardize or coordinate respective national and regional approaches to marine litter.

Moreover, “monitoring methodologies” is defined as a body of methods, rules, or procedures that enable observations of a particular biological condition. In this commitment, “monitoring methodologies for marine litter” refer to the act of overseeing marine health by assessing waste accumulation in oceans and coastal environments. Such methodologies refer to actions such as standardized measurement, evaluation, and reporting on the indicators, types, impacts, sources, and quantities of marine debris.³⁵³⁵ Technical examples of monitoring technologies include but are not limited to: visual observation and survey of sea surfaces, trawl surveys of the sea floor, or studies of marine litter as ingested by marine animal species.³⁵³⁶

To fulfill the first part of the commitment, G7 members must engage in transboundary cooperation to align their policies and actions regarding marine litter, either through existing initiatives or the creation of new programs. Such actions must be specific regarding the harmonization of monitoring methodologies for marine litter, rather than for marine litter more generally.

The second part of this commitment requires the G7 member to promote collaborative research on the impacts and consequences of marine litter. Partners of such collaboration can refer to but are not limited to, the international community or various organs of the public and private sector. To achieve compliance in this part of the commitment, the G7 member must both demonstrate efforts to expand its investigative endeavors and specifically strive to do so in the context of partnerships, with priority given to collaboration with the UN Environment Programme as identified in the commitment.

³⁵³⁴ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 27 August 2018.

³⁵³⁵ Methodologies for Monitoring Marine Litter in the Coastal and Marine Environment, SWIM and Horizon 2020 Support Mechanism (Alger) 7-8 November 2017. Access Date: 27 August 2018. <https://www.swim-h2020.eu/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Marine-litter-monitoring-methodologies.pdf>

³⁵³⁶ Methodologies for Monitoring Marine Litter in the Coastal and Marine Environment, SWIM and Horizon 2020 Support Mechanism (Alger) 7-8 November 2017. Access Date: 27 August 2018. <https://www.swim-h2020.eu/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Marine-litter-monitoring-methodologies.pdf>

“Cooperation” is defined as “the action or process of working together to the same end.”³⁵³⁷ “Collaboration on research” is understood as working jointly with other institutions to investigate, experiment, or collect information with the purpose of discovering and interpreting facts and trends. “Impact” is defined as the “marked effect or influence” resulting from a particular phenomenon. Thus, research conducted by G7 members must include reference to the impacts of marine litter, ie. it cannot focus exclusively on the causes of marine litter without consideration of outcomes.

UNEP is listed as a notable example of a facilitative partner for collaborative research. UN Environment, or UNEP, is a United Nations agency that serves as the “leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system, and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment.”³⁵³⁸ According to the text of the commitment, the UNEP is an example rather than a definitive part of compliance, as evident by the term “for example” in the text of the commitment. Working with the UNEP is an encouraged but not necessary part of full compliance.

In order to fulfill the second part of the commitment, the G7 member must advance research and innovation about the consequences of marine litter in collaboration with other institutions. This means that unilateral or independent research within a G7 member about the impacts of marine litter does not count towards compliance.

Thus, to achieve full compliance, the G7 member must have worked with other actors to reinforce or initiate the harmonization of monitoring procedures regarding marine waste, while also collaborating with other institutions to develop further research on the implications of marine litter. Successful implementation of both parts to this commitment will result in a score of +1 for full compliance. This commitment emphasizes the exchange and growth of information and innovation, rather than referring to unilateral government action to combat marine litter.

Partial compliance is scored when the G7 member has either fulfilled the former or latter half of the commitment. This means that the G7 member has either successfully implemented its actions to promote the harmonization of monitoring technologies or foster collaborative research. G7 members will receive a score of -1 for non-compliance if they have not successfully promoted the harmonization of monitoring methodologies, nor collaboration on research and cooperation.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member does NOT promote the harmonization of monitoring methodologies for marine litter NOR promotes collaboration on research on its impacts, in cooperation, for example with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to facilitate this work.
0	The G7 member promotes the harmonization of monitoring methodologies for marine litter OR promotes collaboration on research on its impacts, in cooperation, for example with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to facilitate this work.
+1	The G7 member promotes the harmonization of monitoring methodologies for marine litter AND promotes collaboration on research on its impacts, in cooperation, for example with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to facilitate this work.

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³⁵³⁷ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 27 August 2018.

³⁵³⁸ About UN Environment, United Nations Environment Programme (Nairobi) 27 August 2018.

<https://www.unenvironment.org/about-un-environment>

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to promote the harmonization of monitoring methodologies for marine litter and collaboration on research on its impacts, in cooperation, for example with the United Nations Environment Programme to facilitate this work.

On 10 June 2018, Canada announced that it will invest CAD100 million through a marine litter mitigation fund that aims to prevent plastic waste from entering the oceans, address plastic waste on shorelines, and better manage existing plastic resources. Canada committed to further investing CAD162 million towards building stronger and more resilient coasts and communities.³⁵³⁹

On 16 June 2018, Canada attended the Sixth International Marine Debris Conference.³⁵⁴⁰ Notably, the conference discussed the development of harmonized monitoring protocols and guidelines. A total of 54 countries were represented at this conference, including other G7 members such as France, Japan, Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom, and the United States.³⁵⁴¹

On 27 June 2018, the Minister of International Development and La Francophonie Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau announced that Canada will invest CAD228.79 million in the seventh replenishment of the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The GEF is a partnership for international cooperation that involves 183 countries, international institutions, civil society organizations, and the private sector, working to address global environmental issues such as the protection of large marine ecosystems.³⁵⁴²

From 19 to 21 September 2018, under its G7 presidency, Canada co-hosted a two-day G7 joint ministerial session in Halifax, Nova Scotia, on Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Communities. Canada committed to investing up to CAD11.6 million in combatting illegal and unregulated fishing, diverting at least 75 percent of plastic waste from government operations by 2030, and reducing ghost gear, which is found in all three of Canada's coastlines.^{3543,3544}

On 1 October 2018, the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement's (CUSMA) environmental chapter invoked trilateral action to address marine pollution and illegal fishing. The agreement also

³⁵³⁹ Working together on climate change, oceans, and clean energy, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 10 June 2018. Access Date: 11 September 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/06/10/working-together-climate-change-oceans-and-clean-energy>.

³⁵⁴⁰ Sixth International Marine Debris Conference (San Diego) 16 June 2018. Access Date: 16 September 2018. http://internationalmarinedebrisconference.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Sixth_International_Marine_Debris_Conference_Proceedings.pdf.

³⁵⁴¹ Sixth International Marine Debris Conference, 6IMDC ATTENDEES (San Diego) 16 June 2018. Access Date: 18 September 2018. <http://internationalmarinedebrisconference.org/index.php/attendees/>.

³⁵⁴² Canada announces support to Global Environment Facility to advance climate action in developing countries, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 27 June 2018. Access Date: 11 September 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/06/canada-announces-support-to-global-environment-facility-to-advance-climate-action-in-developing-countries.html>.

³⁵⁴³ Canada joins the fight against ghost gear, World Animal Protection (Halifax) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.worldanimalprotection.ca/news/canada-joins-fight-against->.

³⁵⁴⁴ Canada's Environment, Oceans and Energy Ministers announce concrete action to advance economic progress through healthy, sustainable oceans at G7 Ministerial Meeting, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2018/09/canadas-environment-oceans-and-energy-ministers-announce-concrete-action-to-advance-economic-progress-through-healthy-sustainable-oceans-at-g7-mini.html>.

introduced new articles to reduce marine litter and a binding agreement on banning shark finning — a first for Canada.³⁵⁴⁵

From 1 to 31 October 2018, the government concluded its month-long participation in the first-ever global action aimed at combating maritime pollution crime, entitled Operation 30 Days at Sea. Transport Canada and Environment and Climate Change Canada provided aerial surveillance technologies that permitted authorities to detect maritime offences.³⁵⁴⁶

On 3 October 2018, the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans, and the Canadian Coast Guard Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson announced that Canada signed an international agreement along with Japan, the United States, and the European Union, to prevent unregulated commercial fishing in the high seas of the central Arctic Ocean. The agreement will provide frameworks to establish conservation and measures to manage and better monitor Arctic Ocean ecosystems, in an effort to make future commercial fishing activities more sustainable.³⁵⁴⁷ The parties involved will also commence a Joint Program of Scientific Research and Monitoring to oversee the ecosystems of the Central Arctic Ocean.³⁵⁴⁸

On 13 October 2018, Member of Parliament for the Northwest Territories Michael McLeod announced an investment of CAD19.5 million under the Oceans Protection Plan. This fund will construct four double-hulled barges to minimize the risk of a fuel spill and seek to improve the safety of community supply operations to protect Canada's coasts and waterways.³⁵⁴⁹

On 14 November 2018, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Li Keqiang, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, issued a joint statement on marine litter and plastics. The statement recognized the importance of adopting a lifecycle approach to managing and reducing plastics and protecting oceans. Both countries forged a partnership to combat marine litter by facilitating the sharing of best practices and technologies to prevent plastic pollution in Canadian and Chinese coastal cities.³⁵⁵⁰

On 15 November 2018, the government announced renewed infrastructure investments to the Canadian Coast Guard operations in Saint John. These investments include a 15-year lease for a new Integrated Services Centre and a helicopter hanger, aimed at supporting more efficient marine

³⁵⁴⁵ USMCA — Environment Chapter Summary (Ottawa) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <http://international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/usmca-aeumc/enviro.aspx?lang=eng>.

³⁵⁴⁶ First global multi-agency operation highlights widespread marine pollution crime (Lyon) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 22 November 2018. <https://www.unenvironment.org/news-and-stories/press-release/first-global-multi-agency-operation-highlights-widespread-marine>.

³⁵⁴⁷ International Agreement to Prevent Unregulated High Seas Fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean (Ottawa) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 26 October 2018. <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/international/arctic-arctique-eng.htm>.

³⁵⁴⁸ EU and Arctic partners enter historic agreement to prevent unregulated fishing in high seas — Frequently Asked Questions, European Commission (Brussels) 3 October 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/eu-and-arctic-partners-enter-historic-agreement-prevent-unregulated-fishing-high-seas-%E2%80%93-frequently_en

³⁵⁴⁹ Government of Canada delivers marine safety training and barges to Northern communities through the Oceans Protection Plan, Government of Canada (Hay River) 13 October 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/transport-canada/news/2018/10/government-of-canada-delivers-marine-safety-training-and-barges-to-northern-communities-through-the-oceans-protection-plan.html>.

³⁵⁵⁰ Joint Statement between the Government of Canada and the Government of the People's Republic of China on Marine Litter and Plastics, Prime Minister of Canada (Singapore) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/11/14/joint-statement-between-government-canada-and-government-peoples-republic-china>.

navigation monitoring and providing storage space for environmental response equipment in the case of marine pollution.³⁵⁵¹

From 26-28 November 2018, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans, and the Canadian Coast Guard Jonathan Wilkinson co-hosted the first-ever Sustainable Blue Economy Conference with Kenya and Japan. At the conference, Canada announced funding for the World Economic Forum's Friends of Ocean Action and the UN Special Envoy for the Ocean. The funding will be allocated to the sustainable use and conservation of ocean and marine resources, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.³⁵⁵²

On 28 November 2018, the government provided CAD2.5 million to four British Columbia coastal communities to increase the availability of maritime data as a part of Canada's Oceans Protection Plan initiative. The new maritime awareness system will improve access and expand maritime data to indigenous peoples and coastal communities.³⁵⁵³

On 7 December 2018, Transport Canada announced that it will assist the Government of Nunavut by contributing to two marine safety infrastructure projects with the goal of making Arctic resupply operations safer and more efficient for remote communities. These investments are a part of the CAD94.3 million Safety Equipment and Basic Marine Infrastructure in Northern Communities Initiative under the Oceans Protection Plan and strives to deliver a safer marine system to respond to and prevent pollution incidents.³⁵⁵⁴

On 10 January 2019, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard Jonathan Wilkinson announced CAD12.6 million in funding over four years for Ocean Networks Canada, a national ocean observation system in Victoria.³⁵⁵⁵ The investment will strengthen ocean noise monitoring programs and expand monitoring of sea pollution and surface currents in Pacific waters.³⁵⁵⁶

³⁵⁵¹ Government of Canada announces renewed infrastructure for the Canadian Coast Guard in Saint John, Government of Canada (Saint John) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 22 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-coast-guard/news/2018/11/government-of-canada-announces-renewed-infrastructure-for-the-canadian-coast-guard-in-saint-john.html>.

³⁵⁵² Statement by the Prime Minister on the Sustainable Blue Economy, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/11/28/statement-prime-minister-sustainable-blue-economy-conference>.

³⁵⁵³ Government of Canada provides over \$2.5 million to four British Columbia coastal communities to increase availability of maritime data, Government of Canada (Victoria) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/transport-canada/news/2018/11/government-of-canada-provides-over-25-million-to-four-british-columbia-coastal-communities-to-increase-availability-of-maritime-data.html>.

³⁵⁵⁴ Government of Canada delivers marine safety infrastructure to Nunavut through the Oceans Protection Plan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/transport-canada/news/2018/12/government-of-canada-delivers-marine-safety-infrastructure-to-nunavut-through-the-oceans-protection-plan.html>.

³⁵⁵⁵ Government of Canada announces investments to monitor Canada's marine environments and for new science facility, Government of Canada (Victoria) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-announces-investments-to-monitor-canadas-marine-environments-and-for-new-science-facility.html>.

³⁵⁵⁶ Government of Canada announces investments to monitor Canada's marine environments and for new science facility, Government of Canada (Victoria) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-announces-investments-to-monitor-canadas-marine-environments-and-for-new-science-facility.html>.

On 7 February 2019, the government of Canada unveiled its 2019 plan for the protection of North Atlantic right whales.³⁵⁵⁷ The plan addresses two major threats: vessel strikes and entanglement in fishing gear.³⁵⁵⁸ The government aims to address marine litter issues by minimizing the amount of rope in water, tracking buoys and improving reporting of lost fishing gear.³⁵⁵⁹

On 8 February 2019, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard Jonathan Wilkinson announced a new policy to curb plastic pollution in Canadian oceans by setting explicit targets for diverting plastic waste and eliminating the use of single-use plastics in government operations.³⁵⁶⁰ This builds on Canada's commitment to divert at least 75% of non-hazardous operational waste, including plastic, by 2030.³⁵⁶¹

On 14 February 2019, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard Jonathan Wilkinson announced the launch of the Canada Nature Fund for Aquatic Species at Risk.³⁵⁶² The fund consists of a CAD4 million investment paid over five years to support the recovery of aquatic species at risk.³⁵⁶³ The investment aims to address two priority marine threats: fishing interactions with entanglements such as marine litter and curbing marine noise.³⁵⁶⁴

On 28 February 2019, on behalf of the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, Member of Parliament for Cumberland–Colchester Bill Casey announced that the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq would receive CAD1.2 million over four years under the Oceans Protection Plan to restore coastal habitats along the Northumberland Strait.³⁵⁶⁵ The investment will help restore

³⁵⁵⁷ Government of Canada unveils its 2019 plan for protecting North Atlantic right whales, Government of Canada (Shippagan) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-unveils-its-2019-plan-for-protecting-north-atlantic-right-whales.html>.

³⁵⁵⁸ Government of Canada unveils its 2019 plan for protecting North Atlantic right whales, Government of Canada (Shippagan) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-unveils-its-2019-plan-for-protecting-north-atlantic-right-whales.html>.

³⁵⁵⁹ Government of Canada unveils its 2019 plan for protecting North Atlantic right whales, Government of Canada (Shippagan) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-unveils-its-2019-plan-for-protecting-north-atlantic-right-whales.html>.

³⁵⁶⁰ Curbing plastic pollution in our oceans: Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard take action, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/02/curbing-plastic-pollution-in-our-oceans-fisheries-and-oceans-and-the-canadian-coast-guard-take-action.html>.

³⁵⁶¹ Curbing plastic pollution in our oceans: Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard take action, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/02/curbing-plastic-pollution-in-our-oceans-fisheries-and-oceans-and-the-canadian-coast-guard-take-action.html>.

³⁵⁶² The Government of Canada takes action to protect aquatic species at risk (Maple Ridge) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/02/the-government-of-canada-takes-action-to-protect-aquatic-species-at-risk.html>.

³⁵⁶³ The Government of Canada takes action to protect aquatic species at risk (Maple Ridge) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/02/the-government-of-canada-takes-action-to-protect-aquatic-species-at-risk.html>.

³⁵⁶⁴ The Government of Canada takes action to protect aquatic species at risk (Maple Ridge) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/02/the-government-of-canada-takes-action-to-protect-aquatic-species-at-risk.html>.

³⁵⁶⁵ Government of Canada makes a significant investment in the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq through the Oceans Protection Plan (Halifax) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-makes-a-significant-investment-in-the-confederacy-of-mainland-mikmaq-through-the-oceans-protection-plan.html>.

coastal landscape by deploying artificial reefs and removing litter to enable the growth of seaweeds and other marine plants.³⁵⁶⁶

From 5 to 6 May 2019, Canada participated in the G7 Environment Ministers meeting in Metz, where France and the UN Environment Mediterranean Action Plan presented the “G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter in Synergy with the Regional Seas Conventions Workshop.”³⁵⁶⁷ Attendees concluded that cooperation with regional fisheries organizations and knowledge-sharing of best practices are necessary to address marine litter.³⁵⁶⁸ This workshop advances the G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter.³⁵⁶⁹

On 7 May 2019, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard Jonathan Wilkinson announced that the Maliseet National Conservation Council will receive more than CAD400,000 over four years to help restore deteriorated marine ecosystems and coastal habitats in Saint John, New Brunswick.³⁵⁷⁰

On 8 May 2019, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard Jonathan Wilkinson announced CAD1.8 million over three years to restore watersheds and coastal habitats in Eastern Nova Scotia under the Oceans Protection Plan.³⁵⁷¹ The project aims to improve and clean the aquatic habitat for species that rely on the coast’s freshwater.³⁵⁷²

On 10 May 2019, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard Jonathan Wilkinson and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport Terry Beech announced enhanced measures for the protection of British Columbia’s Southern Resident killer whales.³⁵⁷³ The enhanced measures

³⁵⁶⁶ Government of Canada makes a significant investment in the Confederacy of Mainland Mi’kmaq through the Oceans Protection Plan (Halifax) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-makes-a-significant-investment-in-the-confederacy-of-mainland-mikmaq-through-the-oceans-protection-plan.html>.

³⁵⁶⁷ G7 environment ministers meet to discuss climate crisis, France 24 (Paris) 5 May 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190505-g7-environment-ministers-meet-discuss-climate-crisis>.

³⁵⁶⁸ On Marine Litter, A G7 Workshop in France Highlights The Central Role of Regional Seas Conventions, HELCOM (Helsinki) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 20 May 2019. <http://www.helcom.fi/news/Pages/G7-workshop-on-marine-litter-in-metz.aspx>.

³⁵⁶⁹ On Marine Litter, A G7 Workshop in France Highlights The Central Role of Regional Seas Conventions, HELCOM (Helsinki) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 20 May 2019. <http://www.helcom.fi/news/Pages/G7-workshop-on-marine-litter-in-metz.aspx>.

³⁵⁷⁰ Government of Canada makes significant investments in coastal research and restoration in New Brunswick through the Oceans Protection Plan, Government of Canada (Moncton) 7 May 2019. Access Date: 27 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-makes-significant-investments-in-coastal-research-and-restoration-in-new-brunswick-through-the-oceans-protection-pla.html>.

³⁵⁷¹ Government of Canada makes a significant investment in Eastern Nova Scotia through the Oceans Protection Plan, Government of Canada (Halifax) 8 May 2019. Access Date: 27 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-makes-a-significant-investment-in-eastern-nova-scotia-through-the-oceans-protection-plan.html>.

³⁵⁷² Government of Canada makes a significant investment in Eastern Nova Scotia through the Oceans Protection Plan, Government of Canada (Halifax) 8 May 2019. Access Date: 27 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-makes-a-significant-investment-in-eastern-nova-scotia-through-the-oceans-protection-plan.html>.

³⁵⁷³ Government of Canada announces enhanced measures for protecting British Columbia’s Southern Resident killer whales, Government of Canada (Vancouver) 10 May 2019. Access Date: 29 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-announces-enhanced-measures-for-protecting-british-columbias-southern-resident-killer-whales.html>.

were adopted based on consultations with indigenous communities, including reduced contaminants and noise pollution in the marine ecosystems affecting whales and their prey.³⁵⁷⁴

On 23 May 2019, Minister of Public Services and Procurement and Accessibility Carla Qualtrough, on behalf of the Minister of Innovation Science and Economic Development, announced an investment of CAD2.1 million in Mangrove Water Technologies.³⁵⁷⁵ This funding for clean water technology will support zero discharge desalination technology, which will reduce the environmental impact of operations in the oil and gas sectors. This will result in cleaner air and water, as well as less marine pollution in the long term.³⁵⁷⁶

On 24 May 2019, on behalf of the Minister of Transport, Member of Parliament for Rivière-des-Mille-Îles Linda Lapointe announced CAD150,000 in funding for KWI Polymers under the Canadian Plastics Innovation Challenge.³⁵⁷⁷ The objective of this funding is to develop innovative solutions for recycling fibreglass in order to prevent fibreglass from ending up in landfill or in the water.³⁵⁷⁸

On 27 May 2019, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard Jonathan Wilkinson announced that the Governor General has granted changes to the Oceans Act and the Canada Petroleum Resources Act (Bill C-55).³⁵⁷⁹ These changes will empower the federal government to strengthen the protection of at-risk marine ecosystems by preventing new potentially detrimental activities and protecting oceans and coasts from environmental degradation.³⁵⁸⁰

On 29 May 2019, Canada ratified the Agreement to Prevent Unregulated High Seas Fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean.³⁵⁸¹ The legally binding agreement prohibits commercial fishing in the high seas portion of the central Arctic Ocean for a period of at least 16 years after the agreement enters into

³⁵⁷⁴ Government of Canada announces enhanced measures for protecting British Columbia's Southern Resident killer whales, Government of Canada (Vancouver) 10 May 2019. Access Date: 29 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-announces-enhanced-measures-for-protecting-british-columbias-southern-resident-killer-whales.html>.

³⁵⁷⁵ Government of Canada invests in world-leading clean water technology, Government of Canada (Delta) 23 May 2019. Access Date: 31 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-invests-in-world-leading-clean-water-technology.html>.

³⁵⁷⁶ Government of Canada invests in world-leading clean water technology, Government of Canada (Delta) 23 May 2019. Access Date: 31 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-invests-in-world-leading-clean-water-technology.html>.

³⁵⁷⁷ New funding will support research to develop recycling solutions for fiberglass, Government of Canada (Boisbriand) 24 May 2019. Access Date: 31 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/transport-canada/news/2019/05/new-funding-will-support-research-to-develop-recycling-solutions-for-fiberglass.html>.

³⁵⁷⁸ New funding will support research to develop recycling solutions for fiberglass, Government of Canada (Boisbriand) 24 May 2019. Access Date: 31 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/transport-canada/news/2019/05/new-funding-will-support-research-to-develop-recycling-solutions-for-fiberglass.html>.

³⁵⁷⁹ Important Legislation to Protect Canada's Oceans & Coasts Receives Royal Assent, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 27 May 2019. Access Date: 31 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/05/important-legislation-to-protect-canadas-oceans--coasts-receives-royal-assent.html>.

³⁵⁸⁰ Important Legislation to Protect Canada's Oceans & Coasts Receives Royal Assent, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 27 May 2019. Access Date: 31 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/05/important-legislation-to-protect-canadas-oceans--coasts-receives-royal-assent.html>.

³⁵⁸¹ Canada ratifies landmark international agreement to prevent unregulated fishing in the central Arctic Ocean, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 May 2019. Access Date: 31 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/05/canada-ratifies-landmark-international-agreement-to-prevent-unregulated-fishing-in-the-central-arctic-ocean.html>.

force.³⁵⁸² The agreement commits the signatories to a joint program of scientific research and pollution monitoring. The program's goal is to improve understanding of ecosystems in the central Arctic Ocean.³⁵⁸³

On 31 May 2019, the government of Canada invested CAD523,000 in scientific research at Dalhousie University to protect Canadian waters in the event of an oil spill.³⁵⁸⁴ The project will use advanced technology to remove oil from water with greater efficiency during cleanups. The project will also help identify and locate the spills to minimize its harm to the marine environment.³⁵⁸⁵

On 4 June 2019, the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans, and the Canadian Coast Guard announced further action to enhance aquaculture sustainability in British Columbia.³⁵⁸⁶ This includes the Framework for Aquaculture Risk Management and the Framework on the Transfer of Live Fish, both of which will grant greater efficiency to "decision-making processes on aquaculture."³⁵⁸⁷ These measures will reduce overfishing and marine pollution, and ensure that wild fish stocks are sustainable.³⁵⁸⁸

Canada has engaged in ambitious actions to support marine litter regulation through the GEF, CUSMA and the G7 environment ministerial meeting in Halifax. Canada has promoted the harmonization of monitoring methodologies by participating in relevant international discussions and enacting domestic initiatives. It has also sought to advance research and innovation about the consequences of marine litter in collaboration with other institutions and in multilateral forums. Therefore, by addressing marine litter, Canada's aforementioned actions align with its stated priorities at the Charlevoix summit and fully comply with this commitment.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analysts: David Manocchio and Jessy Singh

³⁵⁸² Canada ratifies landmark international agreement to prevent unregulated fishing in the central Arctic Ocean, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 May 2019. Access Date: 31 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/05/canada-ratifies-landmark-international-agreement-to-prevent-unregulated-fishing-in-the-central-arctic-ocean.html>.

³⁵⁸³ Canada ratifies landmark international agreement to prevent unregulated fishing in the central Arctic Ocean, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 May 2019. Access Date: 31 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/05/canada-ratifies-landmark-international-agreement-to-prevent-unregulated-fishing-in-the-central-arctic-ocean.html>.

³⁵⁸⁴ Government of Canada supports important spill research at Dalhousie University, Government of Canada (Halifax) 31 May 2019. Access Date: 3 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-supports-important-spill-research-at-dalhousie-university.html>.

³⁵⁸⁵ Government of Canada supports important spill research at Dalhousie University, Government of Canada (Halifax) 31 May 2019. Access Date: 3 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-supports-important-spill-research-at-dalhousie-university.html>.

³⁵⁸⁶ Government of Canada takes further action to enhance aquaculture sustainability in British Columbia, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 04 June 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/06/government-of-canada-takes-further-action-to-enhance-aquaculture-sustainability-in-british-columbia.html>.

³⁵⁸⁷ Government of Canada takes further action to enhance aquaculture sustainability in British Columbia, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 04 June 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/06/government-of-canada-takes-further-action-to-enhance-aquaculture-sustainability-in-british-columbia.html>.

³⁵⁸⁸ Government of Canada takes further action to enhance aquaculture sustainability in British Columbia, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 04 June 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2019/06/government-of-canada-takes-further-action-to-enhance-aquaculture-sustainability-in-british-columbia.html>.

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to promote the harmonization of monitoring methodologies for marine litter and collaboration on research on its impacts, in cooperation, for example with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to facilitate this work.

On 16 June 2018, France attended the Sixth International Marine Debris Conference.³⁵⁸⁹ A total of 54 countries were represented at this conference, including other G7 members such as Italy, Japan, Germany, Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States.³⁵⁹⁰ The French Institute for Exploration of the Sea edited and oversaw the publication of a conference report on the impact of marine litter and the conference discussions about the development of harmonized monitoring protocols.³⁵⁹¹ The French Institute for Exploration of the Sea is a national government advisory agency as classified by the United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea.³⁵⁹²

On 4 July 2018, Minister of State for Ecological and Solidarity Transition Nicolas Hulot presented the Biodiversity Plan. This plan aims to develop an ambitious European and international roadmap for biodiversity through actions such as supporting the European-level ban on 12 single-use plastic products frequently found on coasts and at sea.³⁵⁹³

On 1 August 2018, Secretary of State to the Minister of State for the Ministry for Ecological and Solidarity Transition Brune Poirson announced the launch of “Mission Océans.” This project aims to identify the substances of utmost concern to marine ecosystems and coral reefs and propose appropriate regulatory measures to protect oceans from waste and pollution.³⁵⁹⁴

On 19 October 2018, the Office of the General Commissioner of Sustainable Development hosted a meeting on “Microplastics: from invisible pollution to a global challenge,” featuring Pascale Fabre, a researcher at the Charles Coulomb laboratory at the University of Montpellier.³⁵⁹⁵ Fabre discussed research and consumer-based and institutional actions for the future.

On 6 December 2018, UNEP and the World Resources Institute, with the support of France, released a report on single-use plastics regarding regulation of manufacturing, distribution, usage, and

³⁵⁸⁹ Sixth International Marine Debris Conference (San Diego) 16 June 2018. Access Date: 16 September 2018. http://internationalmarinedebrisconference.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Sixth_International_Marine_Debris_Conference_Proceedings.pdf.

³⁵⁹⁰ Sixth International Marine Debris Conference, 6IMDC ATTENDEES (San Diego) 16 June 2018. Access Date: 18 September 2018. <http://internationalmarinedebrisconference.org/index.php/attendees/>.

³⁵⁹¹ Sixth International Marine Debris Conference (San Diego) 16 June 2018. Access Date: 16 September 2018. http://internationalmarinedebrisconference.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Sixth_International_Marine_Debris_Conference_Proceedings.pdf.

³⁵⁹² National Government Agencies Links, Oceans and Law of the Sea, United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, United Nations (Brussels) Access Date: 16 September 2018. <http://www.un.org/depts/los/Links/Gov-Agency.htm>.

³⁵⁹³ Nicolas Hulot presents the Biodiversity Plan on the occasion of the first interdepartmental committee for biodiversity, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Paris) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 11 September 2018. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/nicolas-hulot-presente-plan-biodiversite-occasion-du-premier-comite-interministeriel-biodiversite>.

³⁵⁹⁴ Ocean and coral reef pollution: Brown Poirson tackles chemicals and plastics, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Paris) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 11 September 2018. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/pollution-des-oceans-et-des-recifs-coralliens-brune-poirson-sattaque-aux-substances-chimiques-et-aux>.

³⁵⁹⁵ Les rencontres de la recherche. Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/rencontres-recherche>.

disposal in G7 members and other countries.³⁵⁹⁶ The report notes that regulations regarding plastic bags have been enacted by 66 percent of countries globally, while regulatory bans on microbeads have only been enacted by 4 percent of countries worldwide.³⁵⁹⁷

On 10 December 2018, the Ministry of Ecological Transition and Solidarity established the France Ocean Committee, which will propose recommendations on marine litter and marine biodiversity conservation.³⁵⁹⁸ The France Ocean Committee is comprised of non-governmental organizations working in the field of marine environmental protection, marine administrative bodies, and resource management and public research institutions.³⁵⁹⁹ The committee will aid the National Council of the Sea and Coastal, the National Committee of Biodiversity, and the World Conservation Congress in 2020.³⁶⁰⁰

In early 2019, as co-chair of the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (GESAMP), France spearheaded a report presented at the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).³⁶⁰¹ This report, entitled “Guidelines for the Monitoring and Assessment of Plastic Litter in the Ocean,” is the basis for terms of reference with regards to the scientific monitoring of the world’s oceans plastic pollution.

In February 2019, France led the Joint Transnational Call on Next Generation Climate Science in Europe for Oceans through the European Joint Project Initiative (JPI) Oceans.³⁶⁰² This joint call seeks to use observations and Earth System Models to strengthen climate understanding, improve data analysis in Earth System Models, and improving ocean estimations.³⁶⁰³

On 21 February 2019, alongside various companies and NGOs, Secretary of State to the Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition Brune Poirson signed the National Pact on Plastic Packaging as an act of participation in the circular economy.³⁶⁰⁴ In signing the pact, signatories commit to reducing plastic waste, phasing out unnecessary packaging, recycling 60% of packaging by 2022,

³⁵⁹⁶ Legal Limits on Single-Use and Microplastics: A Global Review of National Laws and Regulations. United Nations Environment Programme (Nairobi) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018.

https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/27113/plastics_limits.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y.

³⁵⁹⁷ Legal Limits on Single-Use and Microplastics: A Global Review of National Laws and Regulations. United Nations Environment Programme (Nairobi) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018.

https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/27113/plastics_limits.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y.

³⁵⁹⁸ Lancement du Comité France Océan. Ministre de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 20 December 2018. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/lancement-du-comite-france-ocean>.

³⁵⁹⁹ Lancement du Comité France Océan. Ministre de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 20 December 2018. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/lancement-du-comite-france-ocean>.

³⁶⁰⁰ Lancement du Comité France Océan. Ministre de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 20 December 2018. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/lancement-du-comite-france-ocean>.

³⁶⁰¹ Publications - Guidelines for the Monitoring and Assessment of Plastic Litter in the Ocean, GESAMP. 2019. Access Date: 21 August 2019. www.gesamp.org/publications/guidelines-for-the-monitoring-and-assessment-of-plastic-litter-in-the-ocean.

³⁶⁰² Climate change impact, JPI Oceans (Brussels) February 2019. Access Date: 21 August 2019. www.jpi-oceans.eu/climate-change-impact.

³⁶⁰³ Climate change impact, JPI Oceans (Brussels) February 2019. Access Date: 21 August 2019. www.jpi-oceans.eu/climate-change-impact.

³⁶⁰⁴ Signature of the "National Pact on Plastic Packaging". Ministre de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/signature-du-pacte-national-sur-emballages-plastiques>.

advancing innovations in packaging to make it “reusable, recyclable or 100% compostable by 2025,” and raising awareness on plastic pollution.³⁶⁰⁵

On 6 May 2019, France and the UN Environment Mediterranean Action Plan presented the “G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter in Synergy with the Regional Seas Conventions Workshop” at the G7 Environment Ministers meeting in Metz.³⁶⁰⁶ Attendees concluded that cooperation with regional fisheries organizations and knowledge-sharing of best practices are necessary to address marine litter.³⁶⁰⁷ This workshop advances the G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter.³⁶⁰⁸

On 4 June 2019, Prime Minister Edward Philippe and Secretary of State to the Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition Brune Poirson presented an anti-waste bill for a circular economy.³⁶⁰⁹ The bill includes four major sections: better information and consumption practices, combatting daily waste, reinforcement of the polluter pays principle, and strengthening the fight against plastic pollution.³⁶¹⁰

France has engaged in international cooperation to align its policies and actions with regards to marine litter, both through regional-level regulations and reporting on participation in conference discussions regarding harmonizing solutions. France has attempted to better regulate the consequences of marine litter, and sought to advance cooperative research and innovation on the impact of marine litter in collaboration with other institutions.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analysts: David Manocchio and Kelley Prendergast

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to promote the harmonization of monitoring methodologies for marine litter and collaboration on research on its impacts, in cooperation, for example with the United Nations Environment Programme to facilitate this work.

On 16 June 2018, Germany attended the Sixth International Marine Debris Conference.³⁶¹¹ Notably, the conference discussed the development of harmonized monitoring protocols and guidelines. A

³⁶⁰⁵ Signature of the "National Pact on Plastic Packaging". Ministre de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/signature-du-pacte-national-sur-emballages-plastiques>.

³⁶⁰⁶ On Marine Litter, A G7 Workshop in France Highlights The Central Role of Regional Seas Conventions, HELCOM (Helsinki) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 20 May 2019. <http://www.helcom.fi/news/Pages/G7-workshop-on-marine-litter-in-metz.aspx>.

³⁶⁰⁷ On Marine Litter, A G7 Workshop in France Highlights The Central Role of Regional Seas Conventions, HELCOM (Helsinki) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 20 May 2019. <http://www.helcom.fi/news/Pages/G7-workshop-on-marine-litter-in-metz.aspx>.

³⁶⁰⁸ On Marine Litter, A G7 Workshop in France Highlights The Central Role of Regional Seas Conventions, HELCOM (Helsinki) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 20 May 2019. <http://www.helcom.fi/news/Pages/G7-workshop-on-marine-litter-in-metz.aspx>.

³⁶⁰⁹ Projet de loi anti-gaspillage pour une économie circulaire : mieux produire, mieux consommer, moins gaspiller. Ministre de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 7 June 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/loi-anti-gaspillage>.

³⁶¹⁰ Projet de loi anti-gaspillage pour une économie circulaire : mieux produire, mieux consommer, moins gaspiller. Ministre de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 7 June 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/loi-anti-gaspillage>.

³⁶¹¹ Sixth International Marine Debris Conference (San Diego) 16 June 2018. Access Date: 16 September 2018. http://internationalmarinedebrisconference.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Sixth_International_Marine_Debris_Conference_Proceedings.pdf.

total of 54 countries were represented at this conference, including other G7 members such as France, Japan, Canada, Italy, the United Kingdom, and the United States.³⁶¹²

On 5 September 2018, the government adopted a motion to promote the domestic development of cutting-edge technologies through a spending program that dedicates EUR15 billion in public investment to specific priority areas of research identified by Berlin.^{3613,3614} Research Minister Anja Karliczek highlighted the reduction of marine pollution as a focus of Germany's technological development.³⁶¹⁵

On 18 September 2018, at the G7 Environmental Ministerial Meeting in Halifax, Federal Environment Minister Svenja Schulze expressed her encouragement for the discovery of sustainable plastic life cycles and support for developing countries in their endeavors to do the same.³⁶¹⁶ The Minister stated her intention to launch joint measures that prevent and eradicate marine litter.³⁶¹⁷ She agreed that a circular economy is necessary to help reduce marine litter, and the life cycle of plastics must be addressed.³⁶¹⁸

On 29 October 2018, at the "Our Ocean Conference" in Indonesia, Germany committed USD8 million to 23 commitments that focus on supporting the conservation of marine biodiversity in Indonesia and the promotion of a blue economy, ocean monitoring and plastic pollution. Germany also committed USD6 million to increase its contribution to the Blue Action Fund, a fund that enhances marine protection.³⁶¹⁹

On 26 November 2018, Environment Minister Svenja Schulze announced a five-point plan to reduce the amount of plastic waste in oceans.³⁶²⁰ This plan includes initiatives to increase the number of recycling stations in Germany and create products using more sustainable materials.³⁶²¹

On 26 November 2018, the German government became an early donor to the PROBLUE, a new Umbrella Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) housed at the World Bank.³⁶²² This fund aims to

³⁶¹² Sixth International Marine Debris Conference, 6IMDC ATTENDEES (San Diego) 16 June 2018. Access Date: 18 September 2018. <http://internationalmarinedebrisconference.org/index.php/attendees/>.

³⁶¹³ Germany to promote innovation with national research funding, Xinhua (Beijing) 10 September 2018. Access Date: 10 September 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-09/05/c_137447318.htm.

³⁶¹⁴ Germany to promote innovation with national research funding, Xinhua (Beijing) 10 September 2018. Access Date: 10 September 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-09/05/c_137447318.htm.

³⁶¹⁵ Germany to promote innovation with national research funding, Xinhua (Beijing) 10 September 2018. Access Date: 10 September 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-09/05/c_137447318.htm.

³⁶¹⁶ G7 environment ministers discuss measures to combat climate change, marine litter and resource inefficiency (Berlin) 18 September 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/g7-umweltministerinnen-und-minister-diskutieren-massnahmen-gegen-klimawandel-meeresmuell-und-ressour/>.

³⁶¹⁷ G7 environment ministers discuss measures to combat climate change, marine litter and resource inefficiency (Berlin) 18 September 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/g7-umweltministerinnen-und-minister-diskutieren-massnahmen-gegen-klimawandel-meeresmuell-und-ressour/>.

³⁶¹⁸ Chair's Summary: G7 Environment Ministers' Meeting (Halifax) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/g7-presidency/themes/working-together-climate-change-oceans-clean-energy/g7-ministerial-meeting/g7-environment-ministers-meeting-chairs-summary/>.

³⁶¹⁹ Our Ocean Commitments, International Institute for Sustainable Development (Bali) 30 October 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. <https://ourocean2018.org/?l=our-ocean-commitments>.

³⁶²⁰ How Germany's environment minister plans to turn Around plastic use, The Local (Berlin) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.thelocal.de/20181126/german-environment-minister-pushes-for-a-turnaround-in-plastic-use>.

³⁶²¹ How Germany's environment minister plans to turn Around plastic use, The Local (Berlin) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://www.thelocal.de/20181126/german-environment-minister-pushes-for-a-turnaround-in-plastic-use>.

support healthy and productive oceans and is a part of the World Bank's overall Blue Economy program.³⁶²³ PROBLUE focuses on management of fisheries and aquaculture, threats posed to the ocean, sustainable development of ocean sectors, and building government capacity to manage marine and coastal resources.³⁶²⁴

On 1 January 2019, Germany enforced the Packaging Act, which contains new rules applying to the disposal of packaging.³⁶²⁵ In order to prevent waste, the new legislation enforces the Central Packaging Registry, which holds businesses accountable to proper collection and recycling of packaging. The registry also strives to make this information transparent to the public.³⁶²⁶

On 6 February 2019, Germany and India announced their cooperation on issues pertaining to the environment, water and waste management.³⁶²⁷ Germany will invest EUR35 million over the next few years in India's climate action projects.³⁶²⁸ Both countries agreed to work on creating reference documents for air and water governance, marine litter and the circular economy.³⁶²⁹

From 11-15 March 2019, Germany participated in the UN Environment Assembly in Nairobi, Kenya.³⁶³⁰ State Secretary at the Federal Environment Ministry and head of the German delegation Jochen Flasbarth stated that Germany will work with other countries to create an internationally binding agreement on plastic waste.³⁶³¹ The assembly agreed upon an international set of rules to reduce marine litter pollution.³⁶³²

From 5-6 May 2019, Germany participated in the G7 Environment Ministers meeting in Metz, where France and the UN Environment Mediterranean Action Plan presented the "G7 Action Plan to

³⁶²² The World Bank's Blue Economy Program and PROBLUE, The World Bank (Washington D.C.) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 21 August 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/environment/brief/the-world-banks-blue-economy-program-and-problue-frequently-asked-questions>.

³⁶²³ The World Bank's Blue Economy Program and PROBLUE, The World Bank (Washington D.C.) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 21 August 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/environment/brief/the-world-banks-blue-economy-program-and-problue-frequently-asked-questions>.

³⁶²⁴ The World Bank's Blue Economy Program and PROBLUE, The World Bank (Washington D.C.) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 21 August 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/environment/brief/the-world-banks-blue-economy-program-and-problue-frequently-asked-questions>.

³⁶²⁵ The Packaging Act has entered into force: Less packaging- more transparency and recycling (Berlin) 14 January 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/das-verpackungsgesetz-ist-in-kraft-getreten-weniger-verpackungen-mehr-transparenz-und-recycling/>.

³⁶²⁶ The Packaging Act has entered into force: Less packaging- more transparency and recycling (Berlin) 14 January 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/das-verpackungsgesetz-ist-in-kraft-getreten-weniger-verpackungen-mehr-transparenz-und-recycling/>.

³⁶²⁷ Minister Schulze agrees closer environmental cooperation with India (Berlin) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/schulze-vereinbart-engere-umweltzusammenarbeit-mit-indien/>.

³⁶²⁸ Minister Schulze agrees closer environmental cooperation with India (Berlin) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/schulze-vereinbart-engere-umweltzusammenarbeit-mit-indien/>.

³⁶²⁹ India, Germany decide to cooperate on water, waste management (New Delhi) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2019. https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/india-germany-decide-to-cooperate-on-water-waste-management-119020601563_1.html.

³⁶³⁰ Fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/unea-fordert-weltweite-abkehr-von-wegwerfgesellschaft/>.

³⁶³¹ Fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/unea-fordert-weltweite-abkehr-von-wegwerfgesellschaft/>.

³⁶³² Fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/unea-fordert-weltweite-abkehr-von-wegwerfgesellschaft/>.

Combat Marine Litter in Synergy with the Regional Seas Conventions Workshop.”³⁶³³ Attendees concluded that cooperation with regional fisheries organizations and knowledge-sharing of best practices are necessary to address marine litter.³⁶³⁴ This workshop advances the G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter.³⁶³⁵

On 9 May 2019, Minister Müller of the Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development launched the PREVENT Waste Alliance alongside the Indonesian Ambassador and over 30 international organizations.³⁶³⁶ This alliance is part of the “Action Program on Circular Economy of the German Development Cooperation.”³⁶³⁷ The aim of this alliance is to prevent waste from discharging into the environment in developing countries and emerging economies.³⁶³⁸

On 21 May 2019, Federal Environment Minister Svenja Schulze announced Germany’s intention to comply with the EU’s directive to ban selected single-use plastic products and reduce ocean pollution.³⁶³⁹ Schulze stated that Germany will ban single-use plastic products before 2021, and place responsibility on manufacturers to pay for the clean-up costs of products thrown into the ocean environment.³⁶⁴⁰

While Germany has engaged in efforts to address the issue of marine litter through research and innovation, it has yet to promote harmonization of its monitoring methodologies for marine litter with other members of the G7 or other governments.

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Meagan Byrd and Alexa Kalsatos

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to promote the harmonization of monitoring methodologies for marine litter and collaboration on research on its impacts, in cooperation, for example with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to facilitate this work.

On 16 June 2018, Italy attended the Sixth International Marine Debris Conference.³⁶⁴¹ Notably, the conference discussed the development of harmonized monitoring protocols and guidelines. A total

³⁶³³ G7 environment ministers meet to discuss climate crisis, France 24 (Paris) 5 May 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190505-g7-environment-ministers-meet-discuss-climate-crisis>.

³⁶³⁴ On Marine Litter, A G7 Workshop in France Highlights The Central Role of Regional Seas Conventions, HELCOM (Helsinki) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 20 May 2019. <http://www.helcom.fi/news/Pages/G7-workshop-on-marine-litter-in-metz.aspx>.

³⁶³⁵ On Marine Litter, A G7 Workshop in France Highlights The Central Role of Regional Seas Conventions, HELCOM (Helsinki) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 20 May 2019. <http://www.helcom.fi/news/Pages/G7-workshop-on-marine-litter-in-metz.aspx>.

³⁶³⁶ Official Launching Event, PREVENT 9 May 2018. Access Date: 21 August 2019. <https://www.prevent-waste.net/en/component/allianceassets/assetitem/offizielles-lancierungsevent-0>.

³⁶³⁷ <https://www.prevent-waste.net/en/component/allianceassets/assetitem/offizielles-lancierungsevent-0>

³⁶³⁸ <https://www.prevent-waste.net/en/component/allianceassets/assetitem/offizielles-lancierungsevent-0>

³⁶³⁹ Minister Schulze calls for swift implementation of EU rules on single-use plastics, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 21 May 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/schulze-neue-eu-regeln-fuer-einwegplastik-rasch-umsetzen/>.

³⁶⁴⁰ Minister Schulze calls for swift implementation of EU rules on single-use plastics, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 21 May 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/schulze-neue-eu-regeln-fuer-einwegplastik-rasch-umsetzen/>.

³⁶⁴¹ Sixth International Marine Debris Conference (San Diego) 16 June 2018. Access Date: 16 September 2018.

http://internationalmarinedebrisconference.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Sixth_International_Marine_Debris_Conference_Proceedings.pdf.

of 54 countries were represented at this conference, including other G7 members such as France, Japan, Canada, Germany, the United Kingdom, and the United States.³⁶⁴²

On 3 August 2018, Minister of the Environment Sergio Costa announced the creation of federal law to protect oceans from plastic pollution.³⁶⁴³ This policy and a public campaign were announced to adopt a legislative approach to ridding the public of unsustainable plastic use.³⁶⁴⁴

On 18 September 2018, Italy attended the G7 Ministerial Meeting in Halifax, Canada.³⁶⁴⁵ The meeting noted that a circular economy is essential to addressing marine litter. G7 Environment Ministers emphasized the need to change the life cycle of plastics in order to reduce plastic waste.³⁶⁴⁶ During this meeting, G7 ministers also created an innovation challenge aimed at spurring technological development, raising awareness, and exploring policy improvements in the management of plastics.³⁶⁴⁷

On 26 September 2018, Under-Secretary for the Environment Salvatore Micillo announced a recycling program that allows fishermen to bring ordinary plastics and marine litter caught at sea to be processed and reused as other materials. Micillo stressed the need to consider consumption as a circular economic model and find ways to use materials at all stages.³⁶⁴⁸

On 24 October 2018, the Ministry of Environment participated in the National Association of Italian Municipalities' meeting. This meeting focused on the "Plastic Free" campaign, which strives to eliminate the use of disposable plastic.³⁶⁴⁹ Undersecretary of the Environment Salvatore Micillo emphasized the importance of providing sustainable materials and eliminating the use of plastic and encouraged municipalities to join this initiative and ban disposable plastics.³⁶⁵⁰

³⁶⁴² Sixth International Marine Debris Conference, 6IMDC ATTENDEES (San Diego) 16 June 2018. Access Date: 18 September 2018. <http://internationalmarinedebrisconference.org/index.php/attendees/>.

³⁶⁴³ The Campaign Against Plastic on the Beaches Starts Sunday, Italian Ministry for the Environment Land Sea (Rome) 3 August 2018. Access Date: 10 September 2018. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/mare-parte-domenica-la-campagna-contro-la-plastica-sulle-spiagge>.

³⁶⁴⁴ The Campaign Against Plastic on the Beaches Starts Sunday, Italian Ministry for the Environment Land Sea (Rome) 3 August 2018. Access Date: 10 September 2018. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/mare-parte-domenica-la-campagna-contro-la-plastica-sulle-spiagge>.

³⁶⁴⁵ G7 Ministerial Meeting: Working Together on Oceans, Climate Change and Clean Energy (Halifax) 22 September 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/g7-presidency/themes/working-together-climate-change-oceans-clean-energy/g7-ministerial-meeting/>.

³⁶⁴⁶ Chair's Summary: G7 Environment Ministers' Meeting (Halifax) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/g7-presidency/themes/working-together-climate-change-oceans-clean-energy/g7-ministerial-meeting/g7-environment-ministers-meeting-chairs-summary/>.

³⁶⁴⁷ Chairs' Summary: G7 Joint Ministerial Session on Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Communities (Halifax) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/g7-presidency/themes/working-together-climate-change-oceans-clean-energy/g7-ministerial-meeting/joint-chairs-summary/>.

³⁶⁴⁸ Undersecretary Micillo in Corepla: Italy Leader in Recycling, On Plastic We Have to Do More. Soon a Law to Clean the Seas (Rome) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <http://www.minambiente.it/notizie/il-sottosegretario-micillo-corepla-italia-leader-nel-riciclo-su-plastica-dobbiamo-fare-di>.

³⁶⁴⁹ Ministry of Environment at the ANCI Assembly, Focus on 'Plastic Free' and Public Green, Italian Ministry for the Environment Land Sea (Rome) 24 October 2018. Access Date: 29 November 2018. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/ministero-ambiente-ad-assemblea-anci-focus-su-plastic-free-e-verde-pubblico>.

³⁶⁵⁰ Ministry of Environment at the ANCI Assembly, Focus on 'Plastic Free' and Public Green, Italian Ministry for the Environment Land Sea (Rome) 24 October 2018. Access Date: 29 November 2018. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/ministero-ambiente-ad-assemblea-anci-focus-su-plastic-free-e-verde-pubblico>.

On 30 October 2018, at the Our Ocean Conference in Bali, the Italian Development Cooperation — a government agency under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs — committed EUR1.3 million towards 23 commitments that focus on supporting the conservation of marine biodiversity in Indonesia and the promotion of a blue economy, ocean monitoring and plastic pollution.

On 19 December 2018, Environment Minister Sergio Costa participated in a meeting of the European Council's Environment Ministers. The meeting resolved to combat plastic pollution in marine environments.³⁶⁵¹ In the directive, the council expressed its desire to reduce the environmental impact of plastics, fishing nets, and containers created from expanded polystyrene.³⁶⁵²

On 30 January 2019, Undersecretary for the Environment Salvatore Micillo announced the launch of the university campaign #StopSingleUsePlastic.³⁶⁵³ This campaign will bring awareness across universities in Italy with regards to three of the Ministry of Environment's goals: reduction of disposable plastic, protection of the sea and environmental education.³⁶⁵⁴ The announcement emphasized the importance of involving youth to achieve the Italian government's goals.³⁶⁵⁵

On 27 February 2019, the Ministry of the Environment launched the “developing and strengthening effective management of specially protected areas of Mediterranean importance” campaign.³⁶⁵⁶ This initiative aims to encourage collaboration between Mediterranean countries, civil society groups and marine protected areas to promote the sustainable management of protected areas in the Mediterranean through sharing best monitoring practices.³⁶⁵⁷

On 4 April 2019, Italy's Council of Ministers approved the Salvamare bill, allowing fishermen to collect plastic using their own fishing nets.³⁶⁵⁸ Previously, Italian fishermen were unable to collect

³⁶⁵¹ Plastica, Minister Costa: “An Important Day: A Path to Protect the Seas and Environment” (Rome) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/plastica-ministro-costa-giornata-importante-avviato-cammino-di-tutela-dei-mari-e>.

³⁶⁵² Plastica, Minister Costa: ‘An Important Day: A Path to Protect the Seas and Environment’ (Rome) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/plastica-ministro-costa-giornata-importante-avviato-cammino-di-tutela-dei-mari-e>.

³⁶⁵³ #StopSingleUsePlastic in Italian universities, under secretary Micillo: “We also bring our experience #PlasticFree among our students, young people are our future” (Rome) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <http://www.minambiente.it/notizie/stopsingleuseplastic-negli-atenei-italiani-sottosegretario-micillo-portiamo-anchetra-gli>.

³⁶⁵⁴ #StopSingleUsePlastic in Italian universities, under secretary Micillo: “We also bring our experience #PlasticFree among our students, young people are our future” (Rome) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <http://www.minambiente.it/notizie/stopsingleuseplastic-negli-atenei-italiani-sottosegretario-micillo-portiamo-anchetra-gli>.

³⁶⁵⁵ #StopSingleUsePlastic in Italian universities, under secretary Micillo: “We also bring our experience #PlasticFree among our students, young people are our future” (Rome) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <http://www.minambiente.it/notizie/stopsingleuseplastic-negli-atenei-italiani-sottosegretario-micillo-portiamo-anchetra-gli>.

³⁶⁵⁶ Mediterranean: the program for specially protected marine areas is under way Financed by the Ministry of the Environment. Four twinning agreements signed with Albania, Algeria, Slovenia and Tunisia (Rome) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/mediterraneo-al-il-programma-le-aree-marine-specialmente-protette-finanziato-dal>.

³⁶⁵⁷ Mediterranean: the program for specially protected marine areas is under way Financed by the Ministry of the Environment. Four twinning agreements signed with Albania, Algeria, Slovenia and Tunisia (Rome) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/mediterraneo-al-il-programma-le-aree-marine-specialmente-protette-finanziato-dal>.

³⁶⁵⁸ Costa: With the Salvamare Law We Start Cleaning Up the Sea From Plastic, Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea Protection (Rome) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 6 June 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/costa-con-la-legge-salvamare-iniziamo-ripulire-il-mare-dalla-plastica>.

plastic because this action was considered a crime of illegal waste transport.³⁶⁵⁹ Environment Minister Sergio Costa noted the urgency and importance of protecting the sea, in addition to Italy's intention to become a leader in eradicating marine litter.³⁶⁶⁰

From 5-6 May 2019, Italy participated in the G7 Environment Ministers meeting in Metz, where France and the UN Environment Mediterranean Action Plan presented the "G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter in Synergy with the Regional Seas Conventions Workshop."³⁶⁶¹ Attendees concluded that cooperation with regional fisheries organizations and knowledge-sharing of best practices are necessary to address marine litter.³⁶⁶² This workshop advances the G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter.³⁶⁶³

On 21 May 2019, Environment Minister Sergio Costa announced that Italy would adopt the European Union's directive to prohibit disposable plastics through stricter regulations.³⁶⁶⁴ The Environment Minister emphasized the importance of eradicating marine litter and plastics to protect marine species.³⁶⁶⁵

While Italy has shown evidence of promoting the harmonization of marine monitoring methodologies with other G7 members and enacting domestic legislation on the issue of marine litter, they have not conducted collaborative research on the impacts of marine litter through partnerships with institutions such as, but not limited to, the UNEP.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Meagan Byrd and Alexa Kalsatos

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to promote the harmonization of monitoring methodologies for marine litter and collaboration on research on its impacts, in cooperation, for example with the United Nations Environment Programme to facilitate this work.

On 15 June 2018, the Upper House unanimously passed a bill to reduce microplastics. The new bill urges businesses and corporations to constrain their utilization of microplastics in cosmetic and

³⁶⁵⁹ Italy approved the "Salvamare" bill: fishermen can collect plastic in the sea, SmartGreen (Rome) 29 May 2019. Access Date: 6 June 2019. <https://www.smartgreenpost.com/2019/05/29/italy-approved-the-salvamare-bill-fishermen-can-collect-plastic-in-the-sea/>.

³⁶⁶⁰ Costa: With the Salvamare Law We Start Cleaning Up the Sea From Plastic, Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea Protection (Rome) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 6 June 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/costa-con-la-legge-salvamare-iniziamo-ripulire-il-mare-dalla-plastica>.

³⁶⁶¹ G7 environment ministers meet to discuss climate crisis, France 24 (Paris) 5 May 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190505-g7-environment-ministers-meet-discuss-climate-crisis>.

³⁶⁶² On Marine Litter, A G7 Workshop in France Highlights The Central Role of Regional Seas Conventions, HELCOM (Helsinki) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 20 May 2019. <http://www.helcom.fi/news/Pages/G7-workshop-on-marine-litter-in-metz.aspx>.

³⁶⁶³ On Marine Litter, A G7 Workshop in France Highlights The Central Role of Regional Seas Conventions, HELCOM (Helsinki) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 20 May 2019. <http://www.helcom.fi/news/Pages/G7-workshop-on-marine-litter-in-metz.aspx>.

³⁶⁶⁴ Plastics: Costa, A Good EU Stop Directive For Disposable Products, Italy Must Be Among the First to Implement It, Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea Protection (Rome) 21 May 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/plastica-costa-bene-direttiva-ue-stop-ai-prodotti-monouso-l-italia-dev-essere-tra-i-primi>.

³⁶⁶⁵ Plastics: Costa, A Good EU Stop Directive For Disposable Products, Italy Must Be Among the First to Implement It, Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea Protection (Rome) 21 May 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/plastica-costa-bene-direttiva-ue-stop-ai-prodotti-monouso-l-italia-dev-essere-tra-i-primi>.

hygiene products such as face wash and toothpaste. The provision of this law also compels local governments to educate their populations about recycling and the adverse effects of plastics.³⁶⁶⁶

On 16 June 2018, Japan attended the Sixth International Marine Debris Conference.³⁶⁶⁷ Notably, the conference discussed the development of harmonized monitoring protocols and guidelines. A total of 54 countries were represented at this conference, including other G7 members such as France, Italy, Canada, Germany, the United Kingdom, and the United States.³⁶⁶⁸

On 6 August 2018, the Office of Marine Environment in the Water Environment Division, based in the Environmental Management Bureau of the Ministry of the Environment, announced its “Outline for the Project of Harmonization of Microplastics Monitoring Methodologies in the Ocean.”³⁶⁶⁹ The outline presents a detailed history of the marine litter agenda in Japan and within the G7, and presents an expert meeting series held to draft recommendations for microplastics monitoring.

On 19 September 2018, the Environment Minister attended the G7 joint meeting on Healthy Oceans, Seas, and Resilient Communities. During this meeting, the ministers reiterated their commitment to reducing marine litter and created an innovation challenge aimed at spurring innovation, raising awareness, and facilitating improvements in the management of plastics. The ministers noted the need to prevent plastics from entering the oceans and other water bodies.³⁶⁷⁰

On 3 October 2018, Japan signed the Central Arctic Ocean agreement, which outlines a joint programme to monitor an area of sea opening in the Arctic under the pressures of climate change. The programme involves nine other signatory countries, including G7 members such as the United States, Canada, and the European Union.³⁶⁷¹ The parties involved will also commence a Joint Program of Scientific Research and Monitoring to oversee the ecosystems of the Central Arctic Ocean.³⁶⁷²

On 15 November 2018, Japan attended the Summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Plus Three (ASEAN+3) in Singapore, where the attendant parties discussed the launch of the ASEAN+3 Marine Plastics Debris Cooperative Action Initiative. Under this initiative, countries will

³⁶⁶⁶ Bill to reduce microplastics released into the environment passed by Japan’s Upper House, The Japan Times, 15 June 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/06/15/national/bill-reduce-microplastics-released-environment-passed-japans-upper-house/#.W5h8eJNKiCV>.

³⁶⁶⁷ Sixth International Marine Debris Conference (San Diego) 16 June 2018. Access Date: 16 September 2018.

http://internationalmarinedebrisconference.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Sixth_International_Marine_Debris_Conference_Proceedings.pdf.

³⁶⁶⁸ Sixth International Marine Debris Conference, 6IMDC ATTENDEES (San Diego) 16 June 2018. Access Date: 18 September 2018. <http://internationalmarinedebrisconference.org/index.php/attendees/>.

³⁶⁶⁹ Outline for the Project of Harmonization of Microplastics Monitoring Methodologies in the Ocean, Office of Marine Environment, Water Environment Division, Environmental Management Bureau, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 6 August 2018. Access Date: 16 September 2018. http://www.env.go.jp/en/water/marine_litter/outline.pdf.

³⁶⁷⁰ Press Briefings (Reports), Foreign Press Center Japan (Tokyo) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <http://fpcj.jp/en/worldnews/briefings/>.

³⁶⁷¹ Commercial fishing banned across much of the Arctic, The Guardian (London) 3 October 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/oct/03/commercial-fishing-banned-across-much-of-the-arctic?fbclid=IwAR14e7TrcwUKTKXWzh6_MvF1h-E17mQRmMgk9Yq0DwoXtazwUeXNbEJpDE.

³⁶⁷² EU and Arctic partners enter historic agreement to prevent unregulated fishing in high seas — Frequently Asked Questions, European Commission (Brussels) 3 October 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/eu-and-arctic-partners-enter-historic-agreement-prevent-unregulated-fishing-high-seas-%E2%80%93-frequently_en

work together to engage in cooperative research about marine debris, assess its impacts, and work to develop the capacity to monitor plastic marine litter.³⁶⁷³

On 28 January 2019, a delegate from Japan attended the 20th ASEAN Working Group on Coastal and Environment. Participating member states reviewed documents outlining actions pertaining to marine litter prevention.³⁶⁷⁴ The aim of this meeting was to formalize documents before ministers meet to discuss Blueprint 2025 in March 2019, which will outline the extent to which ASEAN countries are cooperating on environmental issues, including marine litter prevention.³⁶⁷⁵

On 4 March 2019, Japan donated JPY123 million to the “Promotion of Countermeasures Against Marine Plastic Litter in Southeast Asia and India,” an initiative facilitated by the Japanese government in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Program.³⁶⁷⁶ The initiative aims to “develop a model for plastic leakage and monitor leakage hotspots along the Ganges and Mekong rivers.”³⁶⁷⁷ It also aspires to increase knowledge on the implementation of countermeasures against marine plastic litter.³⁶⁷⁸

On 31 March 2019, Japan released a draft Strategy for Plastic Resources Circulation, which aims to implement measures that will prevent the release of microplastics into marine environments by 2020.³⁶⁷⁹ The strategy will also promote research on the use, effects and reduction of microplastics.³⁶⁸⁰

From 5 to 6 May 2019, Japan participated in the G7 Environment Ministers meeting in Metz, where France and the UN Environment Mediterranean Action Plan presented the “G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter in Synergy with the Regional Seas Conventions Workshop.”³⁶⁸¹ Attendees concluded that cooperation with regional fisheries organizations and knowledge-sharing of best

³⁶⁷³ ASEAN, China and Japan agree to pitch in to reduce plastic waste, Asian Review (Singapore) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/Environment/ASEAN-China-and-Japan-agree-to-pitch-in-to-reduce-plastic-waste>.

³⁶⁷⁴ ASEAN working on Strategic Action Against Marine Pollution, China Daily (Sydney) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <https://www.chinadailyhk.com/articles/70/234/196/1549016913050.html>.

³⁶⁷⁵ ASEAN working on Strategic Action Against Marine Pollution, China Daily (Sydney) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <https://www.chinadailyhk.com/articles/70/234/196/1549016913050.html>.

³⁶⁷⁶ UNEP, Japan Announce Marine Litter Initiative, SDG Knowledge Hub (Winnipeg) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 11 May 2019. <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/unep-japan-announce-marine-litter-initiative/>.

³⁶⁷⁷ UNEP, Japan Announce Marine Litter Initiative, SDG Knowledge Hub (Winnipeg) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 11 May 2019. <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/unep-japan-announce-marine-litter-initiative/>.

³⁶⁷⁸ UNEP, Japan Announce Marine Litter Initiative, SDG Knowledge Hub (Winnipeg) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 11 May 2019. <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/unep-japan-announce-marine-litter-initiative/>.

³⁶⁷⁹ Japan Plans Microplastics Reduction in Marine Environments by 2020, Chemical Watch (Shrewsbury) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 11 May 2019. <https://chemicalwatch.com/77349/japan-plans-microplastics-reduction-in-marine-environments-by-2020>.

³⁶⁸⁰ Japan Plans Microplastics Reduction in Marine Environments by 2020, Chemical Watch (Shrewsbury) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 11 May 2019. <https://chemicalwatch.com/77349/japan-plans-microplastics-reduction-in-marine-environments-by-2020>.

³⁶⁸¹ G7 environment ministers meet to discuss climate crisis, France 24 (Paris) 5 May 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190505-g7-environment-ministers-meet-discuss-climate-crisis>.

practices are necessary to address marine litter.³⁶⁸² This workshop advances the G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter.³⁶⁸³

On 21 May 2019, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of the Environment collaborated with the International Environmental Technology Centre to convene a summit entitled “Global Dialogue with the Private Sector: Technology Solutions for Holistic Waste Management.”³⁶⁸⁴ The first session engaged private sector organizations to highlight potential solutions to the issue of marine litter.³⁶⁸⁵ Partnership pledges were signed to work alongside governmental organizations on marine health.³⁶⁸⁶

On 31 May 2019, Japan adopted a policy package aimed at reducing plastic marine waste.³⁶⁸⁷ The plan aims to provide technical support for developing countries, particularly in Southeast Asia, to cut disposable plastic waste by 25% by 2030 and completely recycle or reuse such waste by 2035.³⁶⁸⁸ Japan is also requesting that companies and riverside municipalities curb their usage of microbeads.³⁶⁸⁹

Japan has acted to align marine litter policies domestically, and it has presented a blueprint to harmonize and standardize monitoring methodologies through transboundary cooperation. It has also promoted collaboration on researching the impacts of marine litter.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Sofia Louise Lopez and Sanjna Ullal

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to promote the harmonization of monitoring methodologies for marine litter and collaboration on research on its impacts, in cooperation, for example with the United Nations Environment Programme to facilitate this work.

³⁶⁸² On Marine Litter, A G7 Workshop in France Highlights The Central Role of Regional Seas Conventions, HELCOM (Helsinki) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 20 May 2019. <http://www.helcom.fi/news/Pages/G7-workshop-on-marine-litter-in-metz.aspx>.

³⁶⁸³ On Marine Litter, A G7 Workshop in France Highlights The Central Role of Regional Seas Conventions, HELCOM (Helsinki) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 20 May 2019. <http://www.helcom.fi/news/Pages/G7-workshop-on-marine-litter-in-metz.aspx>.

³⁶⁸⁴ Global Dialogue with the Private Sector on Technology Solutions for Holistic Waste Management, UN Environment (Nairobi) 23 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.unenvironment.org/ietc/news/story/global-dialogue-private-sector-technology-solutions-holistic-waste-management>.

³⁶⁸⁵ Technology Solutions for Holistic Waste Management - A Global Dialogue with the Private Sector, UN Environment (Nairobi) 21 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.unenvironment.org/ietc/events/summit/technology-solutions-holistic-waste-management-global-dialogue-private-sector>.

³⁶⁸⁶ Global Dialogue with the Private Sector on Technology Solutions for Holistic Waste Management, UN Environment (Nairobi) 23 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.unenvironment.org/ietc/news/story/global-dialogue-private-sector-technology-solutions-holistic-waste-management>.

³⁶⁸⁷ Japan adopts policy package aimed at cutting plastic waste ahead of Osaka G20 summit, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 31 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/05/31/national/japan-adopts-policy-package-aimed-cutting-plastic-waste-ahead-osaka-g20-summit/>.

³⁶⁸⁸ Japan adopts policy package aimed at cutting plastic waste ahead of Osaka G20 summit, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 31 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/05/31/national/japan-adopts-policy-package-aimed-cutting-plastic-waste-ahead-osaka-g20-summit/>.

³⁶⁸⁹ Japan adopts policy package aimed at cutting plastic waste ahead of Osaka G20 summit, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 31 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/05/31/national/japan-adopts-policy-package-aimed-cutting-plastic-waste-ahead-osaka-g20-summit/>.

On 16 June 2018, the UK attended the Sixth International Marine Debris Conference.³⁶⁹⁰ Notably, the conference discussed the development of harmonized monitoring protocols and guidelines. A total of 54 countries were represented at this conference, including other G7 members such as France, Japan, Germany, Canada, Italy, and the United States.³⁶⁹¹

On 3 October 2018, at the Scottish Resources Conference that Zero Waste Scotland, Scotland's Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform announced that it will be increasing available grants to GBP1 million in partnership with Marine Scotland, an amount that will finance innovative projects aimed at tackling marine litter.³⁶⁹²

On 11 October 2018, the UK attended the Arctic Environment Ministers' Meeting in Rovaniemi, Finland. The purpose of the meeting was to explore common solutions to the issues of climate change, biodiversity, and pollution prevention. The United Kingdom Observer released a statement highlighting the UK's work with the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR), seeking to develop and implement a Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter.³⁶⁹³

On 18 October 2018, the UK attended the OSPAR-Cartagena Convention, where the parties developed recommendations for a uniform litter monitoring and management programme. These recommendations will be presented to the Contracting Parties at the next Cartagena conference of the parties in Marine 2019.³⁶⁹⁴

On 19 October 2018, the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, co-funded by the Welsh government and the EU, provided a GBP50,000 fund to a research project studying the effects of and potential solutions for marine litter. This project was designed to complement the Clean Seas Partnership Marine Litter Action Plan.³⁶⁹⁵

On 22 January 2019, representatives from the UK Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science attended a Commonwealth Litter Programme Vanuatu national policy workshop. At the workshop, marine litter scientists from the UK presented data on marine litter in

³⁶⁹⁰ Sixth International Marine Debris Conference (San Diego) 16 June 2018. Access Date: 16 September 2018.

http://internationalmarinedebrisconference.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Sixth_International_Marine_Debris_Conference_Proceedings.pdf.

³⁶⁹¹ Sixth International Marine Debris Conference, 6IMDC ATTENDEES (San Diego) 16 June 2018. Access Date: 18 September 2018. <http://internationalmarinedebrisconference.org/index.php/attendees/>.

³⁶⁹² Zero Waste Scotland Doubles Marine Litter Fund to €1 Million, British Plastics and Rubber (Chester) 4 October 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. <https://www.britishplastics.co.uk/Environment/zero-waste-scotland-doubles-marine-litter-fund-to-%C2%A31million/>.

³⁶⁹³ Arctic Environment Ministers' Meeting: UK Observer's Statement; Commonwealth Office (Helsinki) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/arctic-environment-ministers-meeting-uk-observers-statement>.

³⁶⁹⁴ Harmonising Marine Litter Monitoring for plastic free oceans, OSPAR Commission. 22 October 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.ospar.org/news/harmonising-marine-litter-monitoring-for-plastic-free-oceans>.

³⁶⁹⁵ New Marine Litter Project Launched, Welsh Government (Cardiff) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. <https://gov.wales/newsroom/environmentandcountryside/2018/181019-new-marine-litter-project-launched/?lang=en>.

Efate.³⁶⁹⁶ The workshop discussed how data collected during the programme could help develop new solutions for Vanuatu.³⁶⁹⁷

From 20 to 21 February 2019, Marine Scotland hosted an International Marine Conference, where delegates adopted a commitment to working with other nations to collect and share data about marine litter.³⁶⁹⁸ Other pledges include working to develop a circular economy and preventing the inappropriate disposal of litter by the marine sector.³⁶⁹⁹

On 22 February 2019, Marine Scotland hosted the British-Irish Council Marine Litter Symposium, where Environment Ministers from various parts of the UK agreed to promote marine litter education in schools and in the fishing industry. The meeting also committed to reducing pre-production plastic loss and improving fishing net recycling mechanisms.³⁷⁰⁰

From 5-6 May 2019, the UK participated in the G7 Environment Ministers meeting in Metz, where France and the UN Environment Mediterranean Action Plan presented the “G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter in Synergy with the Regional Seas Conventions Workshop.”³⁷⁰¹ Attendees concluded that cooperation with regional fisheries organizations and knowledge-sharing of best practices are necessary to address marine litter.³⁷⁰² This workshop advances the G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter.³⁷⁰³

The UK has promoted the harmonization of monitoring methodologies for marine litter with other states and has also engaged in collaborative research through multilateral partnerships, such as with the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Angela Min Yi Hou and Sanjna Ullal

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to promote the harmonization of monitoring methodologies for marine litter and collaboration on research on its impacts, in cooperation, for example with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to facilitate this work.

³⁶⁹⁶ UK Marine Scientists and the Vanuatu Government to Discuss Science and Solutions to Reduce Plastic Pollution, Cefas (Lowestoft) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 11 February 2019. <https://www.cefas.co.uk/clip/clip-news/uk-marine-scientists-and-the-vanuatu-government-to-discuss-science-and-solutions-to-reduce-plastic-pollution/>.

³⁶⁹⁷ UK Marine Scientists and the Vanuatu Government to Discuss Science and Solutions to Reduce Plastic Pollution, Cefas (Lowestoft) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 11 February 2019. <https://www.cefas.co.uk/clip/clip-news/uk-marine-scientists-and-the-vanuatu-government-to-discuss-science-and-solutions-to-reduce-plastic-pollution/>.

³⁶⁹⁸ Scotland’s International Marine Conference 2019, Scottish Government (Edinburgh) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 11 May 2019. <https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/marine/marine-environment/litter/marineconference2019>.

³⁶⁹⁹ Scotland’s International Marine Conference 2019, Scottish Government (Edinburgh) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 11 May 2019. <https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/marine/marine-environment/litter/marineconference2019>.

³⁷⁰⁰ British-Irish Council Marine Litter Symposium, Scottish Government (Edinburgh) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 11 May 2019. <https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/marine/marine-environment/litter/marineconference2019>.

³⁷⁰¹ G7 environment ministers meet to discuss climate crisis, France 24 (Paris) 5 May 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190505-g7-environment-ministers-meet-discuss-climate-crisis>.

³⁷⁰² On Marine Litter, A G7 Workshop in France Highlights The Central Role of Regional Seas Conventions, HELCOM (Helsinki) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 20 May 2019. <http://www.helcom.fi/news/Pages/G7-workshop-on-marine-litter-in-metz.aspx>.

³⁷⁰³ On Marine Litter, A G7 Workshop in France Highlights The Central Role of Regional Seas Conventions, HELCOM (Helsinki) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 20 May 2019. <http://www.helcom.fi/news/Pages/G7-workshop-on-marine-litter-in-metz.aspx>.

On 16 June 2018, the United States attended the Sixth International Marine Debris Conference.³⁷⁰⁴ Notably, the conference discussed the development of harmonized monitoring protocols and guidelines. A total of 54 countries were represented at this conference, including other G7 members such as France, Japan, Germany, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Italy.³⁷⁰⁵

On 19 June 2018, the US published Executive Order (EO) 13840, “Ocean Policy to Advance the Economic, Security, and Environmental Interests of the United States.” The order’s aims are to improve public access to marine data and information and ensure efficient interagency marine coordination with various stakeholders.³⁷⁰⁶ It establishes the Ocean Policy Committee with the aim of coordinating and informing “the ocean policy-making process and identify[ing] priority ocean research and technology needs.” This, in turn, revokes EO 13547, “Stewardship of the Ocean, Our Coasts, and the Great Lakes,” passed under the Obama administration. As a result, several federal entities and plans — including the National Ocean Council, National Ocean Policy Implementation Plan, and Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Plan — have been eliminated.³⁷⁰⁷

From 9-12 July 2018, the Chief Scientist for the Marine Debris Program, the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science Great Lakes Mussel Watch, and scholars from Loyola University collectively explored biomonitoring for microplastics in the Great Lakes via observing zebra and quagga mussels.³⁷⁰⁸ Hosted under the Department of Commerce, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Marine Debris Program is the U.S. Federal government’s lead for addressing marine debris.³⁷⁰⁹

On 16 August 2018, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Marine Debris Program announced the 23 recipients of the 2018 prevention and removal grant awards. The awards total approximately USD2.5 million in federal funds, and it aims to support efforts that target national and global marine litter problems impacting wildlife, navigation safety, human health, and the economy.³⁷¹⁰

On 5 September 2018, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Marine Debris Program released the “Washington Marine Debris Action Plan.”³⁷¹¹ The action plan outlines four

³⁷⁰⁴ Sixth International Marine Debris Conference (San Diego) 16 June 2018. Access Date: 16 September 2018. http://internationalmarinedebrisconference.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Sixth_International_Marine_Debris_Conference_Proceedings.pdf.

³⁷⁰⁵ Sixth International Marine Debris Conference, 6IMDC ATTENDEES (San Diego) 16 June 2018. Access Date: 18 September 2018. <http://internationalmarinedebrisconference.org/index.php/attendees/>.

³⁷⁰⁶ Ocean Policy To Advance the Economic, Security, and Environmental Interests of the United States, Federal Register (Washington D. C.) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 10 September 2018. <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2018/06/22/2018-13640/ocean-policy-to-advance-the-economic-security-and-environmental-interests-of-the-united-states>.

³⁷⁰⁷ Guidance for Implementing Executive Order 13840, Titled “Ocean Policy to Advance the Economic, Security, and Environmental Interests of the United States”, Executive Office of The President (Washington D. C.) 28 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.noaa.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/DOCUMENT%20-%20EO%20Ocean%20Policy%20Guidance%20Memo.pdf>.

³⁷⁰⁸ Marine Debris Program Joins Microplastics Monitoring Fieldwork in the Great Lakes, NOAA Office of Response and Restoration (Silver Spring) 27 July 2018. Access Date: 17 September 2018. <https://response.restoration.noaa.gov/marine-debris-program-joins-microplastics-monitoring-fieldwork-great-lakes>.

³⁷⁰⁹ About Us, OR&R’s Marine Debris Program, NOAA Marine Debris Program (Silver Spring) Access Date: 17 September 2018. <https://marinedebris.noaa.gov/about-us>.

³⁷¹⁰ The NOAA Marine Debris Program Awards Funding to 23 New Projects, Marine Debris Program Office of Response And Restoration 16 August 2018. Access Date: 10 September 2018. <https://blog.marinedebris.noaa.gov/noaa-marine-debris-program-awards-funding-23-new-projects>.

³⁷¹¹ The Washington Marine Debris Action Plan, Marine Debris Program Office of Response and Restoration (Silver Spring) September 2018. Access Date: 17 September 2018. <https://marinedebris.noaa.gov/regional-action-plan/washington-marine-debris-action-plan>.

major goals in addressing the issue of marine litter: prevention, removal, research, and coordination. Specifically, the action plans to “conduct coordinated, high-quality research to inform actions that reduce the adverse impacts of marine debris.”³⁷¹²

On 26 September 2018, Congress passed the Save Our Seas Act. The bill reauthorizes and amends the Marine Debris Act to promote international action to reduce marine debris. This includes “providing technical assistance to expand waste management systems internationally.” The bill also authorizes USD10 million to the administrator until 2022.³⁷¹³

On 3 October 2018, the US signed an international agreement along with Japan, Canada, and the European Union to prevent unregulated commercial fishing in the high seas of the central Arctic Ocean. The agreement will establish conservation measures to manage and better monitor Arctic Ocean ecosystems, in an effort to make future commercial fishing activities more sustainable.³⁷¹⁴ The parties involved will also commence a Joint Program of Scientific Research and Monitoring, overseeing the ecosystems of the Central Arctic Ocean.³⁷¹⁵

On 30 October 2018, at the Our Ocean Conference in Indonesia, the United States announced 15 commitments to reinforce “sustainable management of marine resources,” prevent marine debris, support “research and observation of ocean ecosystems,” and create “partnerships promoting marine security and a sustainable blue economy.”³⁷¹⁶

On 30 November 2018, the United States signed the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA), in which the United States recognized the global nature of marine litter.³⁷¹⁷ Additionally, the Environmental Protection Agency and Department of State negotiated a new Agreement on Environmental Cooperation with Canada and Mexico.³⁷¹⁸ The new agreement will support the CUSMA’s environmental policies and improve collective efforts to reduce marine litter and address other urgent environmental issues.³⁷¹⁹

³⁷¹² The Washington Marine Debris Action Plan, Marine Debris Program Office of Response and Restoration (Silver Spring) September 2018. Access Date: 17 September 2018. <https://marinedebris.noaa.gov/regional-action-plan/washington-marine-debris-action-plan>.

³⁷¹³ S.3508 — Save Our Seas Act of 2018, Congress (Washington D. C.) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3508/text/cps?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22S.+3508%22%5D%7D&r=1>.

³⁷¹⁴ International Agreement to Prevent Unregulated High Seas Fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean (Ottawa) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 26 October 2018. <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/international/arctic-arctique-eng.htm>.

³⁷¹⁵ EU and Arctic partners enter historic agreement to prevent unregulated fishing in high seas — Frequently Asked Questions, European Commission (Brussels) 3 October 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/eu-and-arctic-partners-enter-historic-agreement-prevent-unregulated-fishing-high-seas-%E2%80%93-frequently_en

³⁷¹⁶ U.S. Commitments Announced at Our Ocean 2018, U.S. Department of State (Washington D. C.) 30 October 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/e/oes/rls/other/2018/286990.htm>.

³⁷¹⁷ Agreement between the United States of America, the United Mexican States, and Canada Text, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D. C.) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018. <https://ustr.gov/trade-agreements/free-trade-agreements/united-states-mexico-canada-agreement/agreement-between#>.

³⁷¹⁸ The United States, Mexico, and Canada Conclude Negotiations on a Trilateral Agreement on Environmental Cooperation, United States Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D. C.) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/united-states-mexico-and-canada-conclude-negotiations-trilateral-agreement>.

³⁷¹⁹ The United States, Mexico, and Canada Conclude Negotiations on a Trilateral Agreement on Environmental Cooperation, United States Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D. C.) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/united-states-mexico-and-canada-conclude-negotiations-trilateral-agreement>.

On 7 February 2019, Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez introduced a resolution to recognize the duty of the federal government to create a Green New Deal.³⁷²⁰ This resolution focuses on combatting climate change, reducing greenhouse emissions and preventing oceans from abuse.³⁷²¹

On 21 February 2019, Assembly Bill-1080 was introduced in the California Legislature. The assembly bill requires the department to adopt regulations that would reduce or recycle at least 75% of single-use plastic products in California by 2030.³⁷²² In addition, the bill would also require all single-use products distributed or sold in California to be recyclable or compostable.³⁷²³

On 5-6 May 2019, the US participated in the G7 Environment Ministers meeting in Metz, where France and the UN Environment Mediterranean Action Plan presented the “G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter in Synergy with the Regional Seas Conventions Workshop.”³⁷²⁴ Attendees concluded that cooperation with regional fisheries organizations and knowledge-sharing of best practices are necessary to address marine litter.³⁷²⁵ This workshop advances the G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter.³⁷²⁶

The United States has promoted the harmonization of its monitoring methodologies with its G7 counterparts and other states on a policy level. While the US has explored collaborative research regarding marine litter between various government agencies and academic institutions, such collaboration did not occur on an international level or through partnerships with institutions such as the UNEP.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Angela Min Yi Hou and Mingyang Deng

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to promote the harmonization of monitoring methodologies for marine litter and collaboration on research on its impacts, in cooperation, for example with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to facilitate this work.

On 20 June 2018, along with UNEP, the European Commission adopted the “2018 Oceans roadmap 2.0,” which addresses ocean pollution and litter. The two parties reaffirmed their commitment to protecting oceans by “addressing land-based sources to combat marine pollution, working through

³⁷²⁰ Recognizing the duty of the Federal Government to create a Green New Deal (Washington D. C.) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://ocasio-cortez.house.gov/sites/ocasio-cortez.house.gov/files/Resolution%20on%20a%20Green%20New%20Deal.pdf>.

³⁷²¹ Recognizing the duty of the Federal Government to create a Green New Deal (Washington D. C.) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://ocasio-cortez.house.gov/sites/ocasio-cortez.house.gov/files/Resolution%20on%20a%20Green%20New%20Deal.pdf>.

³⁷²² AB-1080 California Circular Economy and Plastic Pollution Reduction Act. (Sacramento) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200AB1080.

³⁷²³ AB-1080 California Circular Economy and Plastic Pollution Reduction Act. (Sacramento) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200AB1080.

³⁷²⁴ G7 environment ministers meet to discuss climate crisis, France 24 (Paris) 5 May 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190505-g7-environment-ministers-meet-discuss-climate-crisis>.

³⁷²⁵ On Marine Litter, A G7 Workshop in France Highlights The Central Role of Regional Seas Conventions, HELCOM (Helsinki) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 20 May 2019. <http://www.helcom.fi/news/Pages/G7-workshop-on-marine-litter-in-metz.aspx>.

³⁷²⁶ On Marine Litter, A G7 Workshop in France Highlights The Central Role of Regional Seas Conventions, HELCOM (Helsinki) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 20 May 2019. <http://www.helcom.fi/news/Pages/G7-workshop-on-marine-litter-in-metz.aspx>.

existing governance structures to share best practices and lessons learned and supporting healthy marine and coastal ecosystems, which can help strengthen capacity for sustainable fisheries.” A ten-step roadmap was produced to encourage other governments to follow suit, and the roadmap discussed the mixed impacts of and measures to curb single-use plastics.³⁷²⁷

On 9 July, the EU Think Tank published a report titled “Marine Litter: Single-Use Plastics and Fishing Gear.” The study examines the viability of the European Commission’s impact assessment of a Plastics Strategy directive to reduce marine litter by targeting ten of the most common single-use plastic products found on European beaches and oceans. The study found that while policies adhere to scientific research, the European Commission did not address how businesses will invest in alternative materials and innovation.³⁷²⁸

On 10 July 2018, the European Parliament’s environment committee voted to strengthen the European Commission’s Plastics Strategy. This entails increased efforts to cut plastic pollution by banning microplastics in cosmetics and hygiene products and oxo-degradable plastics by 2020. This new Plastics Strategy also discourages the use of biodegradable and compostable plastics. Furthermore, the EU proposed to invest the revenue accumulated from taxing plastic production in preventing plastic waste.³⁷²⁹

On 16 July 2018, the EU and China signed a Partnership Agreement on Oceans to improve and harmonize international governance of oceans. This agreement combats illegal fishing and identifies novel business and research opportunities based on clean technologies. The partnership outlines precise strategies to protect oceans from plastic litter using approaches in accordance with the Paris Agreement and by implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.³⁷³⁰

On 19 July 2018, the EU threatened legal action against Sweden for failing to comply with EU environmental laws. In a formal notice, the EU prompted Sweden to fully enact the Environmental Liability Directive into its national legislation. The directive necessitated that polluters pay compensation for environmental damage, a law that aims to deter pollution and prevent damage to water bodies, soil, and animals.³⁷³¹

On 31 July 2018, the European Commission published a report entitled “assessing Member States’ programmes of measures under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive.” This report outlines the progress of the EU member states’ marine strategies over the past six years, with the goal of achieving “good environmental status.” The report concludes that while the Member States have

³⁷²⁷ Roadmap to healthier, cleaner oceans adopted by UN Environment and European Commission, UN Environment (Brussels) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 10 September 2018. <https://www.unenvironment.org/news-and-stories/press-release/roadmap-healthier-cleaner-oceans-adopted-un-environment-and-european>.

³⁷²⁸ Marine litter: single-use plastics and fishing gear, European Parliament (Brussels) July 2018. Access Date: 16 September 2018. [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2018/621843/EPRS_BRI\(2018\)621843_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2018/621843/EPRS_BRI(2018)621843_EN.pdf)

³⁷²⁹ EU Parliaments backs microplastic bans to tackle plastic pollution, EEB (Brussels) 10 July 2018. Access Date: 10 September 2018. <http://eeb.org/eu-parliament-backs-microplastic-bans-to-tackle-plastic-pollution/>.

³⁷³⁰ European Commission — Press release EU-China Summit: deepening the strategic global partnership, European Commission (Beijing) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4521_en.htm.

³⁷³¹ European Commission — Fact Sheet July infringements package: key decisions, European Commission (Brussels) 19 July 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-18-4486_en.htm.

made considerable progress with their programmes, achieving “good environmental status” by 2020 remains unlikely.³⁷³²

On 13 September 2018, the members of the European Parliament voted in favour of a resolution on the European Commission’s Plastics Strategy entitled “A European Strategy for Plastics in a Circular Economy.”³⁷³³ The strategy aims for all plastics to be reusable or recyclable by 2030.³⁷³⁴

On 13 September 2018, the European Parliament voted in favour of a resolution to address the interface between chemical, product and waste legislation. This resolution beckons the European Commission to adopt a plan “to prevent hazardous chemicals from entering the material cycle.”³⁷³⁵

On 25 September 2018, the European Commission and the United Nations Environment Programme co-hosted an event to launch the Global Plastics Platform. The Global Plastics Platform is a network aimed at supporting countries with plastics strategies and promoting their transitions to a circular economy.³⁷³⁶ At the event, the First Vice-President of the European Commission Frans Timmermans invited other countries to follow the EU Plastics Strategy and proposed that government and industry should work together.³⁷³⁷

On 3 October 2018, the EU signed a legally binding international agreement to prevent unregulated commercial fishing in the high seas of the Central Arctic Ocean. The parties involved, including Japan, the United States, and Canada will also commence a Joint Program of Scientific Research and Monitoring to oversee the ecosystems of the Central Arctic Ocean.³⁷³⁸

On 11 October 2018, the European Commission launched a new bioeconomy strategy for a sustainable Europe. This new strategy focuses on the circular nature of the bioeconomy, such as its capacity to recycle plastic and convert waste into new goods.³⁷³⁹ The European Commission insists that the bioeconomy will support shifts towards healthier ecosystems such as plastic-free seas and

³⁷³² Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council: Assessing Member States’ programmes of measure under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, European Commission (Brussels) 31 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2018%3A562%3AFIN&qid=1533034580736>

³⁷³³ Texts Adopted: A European Strategy for Plastics in a Circular Economy, European Commission (Strasbourg) 13 September 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P8-TA-2018-0352+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=EN>

³⁷³⁴ EU strategy to cut plastic waste: more recycling, ban on micro-plastics, European Parliament (Brussels) 13 September 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/society/20180830STO11347/eu-strategy-to-cut-plastic-waste-more-recycling-ban-on-micro-plastics>

³⁷³⁵ Texts adopted: Options to address the interface between chemical, product and waste legislation, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 13 September 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?type=MOTION&reference=B8-2018-0363&language=EN>

³⁷³⁶ Nations commit to fight plastic pollution together during the UN General Assembly, United Nations Environment Programme (New York) 25 September 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. <https://www.unenvironment.org/news-and-stories/press-release/nations-commit-fight-plastic-pollution-together-during-un-general>

³⁷³⁷ European Commission — Daily News Daily News 26/09/2018 (Brussels) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-5913_en.htm

³⁷³⁸ EU and Arctic partners enter historic agreement to prevent unregulated fishing in high seas — Frequently Asked Questions, European Commission (Brussels) 3 October 2018. Access Date: 25 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/eu-and-arctic-partners-enter-historic-agreement-prevent-unregulated-fishing-high-seas-%E2%80%93-frequently_en

³⁷³⁹ European Commission — Press release A new bioeconomy strategy for a sustainable Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6067_en.htm

oceans. This new strategy highlights the importance of innovation, and the European Commission plans to increase funding for bioeconomy research.³⁷⁴⁰

On 26 November 2018, Commissioner Karmenu Vella attended the Blue Economy Conference in Nairobi, Kenya.³⁷⁴¹ A new initiative, Go Blue, was introduced as a collaborative effort between the EU and the Government of Kenya.³⁷⁴² This initiative will be dedicated to “promoting sustainable economic growth, sea-land development and maritime law enforcement” in Kenya.³⁷⁴³

On 13 December 2018, the European Parliament and the Council of the EU approved a Directive “on port reception facilities for the delivery of waste from ships” through a provisional agreement.³⁷⁴⁴ This directive focuses on the reduction of marine litter and waste accumulated from ships, stating that all litter generated on ships must be returned to land.³⁷⁴⁵ The directive is enforced through monitoring methodologies such as inspections and a digital reporting system.³⁷⁴⁶

On 19 December 2018, the European Parliament and the Council of the EU reached an agreement, approving the new directive proposed in May 2018 about the elimination of fishing gear and 10 single-use plastics that constitute the majority of marine litter.³⁷⁴⁷ This consensus on marine litter pollution requires EU member states to initiate the policy within two years.³⁷⁴⁸

On 30 January 2019, upon request by the European Commission, the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) researched the environmental consequences of microplastics and concluded that the EU should proceed with an EU-wide restriction on microplastics.³⁷⁴⁹ The next steps include a six-month public consultation period and consultations with the Risk Assessment and Socio-Economic Analysis

³⁷⁴⁰ A sustainable bioeconomy for Europe: strengthening the connection between economy, society and the environment, European Commission (Luxembourg) October 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018.

https://ec.europa.eu/research/bioeconomy/pdf/ec_bioeconomy_strategy_2018.pdf — view=fit&pagemode=none

³⁷⁴¹ Towards a Sustainable Blue Economy in Kenya (Nairobi) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019.

https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/kenya_en/54550/Towards%20a%20Sustainable%20Blue%20Economy%20in%20Kenya.

³⁷⁴² Towards a Sustainable Blue Economy in Kenya (Nairobi) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019.

https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/kenya_en/54550/Towards%20a%20Sustainable%20Blue%20Economy%20in%20Kenya.

³⁷⁴³ Towards a Sustainable Blue Economy in Kenya (Nairobi) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019.

https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/kenya_en/54550/Towards%20a%20Sustainable%20Blue%20Economy%20in%20Kenya.

³⁷⁴⁴ European Commission – Daily News Daily News 13/12/2018 (Brussels) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-6807_en.htm.

³⁷⁴⁵ European Commission – Daily News Daily News 13/12/2018 (Brussels) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-6807_en.htm.

³⁷⁴⁶ European Commission – Daily News Daily News 13/12/2018 (Brussels) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-6807_en.htm.

³⁷⁴⁷ European Commission - Press release Single-use plastics: Commission welcomes ambitious agreement on new rules to reduce marine litter, European Commission (Brussels) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 9 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6867_en.htm.

³⁷⁴⁸ European Commission - Press release Single-use plastics: Commission welcomes ambitious agreement on new rules to reduce marine litter, European Commission (Brussels) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 9 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6867_en.htm.

³⁷⁴⁹ European Commission welcomes ECHA’s opinion on restricting microplastics intentionally added to products, European Commission (Brussels) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2019.

https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/european-commission-welcomes-echas-opinion-restricting-microplastics-intentionally-added-products-2019-jan-30_en.

Committees of ECHA, the outcomes of which the European Commission will consider when modifying current policies associated with microplastics.³⁷⁵⁰

On 27 March 2019, the European Parliament agreed on the European Commission's strategies to limit single-use plastics.³⁷⁵¹ The new rules include bans on single-use products where there are alternatives, measures to reduce unnecessary packaging, Extended User Responsibility schemes (such as covering clean-up costs), and separate collection of plastic bottles.³⁷⁵² Next, the Council of Ministers must finalize details for the strategies to be officially adopted.³⁷⁵³

From 5 to 6 May 2019, the EU participated in the G7 Environment Ministers meeting in Metz, where France and the UN Environment Mediterranean Action Plan presented the "G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter in Synergy with the Regional Seas Conventions Workshop."³⁷⁵⁴ Attendees concluded that cooperation with regional fisheries organizations and knowledge-sharing of best practices are necessary to address marine litter.³⁷⁵⁵ This workshop advances the G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter.³⁷⁵⁶

On 21 May 2019, the EU adopted a set of rules aimed at reducing single-use plastics. The rules were discussed in the European Parliament, and they involve bans on single-use plastics where alternatives are available, including products such as straws and cutlery. The rules are to become actionable 20 days after the publication, and intend to focus on consumption and waste management measures.³⁷⁵⁷

The EU has acted to enhance collaborative expertise-sharing and development with partners in international institutions, within the EU consortium and with bilateral partners outside the region such as China. It has harmonized monitoring methodologies for marine litter and demonstrated collaborative research on the impacts of marine litter.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Sofia Louise Lopez and Nora Moidu

³⁷⁵⁰ European Commission welcomes ECHA's opinion on restricting microplastics intentionally added to products, European Commission (Brussels) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/european-commission-welcomes-echas-opinion-restricting-microplastics-intentionally-added-products-2019-jan-30_en.

³⁷⁵¹ European Commission – Statement Circular Economy: Commission welcomes European Parliament adoption of new rules on single-use plastics to reduce marine litter, European Commission (Brussels) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-1873_en.htm.

³⁷⁵² European Commission – Statement Circular Economy: Commission welcomes European Parliament adoption of new rules on single-use plastics to reduce marine litter, European Commission (Brussels) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-1873_en.htm.

³⁷⁵³ European Commission – Statement Circular Economy: Commission welcomes European Parliament adoption of new rules on single-use plastics to reduce marine litter, European Commission (Brussels) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-1873_en.htm.

³⁷⁵⁴ G7 environment ministers meet to discuss climate crisis, France 24 (Paris) 5 May 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190505-g7-environment-ministers-meet-discuss-climate-crisis>.

³⁷⁵⁵ On Marine Litter, A G7 Workshop in France Highlights The Central Role of Regional Seas Conventions, HELCOM (Helsinki) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 20 May 2019. <http://www.helcom.fi/news/Pages/G7-workshop-on-marine-litter-in-metz.aspx>.

³⁷⁵⁶ On Marine Litter, A G7 Workshop in France Highlights The Central Role of Regional Seas Conventions, HELCOM (Helsinki) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 20 May 2019. <http://www.helcom.fi/news/Pages/G7-workshop-on-marine-litter-in-metz.aspx>.

³⁷⁵⁷ European Commission – Press Release Circular Economy: Commission welcomes Council final adoption of new rules on single-use plastics to reduce marine plastic litter, European Commission (Brussels) 21 May 2019. Access Date: 9 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2631_en.htm.

17. Energy: Energy Security

“We commit to ongoing action to strengthen our collective energy security and demonstrate leadership in ensuring that our energy systems continue to drive sustainable economic growth.”

G7 Charlevoix Summit Communiqué

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+1.00		

Background

With growing concerns over climate change in the sphere of global governance, global energy security has been brought to the forefront as a significant challenge. At the 2006 G8 Summit in St. Petersburg, G8 members outlined an extensive framework to address the issue of global energy security.³⁷⁵⁸ This framework, titled the Plan of Action on Global Energy Security, included the following priority challenges to address:³⁷⁵⁹

- High and volatile oil prices;
- Growing demand for energy (estimated to rise by more than 50 percent by 2030, approximately 80 percent of which would still be met by fossil fuels, which are limited resources);
- Increasing import dependence in many countries;
- Enormous investment requirements along the entire energy chain;
- The need to protect the environment and to tackle climate change;
- The vulnerability of the critical energy infrastructure;
- Political instability, natural disasters and other threats.

Furthermore, G8 leaders agreed at the St. Petersburg Summit to commit to the following:³⁷⁶⁰

- Strong global economic growth, effective market access, and investment in all stages of the energy supply chain;

³⁷⁵⁸ Global Energy Security, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 2006. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/energy.html>

³⁷⁵⁹ Global Energy Security, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 2006. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/energy.html>

³⁷⁶⁰ Global Energy Security, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 2006. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/energy.html>

- Open, transparent, efficient and competitive markets for energy production, supply, use, transmission and transit services as a key to global energy security;
- Transparent, equitable, stable and effective legal and regulatory frameworks, including the obligation to uphold contracts, to generate sufficient, sustainable international investments upstream and downstream;
- Enhanced dialogue on relevant stakeholders' perspectives on growing interdependence, security of supply and demand issues;
- Diversification of energy supply and demand, energy sources, geographical and sectoral markets, transportation routes and means of transport;
- Promotion of energy saving and energy efficiency measures through initiatives on both national and international levels;
- Environmentally sound development and use of energy, and deployment and transfer of clean energy technologies which help to tackle climate change;
- Promotion of transparency and good governance in the energy sector to discourage corruption;
- Cooperative energy emergency response, including the coordinated planning of strategic stocks;
- Safeguarding critical energy infrastructure; and
- Addressing the energy challenges for the poorest populations in developing countries.

In order to adhere to these commitments, the G8 leaders agreed to take action in the following areas:³⁷⁶¹

- Increasing transparency, predictability and stability of global energy markets;
- Improving the investment climate in the energy sector;
- Enhancing energy efficiency and energy saving;
- Diversifying energy mix;
- Ensuring the physical security of critical energy infrastructure;
- Reducing energy poverty
- Addressing climate change and sustainable development.

Energy security has been on the agenda of G7 summitry since its inception. In fact, the creation of the G7 was partly prompted by the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries energy crisis.³⁷⁶² Several energy-related commitments made at the 2006 St. Petersburg summit were reiterated at the 2018 Charlevoix Summit. However, not all G7 members agreed to all the energy-

³⁷⁶¹ Global Energy Security, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 2006. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/energy.html>

³⁷⁶² Explaining Compliance with International Energy Commitments: The G8 and the IEA, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 March 2016. Access Date: 13 October 2018. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/scholar/panova_060324.pdf

related commitments addressed in the final communique, the United States being a notable exception.³⁷⁶³

Commitment Features

The first part of the commitment specifies that energy security must be strengthened collectively through ongoing action. “Strengthen” is defined as “to make or become stronger,” which indicates that the G7 members must act to reinforce and enhance existing energy security-related measures. “Collective” reflects that this commitment binds G7 members to strengthen collective energy security through collaboration with other G7 members or international organizations. Examples of actions that count towards compliance for the first portion of the commitment include contributing to improving the global energy security framework, bilateral or multilateral energy security treaties; addressing energy security issues in the Global South; and increasing international energy transparency. Actions taken domestically or independently of other countries or international organizations do not count towards compliance. Moreover, the word “ongoing” reflects that the G7 member must act in a way that demonstrates consistent, continuous action or long-term consideration.

The second part of the commitment specifies that G7 members must “demonstrate leadership in ensuring that its energy systems contribute to sustainable economic growth.” Actions to ensure that energy systems contribute to sustainable economic growth include efforts to address renewable energy systems domestically, or to ensure that domestic systems are in line with the basic framework outlined in the Plan of Action on Global Energy Security, adopted the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit. Actions such as diversifying energy sources, investing in renewable and/or clean energy, strengthening the transparency of domestic regulations in the energy sector, and promoting energy efficiency count towards compliance for the second portion of the commitment.

Some actions can simultaneously serve as evidence for compliance towards both sections of the commitment. For example, the international transfer of clean energy technology qualifies for both the latter and former parts of compliance.

To achieve full compliance, the G7 member must comply with both components of this commitment: the former referring to international action, and the latter referring to domestic action. For a score of full compliance, or +1, the G7 member needs to have taken continuous policy action to support energy security with its G7 or global counterparts, while taking ambitious strides to achieve sustainable growth via solutions such as clean and renewable energy.

A G7 member will be assigned partial compliance if it only completes the former or latter portion of the commitment. In the scenario where a G7 member acts in a temporary and minimal way to collaborate with other G7 partners in the field of energy security while driving its domestic economy with substantial technological breakthroughs in the renewable energy sector, the G7 member will receive a score of 0. For example, attending a conference or a verbal reiteration of support is considered less strong than policy actions that constitute “strengthen[ing]” collective energy security. Additionally, if the G7 member takes only some action in both areas, it will also receive a 0.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be attributed to G7 members who have failed to demonstrate action that fulfils either portion of the commitment during the compliance period.

³⁷⁶³ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has not taken ongoing action to strengthen collective energy security NOR demonstrate leadership in ensuring that its energy systems continue to drive sustainable economic growth.
0	The G7 member has taken ongoing action to strengthen collective energy security OR demonstrate leadership in ensuring that its energy systems continue to drive sustainable economic growth.
+1	The G7 member has taken ongoing action to strengthen collective energy security AND demonstrate leadership in ensuring that its energy systems continue to drive sustainable economic growth.

*Compliance Director: Ian Stansbury
Lead Analyst: Joe Wu*

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen collective energy security and demonstrate leadership in ensuring that its energy systems continue to drive sustainable economic growth.

On 10 July 2018, Kim Rudd, the Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Natural Resources Jim Carr, announced that Canada invested CAD2.2 billion in two research projects on reducing the methane emissions of oil and gas.³⁷⁶⁴

On 17 August 2018, Minister of Natural Resources Amarjeet Sohi launched the Sky's the Limit Challenge, an initiative to encourage the domestic development of sustainable aviation fuels. The government noted that "while the Canadian aviation sector has made significant investments in a fuel-efficient fleet, other measures such as sustainable aviation fuel will be required to achieve industry targets of carbon-neutral growth by 2020 and a 50 per cent reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by 2050."³⁷⁶⁵

On 20 September 2018, Minister Sohi announced that Canada will be diversifying its energy inputs by investing in renewable tidal energy in Nova Scotia. Minister Sohi indicated that the investment will "support a low-carbon future while encouraging businesses to innovate."³⁷⁶⁶ The initiative is a part of a broader plan, the Emerging Renewable Power Program, which aims to fund "large size, utility-scale electricity generation projects from renewable energy resources that have not yet been commercially deployed in Canada."³⁷⁶⁷ CAD29.8 billion has been earmarked for the project.³⁷⁶⁸

³⁷⁶⁴ Canada Invests in Clean Technologies to Reduce Methane Emissions, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 10 July 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/07/canada-invests-in-clean-technologies-to-reduce-methane-emissions.html>

³⁷⁶⁵ Challenging Canadian Innovators to Develop Cleaner Aviation Fuel, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 17 August 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/08/challenging-canadian-innovators-to-develop-cleaner-aviation-fuel.html>

³⁷⁶⁶ Minister Sohi Announces Major Investment in Renewable Tidal Energy That Will Power 2,500 Homes in Nova Scotia, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/09/minister-sohi-announces-major-investment-in-renewable-tidal-energy-that-will-power-2500-homes-in-nova-scotia.html>

³⁷⁶⁷ Emerging Renewable Power Program, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 11 July 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/energy/funding/20502>

³⁷⁶⁸ Minister Sohi Announces Major Investment in Renewable Tidal Energy That Will Power 2,500 Homes in Nova Scotia, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/09/minister-sohi-announces-major-investment-in-renewable-tidal-energy-that-will-power-2500-homes-in-nova-scotia.html>

On 28 September 2018, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Navdeep Bains announced that Canada will invest CAD1 million in the University of Lethbridge for research on green polymer technologies.³⁷⁶⁹ These technologies aim to “help make biodegradable plastics more competitive and efficient to produce and further help reduce the impact of consuming plastics on the environment.”³⁷⁷⁰

On 16 October 2018, Minister Sohi jointly announced the Power Forward Challenge initiative with the UK High Commissioner to Canada Jane le Jeune d’Allegeershecque. This initiative is “a 30-month transatlantic competition challenging Canadian and British innovators to create new technology solutions to transform [Canada’s] traditional power grids into smart energy systems.”³⁷⁷¹ Of the initiative’s CAD20 million in total funding, Canada is committing CAD10 million to the project.³⁷⁷² Minister Sohi stated that “technology is affording us an unprecedented opportunity to create a smarter, more resilient energy system. Canada is investing in smart grid technology and working with industry — in Canada and in the United Kingdom — to build a cleaner, safer, better-connected electricity systems.”³⁷⁷³

On 26 October 2018, Minister Bains and Minister of National Defense Harjit Singh Sajjan jointly announced a CAD49.3 million investment in General Fusion, a clean energy firm researching the application of nuclear fusion, via the federal Strategic Innovative Fund.³⁷⁷⁴ Bains stated that “[the project] has the real potential to transform how the world generates abundant clean energy, [helping Canada] reduce [its] environmental impacts.”³⁷⁷⁵

On 28 November 2018, the National Research Council of Canada and Natural Resources Canada announced that the National Energy Code of Canada for Buildings of 2017 (NECB 2017) will be provided free of charge for the first time, “building on Canada’s commitment [to] the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change to meet emission reduction targets, grow the

³⁷⁶⁹ New Green Polymer Technologies Will Benefit the Environment, Manufacturers and Consumers, Western Economic Diversification Canada (Edmonton) 28 September 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/western-economic-diversification/news/2018/09/new-green-polymer-technologies-will-benefit-the-environment-manufacturers-and-consumers.html>

³⁷⁷⁰ New Green Polymer Technologies Will Benefit the Environment, Manufacturers and Consumers, Western Economic Diversification Canada (Edmonton) 28 September 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/western-economic-diversification/news/2018/09/new-green-polymer-technologies-will-benefit-the-environment-manufacturers-and-consumers.html>

³⁷⁷¹ Canada and U.K. Launch \$20-Million Transatlantic Challenge to Develop the Smart Energy Systems of the Future, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 16 October 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/10/canada-and-uk-launch-20-million-transatlantic-challenge-to-develop-the-smart-energy-systems-of-the-future.html>

³⁷⁷² Canada and U.K. Launch \$20-Million Transatlantic Challenge to Develop the Smart Energy Systems of the Future, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 16 October 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/10/canada-and-uk-launch-20-million-transatlantic-challenge-to-develop-the-smart-energy-systems-of-the-future.html>

³⁷⁷³ Canada and U.K. Launch \$20-Million Transatlantic Challenge to Develop the Smart Energy Systems of the Future, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 16 October 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/10/canada-and-uk-launch-20-million-transatlantic-challenge-to-develop-the-smart-energy-systems-of-the-future.html>

³⁷⁷⁴ Government of Canada Sets Sights on Transformative Carbon-Free Energy Technology in British Columbia, Cision (Ottawa) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-sets-sights-on-transformative-carbon-free-energy-technology-in-british-columbia-698678091.html>

³⁷⁷⁵ Government of Canada Sets Sights on Transformative Carbon-Free Energy Technology in British Columbia, Cision (Ottawa) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-sets-sights-on-transformative-carbon-free-energy-technology-in-british-columbia-698678091.html>

economy, and build resilience to a changing climate.”³⁷⁷⁶ Minister Sohi stated that NECB 2017 “[helps] improve Canada’s economy while protecting the environment ... and stimulating innovation in [Canada’s] growing building sector.”³⁷⁷⁷ Minister Bains expressed that “this will reduce the cost to business [and] encourage innovation ... while reducing pollution.”³⁷⁷⁸

On 12 December 2018, the government announced final regulations and plans to phase out coal and natural gas-fired electricity by 2030.³⁷⁷⁹

On 13 December 2018, in the wake of the 24th Conference of the Parties, the Powering Past Coal Alliance, jointly established by Canada and the UK in 2017, admitted several new members.³⁷⁸⁰ Canada also reiterated its commitment of CAD275 million to the World Bank to phase out coal and invest in renewable energy alternatives in developing countries, and an additional CAD2.65 billion in climate finance for developing countries from 2020-21.³⁷⁸¹

On 9 January 2019, Canada joined the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), and it was the final G7 member state to do so.³⁷⁸² Minister Sohi stated that “becoming an IRENA member will accelerate Canada’s efforts to build a clean energy future that will bring new economic growth and thousands of new, well-paying jobs.”³⁷⁸³ IRENA Director-General Adnan Z. Amin welcomed Canada’s accession, stating that “Canada has vast renewable energy resource potential and longstanding experience in low-carbon development that it can share through international cooperation.”³⁷⁸⁴

On 28 January 2019, Paul Lefebvre, Parliamentary Secretary to Minister Sohi, announced an investment of CAD4.2 million in two alternative energy projects in Nunavut and Quebec run by the

³⁷⁷⁶ Government of Canada Offers Latest Edition of the National Energy Code of Canada for Buildings for Free, Cision (Ottawa) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-offers-latest-edition-of-the-national-energy-code-of-canada-for-buildings-for-free-701460631.html>

³⁷⁷⁷ Government of Canada Offers Latest Edition of the National Energy Code of Canada for Buildings for Free, Cision (Ottawa) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-offers-latest-edition-of-the-national-energy-code-of-canada-for-buildings-for-free-701460631.html>

³⁷⁷⁸ Government of Canada Offers Latest Edition of the National Energy Code of Canada for Buildings for Free, Cision (Ottawa) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-offers-latest-edition-of-the-national-energy-code-of-canada-for-buildings-for-free-701460631.html>

³⁷⁷⁹ Canada’s Coal Power Phase-Out Reaches Another Milestone, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/12/canadas-coal-power-phase-out-reaches-another-milestone.html>

³⁷⁸⁰ The Government of Canada Welcomes New Powering Past Coal Members and Announces Support for Phasing Out Coal at Home and Abroad, Environmental and Climate Change Canada (Katowice) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/12/the-government-of-canada-welcomes-new-powering-past-coal-members-and-announces-support-for-phasing-out-coal-at-home-and-abroad.html>

³⁷⁸¹ The Government of Canada Welcomes New Powering Past Coal Members and Announces Support for Phasing Out Coal at Home and Abroad, Environmental and Climate Change Canada (Gatineau) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/12/the-government-of-canada-welcomes-new-powering-past-coal-members-and-announces-support-for-phasing-out-coal-at-home-and-abroad.html>

³⁷⁸² Canada Joins the International Renewable Energy Agency, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/01/canada-joins-the-international-renewable-energy-agency.html>

³⁷⁸³ Canada Joins the International Renewable Energy Agency, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/01/canada-joins-the-international-renewable-energy-agency.html>

³⁷⁸⁴ Canada Joins the International Renewable Energy Agency, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/01/canada-joins-the-international-renewable-energy-agency.html>

TUGLIQ Energy Corporation.³⁷⁸⁵ The first investment aims to increase the use of wind energy in a mine in Nunavut and reduce reliance on diesel. The second is focused on expanding renewable energy production and storage across several mines in Nunavik, Quebec.³⁷⁸⁶ Lefebvre noted that “today’s investments will help reduce reliance on diesel fuel and transform the energy landscape in Canada’s Arctic region. Our government is proud to support projects that will improve the region’s long-term economic stability and energy security, while reducing pollution and the environmental footprint of Canada’s northern mining operations and communities.”³⁷⁸⁷

On 12 February 2019, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities François-Philippe Champagne announced CAD2.1 million in funding for forty-two new Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) initiatives. This funding is aimed at reducing pollution and improving energy efficiency at the municipal level.³⁷⁸⁸ The initiatives, covered under the FCM Green Municipal Fund (CAD625 million) and Municipal Asset Management Program (CAD50 million), strive to improve existing infrastructure assets and encourage further cooperation with the private sector.³⁷⁸⁹

On 13 February 2019, Minister Sohi announced the Generating New Opportunities: Indigenous Off-Diesel Initiative, which aims to reduce reliance on diesel among indigenous communities. In addition to the previously committed CAD700 million, an additional CAD20 million has been earmarked for the initiative, which focuses on the development of clean energy projects at the community level.³⁷⁹⁰ Minister Sohi stated that “moving away from diesel means less pollution, cleaner air, lower energy costs, and local job opportunities. We are proud to partner with Indigenous communities as they develop innovative clean energy projects that will have benefits for generations to come.”³⁷⁹¹ Minister of Intergovernmental and Northern Affairs and Internal Trade Dominic LeBlanc expressed that “this initiative will reduce the environmental, social and economic impacts of diesel reliance, provide economic opportunities, and enable Indigenous communities to harness cleaner energy.”³⁷⁹²

On 29 May 2019, Canada hosted the 10th Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM) and the 4th Mission Innovation Ministerial, at which 25 countries, including all G7 member states, were present. During the conferences, Canada announced several initiatives including increased public investments in clean

³⁷⁸⁵ Government of Canada Promotes Renewable Energy Innovation in Mining, Natural Resources Canada (Vancouver) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-promotes-renewable-energy-innovation-in-mining.html>.

³⁷⁸⁶ Government of Canada Promotes Renewable Energy Innovation in Mining, Natural Resources Canada (Vancouver) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-promotes-renewable-energy-innovation-in-mining.html>.

³⁷⁸⁷ Government of Canada Promotes Renewable Energy Innovation in Mining, Natural Resources Canada (Vancouver) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-promotes-renewable-energy-innovation-in-mining.html>.

³⁷⁸⁸ Communities Receive Support for Clean Innovation and Infrastructure Planning, Infrastructure Canada (Ottawa) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2019/02/communities-receive-support-for-clean-innovation-and-infrastructure-planning.html>.

³⁷⁸⁹ Communities Receive Support for Clean Innovation and Infrastructure Planning, Infrastructure Canada (Ottawa) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2019/02/communities-receive-support-for-clean-innovation-and-infrastructure-planning.html>.

³⁷⁹⁰ Canada Launches Off-Diesel Initiative for Remote Indigenous Communities, Natural Resources Canada (Whitehouse) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/02/canada-launches-off-diesel-initiative-for-remote-indigenous-communities.html>.

³⁷⁹¹ Canada Launches Off-Diesel Initiative for Remote Indigenous Communities, Natural Resources Canada (Whitehouse) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/02/canada-launches-off-diesel-initiative-for-remote-indigenous-communities.html>.

³⁷⁹² Canada Launches Off-Diesel Initiative for Remote Indigenous Communities, Natural Resources Canada (Whitehouse) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/02/canada-launches-off-diesel-initiative-for-remote-indigenous-communities.html>.

energy innovation, which are projected to reach CAD775 million by 2020. First, the Breakthrough Energy Solutions Canada is a program that will provide up to CAD30 million to Canadian entrepreneurs in clean energy. Second, Canada signed a memorandum of understanding with Chile for further cooperation on energy security and climate change. Third, several CEM programs were designed to support renewable energy industries domestically.³⁷⁹³ Minister Sohi expressed that Canada would be committed to “continued collaboration with our international partners [so as to] advance the development of global clean energy policy, technology and innovation.”³⁷⁹⁴

On 30 May 2019, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change Catherine McKenna announced two programs aimed at helping small and medium-sized businesses attain greater energy efficiency. The first program is the Climate Action Incentive Fund, which will offer refunds and funding for costs incurred in the pursuit of new equipment and retrofitting. The second program entails the establishment of an External Advisory Committee to complement the former in providing guidance. Furthermore, Canada will reduce its small business tax rate to 9 per cent, the lowest such rate amongst all G7 member states. Close to CAD10 million will be earmarked for helping small businesses further improve energy efficiency.³⁷⁹⁵

On 4 June 2019, Minister McKenna announced that the Canadian government will invest in modernizing the heating and cooling systems of its National Capital Area via a partnership with Innovate Energy. Innovative Energy is an initiative slated for completion by 2025, and it is projected to reduce carbon pollution in the Ottawa-Gatineau area by 63 per cent while improving access to clean energy.³⁷⁹⁶

Canada has fully complied with this commitment by launching initiatives to diversify the national energy mix, investing in renewable energy and demonstrating a commitment to ensuring sustainable economic growth. Furthermore, it has taken steps towards strengthening collective energy security leadership with internal and external partners.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Trevor Yip

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen collective energy security and demonstrate leadership in ensuring that its energy systems continue to drive sustainable economic growth.

³⁷⁹³ Backgrounder: Canada Leads the World in Accelerating a Clean Energy Future, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 29 May 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/05/backgrounder-canada-leads-the-world-in-accelerating-a-clean-energy-future.html>.

³⁷⁹⁴ Canada Leads the World in Accelerating a Clean Energy Future, Natural Resources Canada (Vancouver) 29 May 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/05/canada-leads-the-world-in-accelerating-a-clean-energy-future.html>

³⁷⁹⁵ Canada to Help Small Businesses Invest in Energy-Saving Equipment and Retrofits, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 30 May 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/05/canada-to-help-small-businesses-invest-in-energy-saving-equipment-and-retrofits.html>.

³⁷⁹⁶ Government of Canada Invests in Cleaner Energy System for the National Capital Region, Public Services and Procurement Canada (Ottawa) 4 June 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-services-procurement/news/2019/06/government-of-canada-invests-in-cleaner-energy-system-for-the-national-capital-region0.html>.

On 26 July 2018, the European Commission approved a French project to build a tidal energy demonstration plant by Raz Blanchard, near the English Channel.³⁷⁹⁷ The plant is intended to be a pilot experiment for the viability of using tidal energy to diversify France's energy mix and achieve France's goal to have 23 percent of the country's energy produced from renewable sources by 2020.³⁷⁹⁸

On 26 July 2018, Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire indicated that nuclear energy, currently accounting for 75 percent of France's energy mix and previously declared to be cut to 50 percent by 2035, will remain central to France's energy policy. Minister Le Maire declared that "we will diversify the French energy mix by boosting renewable energy, but we will do this without weakening the nuclear sector."³⁷⁹⁹

On 12 August 2018, Secretary of State for Ecological Transition Brune Poirson announced that beginning in 2019, France will introduce a penalty system aimed at discouraging the use of non-recycled plastic in packaging.³⁸⁰⁰

On 5 September 2018, Prime Minister Édouard Philippe reaffirmed the government's support for its Climate Plan. Initially promulgated in 2017, the plan calls for a review of all policies under its purview to ensure that France attains its goal of keeping climate change below 2°C (also known as the "zero carbon" policy).^{3801,3802,3803}

On 22 October 2018, the European Commission approved EUR200 million in public support for the production of renewable energy in France until 2020, financed by France's state budget. This allocation will "support the deployment of 490MW of additional generation capacity."³⁸⁰⁴ European Commissioner for Competition Policy Margrethe Vestager noted that "this scheme will stimulate competition between renewable energy sources for self-suppliers and will further increase the share of renewables in France's energy mix. The technology-neutral tenders will contribute to France's transition to [a] low carbon and environmentally sustainable energy supply, in line with the EU environmental objectives and our state aid rules."³⁸⁰⁵

³⁷⁹⁷ State Aid: Commission Approves French Support for Tidal Energy Demonstration Plant Raz Blanchard, European Commission (Brussels) 26 July 2018. Access Date: 22 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4685_en.htm

³⁷⁹⁸ State Aid: Commission Approves French Support for Tidal Energy Demonstration Plant Raz Blanchard, European Commission (Brussels) 26 July 2018. Access Date: 22 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4685_en.htm

³⁷⁹⁹ Nuclear Energy to Remain Key for France: Finance Minister Le Maire, Reuters (Paris) 26 June 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/france-nuclearpower/nuclear-energy-to-remain-key-for-france-finance-minister-le-maire-idUSL8N1TS2OD>

³⁸⁰⁰ La guerre au plastique est déclarée, announce Brune Poirson, France 24 (Paris) 12 August 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018 <https://www.france24.com/fr/20180812-france-guerre-contre-plastique-brune-poirson-environnement-mesures-ecologie-solidarite>

³⁸⁰¹ Édouard Philippe: "Nous allons maintenir le cap," Government of France (Paris) 5 September 2018. Access Date: 23 October 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/partage/10476-seminaire-gouvernemental-de-rentree>

³⁸⁰² Plan Climat, Government of France (Paris) 16 August 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/action/plan-climat>

³⁸⁰³ AcTE — Accélérateur de la transition écologique, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 11 July 2018. Access Date: 22 October 2018. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/acte-accelerateur-transition-ecologique>

³⁸⁰⁴ State Aid: Commission Approves €200 million in Public Support for Renewable Energy for Self-Suppliers of Electricity in France, European Commission (Brussels) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6168_en.htm

³⁸⁰⁵ State Aid: Commission Approves €200 million in Public Support for Renewable Energy for Self-Suppliers of Electricity in France, European Commission (Brussels) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 24 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6168_en.htm

On 28 November 2018, President Emmanuel Macron announced plans to phase out France's last four coal reactors and 14 of its 58 nuclear reactors by 2022, in keeping with earlier initiatives to reduce the share of nuclear power in the national energy mix to 50 percent by 2025.³⁸⁰⁶ President Macron expressed that France will continue to abide by its obligations under 21st Conference of the Parties while exploring opportunities in geothermal energy and biogas production, both of which "have a lot of potential in many territories [and will] play an important role in [France's] energy mix."³⁸⁰⁷

On 16 December 2018, France and India held a comprehensive review of their bilateral partnership across several issue areas, including civil nuclear energy.³⁸⁰⁸ Both states have since adopted an action plan for the Jaitapur Nuclear Power Project, for which French Energy company EDF submitted a techno-commercial proposal.³⁸⁰⁹

On 21 January 2019, France opened bids for a 300-megawatt solar power project as part of its conversion plan for the country's oldest nuclear power plant Fessenheim.³⁸¹⁰ The conversion is part of the government's plan to increase the development of renewable energies.³⁸¹¹ Minister of Ecology François de Rugy stated that "the launch of the tender shows the commitment of the government on the conversion of Fessenheim. It will help develop local electricity production from renewable energies."³⁸¹² The European Commission has approved the EUR250 million project, stating that "the aid ... will contribute to the French and European objectives of energy efficiency and energy production from renewable sources, in line with the EU's environmental objectives, with possible distortions of competition state support being reduced to a minimum."³⁸¹³

On 25 January 2019, the Ministry of Ecology published a draft of its multi-year energy program plan known as PPE, outlining metropolitan France's energy policy for 2019-2023 and 2024-2028.³⁸¹⁴ The plan outlines key issue areas to be addressed in order to attain carbon neutrality by 2030. These issue areas include doubling national renewable energy capacity via public tenders, reducing energy

³⁸⁰⁶ In Energy Policy Pivot, France Will Shutter 14 Nuclear Reactors, Power Magazine (Houston) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. <https://www.powermag.com/in-energy-policy-pivot-france-will-shutter-14-nuclear-reactors/>

³⁸⁰⁷ In Energy Policy Pivot, France Will Shutter 14 Nuclear Reactors, Power Magazine (Houston) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. <https://www.powermag.com/in-energy-policy-pivot-france-will-shutter-14-nuclear-reactors/>

³⁸⁰⁸ India. France Review Strategic Ties, Focus on Space, N-Energy, The Tribune (New Delhi), 15 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/nation/india-france-review-strategic-ties-focus-on-space-n-energy/699081.html>.

³⁸⁰⁹ France Submits Techno-Commercial Offer for Jaitapur Nuclear Power Project, Business Today. 24 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.businesstoday.in/top-story/france-submits-techno-commercial-offer-for-jaitapur-nuclear-power-project/story/303697.html>.

³⁸¹⁰ France Opens 300 MW Solar Tender in Fessenheim Nuclear Conversion Plan, Reuters (Paris) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://uk.reuters.com/article/france-electricity-solar/france-opens-300-mw-solar-tender-in-fessenheim-nuclear-conversion-plan-idUKL8N1ZN23J>.

³⁸¹¹ France Opens 300 MW Solar Tender in Fessenheim Nuclear Conversion Plan, Reuters (Paris) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://uk.reuters.com/article/france-electricity-solar/france-opens-300-mw-solar-tender-in-fessenheim-nuclear-conversion-plan-idUKL8N1ZN23J>.

³⁸¹² France Opens 300 MW Solar Tender in Fessenheim Nuclear Conversion Plan, Reuters (Paris) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://uk.reuters.com/article/france-electricity-solar/france-opens-300-mw-solar-tender-in-fessenheim-nuclear-conversion-plan-idUKL8N1ZN23J>.

³⁸¹³ EU Approves France's Plan to Replace Nuclear Plant with 300 MW of PV, PV Magazine. 21 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.pv-magazine.com/2019/01/21/eu-approves-frances-plan-to-replace-nuclear-plant-with-300-mw-of-pv/>.

³⁸¹⁴ France to Double Renewables Capacity under 10-Year Energy Plan, Reuters (Paris) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-energy/france-to-double-renewables-capacity-under-10-year-energy-plan-idUSKCN1PJ1T0>.

consumption by seven per cent by 2023 and 14 per cent by 2028, diversifying France's energy mix to 27 per cent in renewables by 2023, 32 per cent by 2028, the decommissioning of 14 nuclear reactors by 2035, and an ultimate reduction of the share of nuclear power in the energy mix to 50 per cent by 2035.^{3815,3816,3817}

On 11 February 2019, France and Qatar concluded a 'strategic pact' focusing on economic, energy and security matters.³⁸¹⁸ Qatari Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al-Thani hailed the deal as a "new phase [for bilateral relations] ... This platform will include cooperation in different areas between the two countries, including defense security, regional security as well as energy, economy and culture."³⁸¹⁹ French Minister of Europe and External Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian noted that the deal would 'oblige' Paris and Doha to have regular meetings.³⁸²⁰

On 25 February 2019, the European Commission approved state aid for four floating demonstration offshore wind farms in France, with one to be situated in the Atlantic Ocean and three others in the Mediterranean.³⁸²¹ Each wind farm is projected to have a total installed capacity of 24 megawatts despite different construction, with "the objective [being] to test these different technological solutions, with the long-term goal to test [sic] this technology before deploying it on a larger scale."³⁸²² The European Commission noted that "the four projects will promote the use of electricity generated from renewable sources and will help France meet its climate targets, without unduly distorting competition."³⁸²³

On 14 March 2019, at the One Planet Summit held in Nairobi, President Macron announced that France will increase its contributions to the International Solar Alliance by EUR500 million. France is a founding member of the International Solar Alliance, and this increase in funding strives to better

³⁸¹⁵ France to Double Renewables Capacity under 10-Year Energy Plan, Reuters (Paris) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-energy/france-to-double-renewables-capacity-under-10-year-energy-plan-idUSKCN1PJ1T0>.

³⁸¹⁶ Programmation Pluriannuelle de l'Énergie : Le Projet Publié, Vie-Publique (Paris) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.vie-publique.fr/actualite/alaune/programmation-pluriannuelle-energie-projet-publie.html>.

³⁸¹⁷ Projet de Plan National Intégré Énergie-Climat de la France Janvier 2019, Ministry of Ecology (Paris) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.ecologie-solidaire.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/%5BPDF%5D%20Projet%20de%20Plan%20National%20Int%C3%A9gr%C3%A9%20Energie-Climat%20de%20la%20France%20-%20Janvier%202019.pdf>.

³⁸¹⁸ France Agrees 'Strategic' Pact with Qatar, France 24 (Doha) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190211-france-agrees-strategic-pact-with-qatar>.

³⁸¹⁹ France Agrees 'Strategic' Pact with Qatar, France 24 (Doha) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190211-france-agrees-strategic-pact-with-qatar>.

³⁸²⁰ France Agrees 'Strategic' Pact with Qatar, France 24 (Doha) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190211-france-agrees-strategic-pact-with-qatar>.

³⁸²¹ State Aid: Commission Approves Support for Four Floating Demonstration Offshore Wind Farms in France, European Commission (Brussels) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1412_en.htm?locale=en.

³⁸²² State Aid: Commission Approves Support for Four Floating Demonstration Offshore Wind Farms in France, European Commission (Brussels) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1412_en.htm?locale=en.

³⁸²³ State Aid: Commission Approves Support for Four Floating Demonstration Offshore Wind Farms in France, European Commission (Brussels) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1412_en.htm?locale=en.

aid the alliance's 121 member states in developing their solar energy capacities, with Africa being a major focus.³⁸²⁴

On 30 April 2019, the French Council of Ministers began deliberation and consideration of a new draft energy and climate change bill. The bill aims for zero net emissions and carbon neutrality by 2050, as opposed to the previous fourfold reduction and capping of operating times and emissions for thermal power plants, especially coal-fired plants.³⁸²⁵ The Senate is set to receive the draft bill for consideration by the end of June 2019.³⁸²⁶

On 2 May 2019, Minister Le Maire and the German Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy Peter Altmaier announced a new Franco-German consortium in light of the third meeting of the EU's European Battery Alliance, where EUR5-6 billion will be invested in the development of better electric car batteries. The German Economic Affairs Ministry called for funding applications for battery cell projects. These projects focus on sustainable methods in all stages of battery development. Minister Altmaier stated that the development and production of these cells would take place in Germany, France and other EU Member States.³⁸²⁷ The EU is expected to contribute EUR1.2 billion in subsidies for the project, pending member state approval, and European companies will contribute EUR4 billion.³⁸²⁸ The European Commission noted the importance of the technology for the "decarbonization of the European mobility sector" and its importance for the EU's long-term industrial competitiveness.³⁸²⁹

On 7 May 2019, France and Ireland announced that a bilateral 700-megawatt power link, the first of its kind for the two states, was approved and due for commission in 2026. The French government will cover 35 per cent of the EUR930 million cost. The European Commission declared that the project is eligible for EU financial support, with 60 per cent of its costs being covered. Ireland has expressed that the prospect of Brexit has made it imperative to establish Ireland's energy security and connections to Europe.³⁸³⁰

France has enacted initiatives to diversify its domestic energy mix and sustainable economic growth, and demonstrated leadership in pursuing collective energy security with external partners.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Trevor Yip

³⁸²⁴ La France augmente sa contribution à l'Alliance solaire internationale et veut en faire profiter l'Afrique, 20 Minutes (Nairobi) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://www.20minutes.fr/planete/2472987-20190314-france-augmente-contribution-alliance-solaire-internationale-veut-faire-profiter-afrique>

³⁸²⁵ French government makes progress on energy and climate bill, Euractiv (Paris) 3 May 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/energy/news/french-government-makes-progress-on-energy-and-climate-bill/>.

³⁸²⁶ French government makes progress on energy and climate bill, Euractiv (Paris) 3 May 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/energy/news/french-government-makes-progress-on-energy-and-climate-bill/>.

³⁸²⁷ Minister Altmaier: We want to quickly support companies with mature plans for battery cell production, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 2 May 2019. Access Date: 6 June 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190502-minister-altmaier-we-want-to-quickly-support-companies.html>

³⁸²⁸ Europe Launches Multibillion-Euro Initiative for Electric Car Batteries, Forbes (Paris) 2 May 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/davekeating/2019/05/02/europe-launches-multibillion-euro-initiative-for-electric-car-batteries/#49c3c9a33630>.

³⁸²⁹ EU, France and Germany Discuss Energy Innovation Cooperation, New Europe (Paris) 3 May 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://www.neweurope.eu/article/eu-france-and-germany-discuss-energy-innovation-cooperation>.

³⁸³⁰ France and Ireland Agree 700MW Interconnector, Energy Reporters (Paris) 7 May 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://www.energy-reporters.com/transmission/france-and-ireland-agree-700mw-interconnectors>.

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen collective energy security and demonstrate leadership in ensuring that its energy systems continue to drive sustainable economic growth.

On 11 July 2018, the Federal Cabinet adopted the 2018 Federal Report on Energy Research. The report provides a comprehensive overview of the federal government's energy research promotion policy and outlines progress made and current trends in the field of research promotion for modern energy technologies. Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy Peter Altmaier stated: "by funding energy research, the Federal Government makes a vital contribution towards implementing the energy transition ... such as forward-looking solutions for the energy transition in the transport sector via synthetic fuels, or research projects on energy supply for urban neighbourhoods."³⁸³¹

On 12 July 2018, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy adopted a joint declaration of Franco-German energy co-operation.³⁸³² The declaration outlines areas of future cooperation, including renewable energies, energy efficiency, and industry.³⁸³³

On 17 July 2018, Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy Peter Altmaier held the first Russian-Ukrainian energy talks at the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy in Berlin, Germany with European Commission Vice-President Maroš Šefčovič, Ukraine's Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin and Russia's Energy Minister Alexander Novak. The talks revolved around the future of Russian gas transits through Ukraine. The aims of the meeting were to create long-term solutions that meet the interests of all parties and discuss Ukraine's security interests.³⁸³⁴

On 27 July 2018, on behalf of the Federal Government, Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau acquired a 20 percent share of the currently-for-sale German transmission systems operator 50Hertz. The acquisition was made to protect critical energy infrastructure and security in Germany.³⁸³⁵ The government has the intention of selling these shares again in the future.³⁸³⁶

³⁸³¹ Minister Altmaier: "Energy research makes key contribution to the energy transition," Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 11 July 2018. Access Date: 4 October 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20180711-altmaier-energy-research-makes-key-contribution-to-the-energy-transition.html>

³⁸³² Altmaier and Hulot agree joint declaration on Franco-German energy cooperation, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 12 July 2018. Access Date: 4 October 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20180712-altmaier-und-hulot-agree-joint-declaration-on-franco-german-energy-cooperation.html>

³⁸³³ Altmaier and Hulot agree joint declaration on Franco-German energy cooperation, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 12 July 2018. Access Date: 4 October 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20180712-altmaier-und-hulot-agree-joint-declaration-on-franco-german-energy-cooperation.html>

³⁸³⁴ Minister Altmaier: Russian-Ukrainian energy talks at ministerial level in Berlin, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 17 July 2018. Access Date: 4 October 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20180717-altmaier-russian-ukrainian-energy-talks-at-ministerial-level-in-berlin.html>

³⁸³⁵ KfW acquires temporary stake in German TSO 50 Hertz on behalf of the Federation, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 27 July 2018. Access Date: 4 October 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20180727-kfw-acquires-temporary-stake-in-german-tso-50hertz-on-behalf-of-the-federation.html>

³⁸³⁶ KfW acquires temporary stake in German TSO 50 Hertz on behalf of the Federation, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 27 July 2018. Access Date: 4 October 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20180727-kfw-acquires-temporary-stake-in-german-tso-50hertz-on-behalf-of-the-federation.html>

On 14 August 2018, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy released the “Electricity Grid Action Plan.” In order to accelerate grid expansion, the plan focuses on improved internal auditing and the simplification of planning procedures. It also focuses on optimising existing grids by using new technologies and operating systems.³⁸³⁷ The release of the revised Grid Expansion Acceleration Act is expected to simplify the planning procedures for this plan.³⁸³⁸

On 24 September 2018, the Federal Cabinet adopted the 7th Energy Research Programme after a year and a half of research and consultation. The programme builds on its predecessor by addressing emerging problems and focusing on the next steps of the energy transition.³⁸³⁹ The government plans to spend 45 percent more on energy research and innovation to accelerate the integration of new technologies into the energy market.³⁸⁴⁰ The program also focuses on creating more robust renewable energy systems, including the digitalization of the energy sector, in order to minimize macroeconomic risks for the country.³⁸⁴¹

On 26 October 2018, Federal Minister Altmaier opened the second German-Turkish Energy Forum with the Turkish Energy Minister. The two ministers signed a Letter of Intent on future cooperation in the field of energy, referencing working groups in renewable energy, energy efficiency, infrastructure and sector coupling, and regulation.³⁸⁴²

On 26 November 2018, Federal Minister Altmaier met with the Energy Ministers of the Länder to discuss new grid expansions and their emphasis on the increased use of renewable energies in the grid. The ministers agreed on a package of measures for grid expansion, which will soon be implemented.³⁸⁴³

On 12 December 2018, the Federal Cabinet endorsed an act to accelerate power grid expansion. The act aims to accelerate authorisation procedures for power grids.³⁸⁴⁴ Energy Minister Altmaier stated: “the power grids are the backbone of the energy transition ... The revision aims to accelerate the

³⁸³⁷ Minister Altmaier: “The Electricity Grid Action Plan can help deliver a secure and affordable energy transition,” Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 14 August 2018. Access Date: 4 October 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20180814-altmaier-the-electricity-grid-action-plan-can-help-deliver-a-secure-and-affordable-energy-transition.html>

³⁸³⁸ Minister Altmaier: “The Electricity Grid Action Plan can help deliver a secure and affordable energy transition,” Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 14 August 2018. Access Date: 4 October 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20180814-altmaier-the-electricity-grid-action-plan-can-help-deliver-a-secure-and-affordable-energy-transition.html>

³⁸³⁹ 7th Energy Research Programme, BINE Information Service 20 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://www.bine.info/en/topics/news/neues-energieforschungsprogramm-heute-veroeffentlicht.pdf>

³⁸⁴⁰ Germany: Federal Government approves 7th energy research program, MarketWatch (San Francisco) 24 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <https://www.marketwatch.com/press-release/germany-federal-government-approves-7th-energy-research-program-2018-09-24>

³⁸⁴¹ 7th Energy Research Programme, BINE Information Service (Berlin) 20 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://www.bine.info/en/topics/news/neues-energieforschungsprogramm-heute-veroeffentlicht.pdf>

³⁸⁴² German-Turkish Energy Forum: minister aim to deepen cooperation on renewable energy, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20181026-german-turkish-energy-forum.html>

³⁸⁴³ Minister Altmaier: “The Federal Government and the Länder governments need to pull in the same direction to accelerate the grid expansion,” Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20181126-altmaier-federal-government-and-the-laender-governments-need-to-pull-in-the-same-direction-to-accelerate.html>

³⁸⁴⁴ Federal Cabinet endorses Act to accelerate the power grid expansion, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20181212-federal-cabinet-endorses-act-to-acce-erate-the-power-grid-expansion.html>

procedures without lowering environmental standards.”³⁸⁴⁵ The act makes it easier for grid operators to plan in a forward-looking way, such that power lines can be easily pulled when grids need to be expanded as the energy transition continues.³⁸⁴⁶

On 18 January 2019, Minister Altmaier travelled to The Hague for economic and energy policy talks. The Energy Minister engaged in talks regarding economic policy issues with German and Dutch representatives.³⁸⁴⁷ These meetings aimed to exchange views on energy challenges and solutions.³⁸⁴⁸ The Minister delivered the 16th Norbert Schmelzer Lecture on the political challenges of integrating the economy and ecology.³⁸⁴⁹

On 21 January 2019, the Federal Network Agency completed the Federal Sectoral Planning for the first section of the Ultranet power line. Ultranet will be one of the five high-voltage direct current transmission lines that serve as high capacity power highways.³⁸⁵⁰ This is a product of the Electricity Grid Action Plan to accelerate the optimization and expansion of electricity grids in the future.³⁸⁵¹

On 29 January 2019, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy and the Federal Office for Information Security jointly published a Standardisation Strategy for Cross-sector Digitalisation of the Energy Transition.³⁸⁵² This strategy aims to integrate renewables and electric mobility into the grid by digitising the energy grid and making it ‘smart.’³⁸⁵³ A key feature of this strategy is the introduction of smart metering gateways, which will provide suppliers with information regarding

³⁸⁴⁵ Federal Cabinet endorses Act to accelerate the power grid expansion, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20181212-federal-cabinet-endorses-act-to-acce-erate-the-power-grid-expansion.html>.

³⁸⁴⁶ Federal Cabinet endorses Act to accelerate the power grid expansion, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20181212-federal-cabinet-endorses-act-to-acce-erate-the-power-grid-expansion.html>.

³⁸⁴⁷ Federal Cabinet endorses Act to accelerate the power grid expansion, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20181212-federal-cabinet-endorses-act-to-acce-erate-the-power-grid-expansion.html>.

³⁸⁴⁸ Federal Cabinet endorses Act to accelerate the power grid expansion, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20181212-federal-cabinet-endorses-act-to-acce-erate-the-power-grid-expansion.html>.

³⁸⁴⁹ Minister Altmaier travels to The Hague for economic and energy policy talks, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190118-altmaier-reist-den-haag.html>.

³⁸⁵⁰ Minister Altmaier: “We have taken an important step in grid expansion,” Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190121-altmaier-we-have-taken-an-important-step-in-grid-expansion.html>.

³⁸⁵¹ Minister Altmaier: “We have taken an important step in grid expansion,” Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190121-altmaier-we-have-taken-an-important-step-in-grid-expansion.html>.

³⁸⁵² Roadmap for smart energy grids of the future, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190129-roadmap-for-smart-energy-grids-of-the-future.html>.

³⁸⁵³ Roadmap for smart energy grids of the future, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190129-roadmap-for-smart-energy-grids-of-the-future.html>.

energy generation and consumption.³⁸⁵⁴ The strategy also includes steps to develop the relevant standards needed for smart metering gateways to be continuously developed in the future.³⁸⁵⁵

On 9 April 2019, Minister Maas and Minister Altmaier opened the fifth Berlin Energy Transition Dialogue. Representatives from more than 50 countries convened to discuss the global shift to green energy. Minister Maas stated that “using renewable energy enables states to improve their own energy security.”³⁸⁵⁶

On 30 April 2019, State Secretary Dörr-Voß attended a meeting in Brussels to discuss the European Battery Alliance. She talked about how efficient batteries are vital for the future of electric mobility and renewable energy. She stated that the Economic Affairs Ministry has put aside EUR1 billion for financing German sub-projects.³⁸⁵⁷

On 2 May 2019, Minister Altmaier and French Finance Minister Le Maire announced a new Franco-German consortium in light of the third meeting of the EU’s European Battery Alliance, where EUR5-6 billion will be invested in the development of better electric car batteries. The German Economic Affairs Ministry called for funding applications for battery cell projects. These projects focus on sustainable methods in all stages of battery development. Minister Altmaier stated that the development and production of these cells would take place in Germany, France and other EU Member States.³⁸⁵⁸ The EU is expected to contribute EUR1.2 billion in subsidies for the project, pending member state approval, and European companies will contribute EUR4 billion.³⁸⁵⁹ The European Commission noted the importance of the technology for the “decarbonization of the European mobility sector” and its importance for the EU’s long-term industrial competitiveness.³⁸⁶⁰

On 13 May 2019, the Federal Economic Affairs Ministry presented selected projects from its “Innovation through Research” report. Many of the projects centered around links between the

³⁸⁵⁴ Roadmap for smart energy grids of the future, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190129-roadmap-for-smart-energy-grids-of-the-future.html>.

³⁸⁵⁵ Roadmap for smart energy grids of the future, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190129-roadmap-for-smart-energy-grids-of-the-future.html>.

³⁸⁵⁶ Maas and Altmaier: The future belongs to the energy transition, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 6 June 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190409-maas-and-altmaier-the-future-belongs-to-the-energy-transition.html>.

³⁸⁵⁷ State Secretary Dörr-Voß: European Battery Alliance convenes in Brussels: Economic Affairs Ministry presses ahead with battery cell production in Germany and Europe, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 30 April 2019. Access Date: 6 June 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190430-state-secretary-doerr-vo%C3%9F-european-battery-alliance-convenes-in-brussels.html>.

³⁸⁵⁸ Minister Altmaier: We want to quickly support companies with mature plans for battery cell production, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 2 May 2019. Access Date: 6 June 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190502-minister-altmaier-we-want-to-quickly-support-companies.html>

³⁸⁵⁹ Europe Launches Multibillion-Euro Initiative for Electric Car Batteries, Forbes (Paris) 2 May 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/davekeating/2019/05/02/europe-launches-multibillion-euro-initiative-for-electric-car-batteries/#49c3c9a33630>.

³⁸⁶⁰ EU, France and Germany Discuss Energy Innovation Cooperation, New Europe (Paris) 3 May 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://www.neweurope.eu/article/eu-france-and-germany-discuss-energy-innovation-cooperation>.

electricity, heating, cooling, and mobility sectors. The projects come after the government provided funding for 4036 energy research projects in 2018.³⁸⁶¹

Through its consistent support of renewable energy research and innovation and its collaboration with other countries on energy transitions and security, Germany has committed to strengthening collective energy security and demonstrated leadership in ensuring that its energy systems continue to drive sustainable economic growth.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alexandra Johnston

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen collective energy security and demonstrate leadership in ensuring that its energy systems continue to drive sustainable economic growth.

On 19 July 2018, Chairman of the Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA) Federico Testa and the CEO of Eni, Claudio Descalzi, signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to initiate a cooperative research partnership on circular economy, renewable energy sources, decarbonization and environmental protection.³⁸⁶² Mr Descalzi stated that the agreement “is evidence of our strategic commitment to decarbonisation, reducing emissions and developing renewable energies.”³⁸⁶³

On 2 August 2018, Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte announced that the government will conduct an in-depth assessment of the Trans Adriatic Pipeline, an international gas pipeline that will bring Azerbaijan’s gas to Georgia, Turkey, Greece, Albania, and under the Adriatic Sea before reaching Italy’s southern corridor.³⁸⁶⁴ Local objections have arisen due to fears of environmental risk and damage to tourism.³⁸⁶⁵ Prime Minister Conte has stated that the project can be scrapped if the government finds any procedural irregularities.³⁸⁶⁶

³⁸⁶¹ More than 4,000 projects in energy research – Federal Economic Affairs Ministry publishes new “Innovation through Research” report, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 13 May 2019. Access Date: 6 June 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190513-federal-economic-affairs-ministry-publishes-new-innovation-through-research-report.html>.

³⁸⁶² Eni and ENEA launch a joint scientific research and technology partnership, ENEA (Rome) 19 July 2018. Access Date: 22 December 2018. <http://www.enea.it/en/news-enea/news/eni-and-enea-launch-a-joint-scientific-research-and-technology-partnership>

³⁸⁶³ Eni and ENEA launch a joint scientific research and technology partnership, ENEA (Rome) 19 July 2018. Access Date: 22 December 2018. <http://www.enea.it/en/news-enea/news/eni-and-enea-launch-a-joint-scientific-research-and-technology-partnership>

³⁸⁶⁴ Italy PM non-committal after discussing TAP pipeline dispute with mayor, Reuters (London) 2 August 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-italy-tap/italy-pm-non-committal-after-discussing-tap-pipeline-dispute-with-mayor-idUSKBN1KN1W5>

³⁸⁶⁵ Italy PM non-committal after discussing TAP pipeline dispute with mayor, Reuters (London) 2 August 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-italy-tap/italy-pm-non-committal-after-discussing-tap-pipeline-dispute-with-mayor-idUSKBN1KN1W5>

³⁸⁶⁶ Italy PM non-committal after discussing TAP pipeline dispute with mayor, Reuters (London) 2 August 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-italy-tap/italy-pm-non-committal-after-discussing-tap-pipeline-dispute-with-mayor-idUSKBN1KN1W5>

On 26 October 2018, Prime Minister Conte announced Italy's final approval of the TAP.³⁸⁶⁷ He also stated that no legal irregularities with the project were found.³⁸⁶⁸

On 14 November 2018, the government unilaterally cut support to geothermal energy, a renewable resource in the country.³⁸⁶⁹ The draft decree, known as FER1, includes negotiation for a new draft supporting renewable energy schemes.³⁸⁷⁰

On 29 November 2018, ENEA signed an MOU with the Region of Lazio, outlining a EUR25 million commitment by the Region of Lazio to the ENEA Research Centre in Frascati. The financial contribution will be used towards the Divertor Tokamak Test Facility for international nuclear fusion energy research.³⁸⁷¹

On 29 November 2018, ENEA announced the completion of a major component of the ITER experimental nuclear fusion project in southern France.³⁸⁷² Director of the ENEA Nuclear Fusion and Safety Department Aldo Pizzuto stated: "This result is a great success for Italian research and industry and shows once again how the country is globally competitive in a strongly high-tech sector, with important scientific, economic and employment effects."³⁸⁷³

On 13 December 2018, ENEA and Italian research consortium Cineca won an international competition to create a supercomputer for European research on fusion energy.³⁸⁷⁴ From 2019 to 2024, the ENEA and Cineca will provide "high-performance computing services" to EUROfusion, a European nuclear fusion energy research group. Computing services will also be provided to the DTT project in Italy.³⁸⁷⁵

On 3 January 2019, ENEA signed a contract with Algeria, in partnership with Greece, Austria and Belgium to provide technical assistance on renewable energy and energy efficiency, including

³⁸⁶⁷ Italy PM Conte gives green light to contested TAP gas pipeline, Reuters (London) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-italy-tap-pm-approval/italy-pm-conte-gives-green-light-to-contested-tap-gas-pipeline-idUSKCN1N02K0>

³⁸⁶⁸ Italy PM Conte gives green light to contested TAP gas pipeline, Reuters (London) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-italy-tap-pm-approval/italy-pm-conte-gives-green-light-to-contested-tap-gas-pipeline-idUSKCN1N02K0>

³⁸⁶⁹ The Geothermal industry fear risks for investment in Italy, European Geothermal Energy Council (Brussels) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 21 December 2018. <https://www.egec.org/geothermal-industry-fear-risks-investment-italy/>

³⁸⁷⁰ The Geothermal industry fear risks for investment in Italy, European Geothermal Energy Council (Brussels) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 21 December 2018. <https://www.egec.org/geothermal-industry-fear-risks-investment-italy/>

³⁸⁷¹ Energy: A step forward to DTT, the international fusion research center in Italy, ESEA (Rome) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 22 December 2018. <http://www.enea.it/en/news-enea/news/energy-a-step-forward-for-dtt-the-international-research-center-on-fusion>

³⁸⁷² Research: Ready the first component of the ITER divertor made in Italy, ESEA (Rome) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 22 December 2018. <http://www.enea.it/en/news-enea/news/research-the-first-component-of-the-iter-divertor-made-in-italy>

³⁸⁷³ Research: Ready the first component of the ITER divertor made in Italy, ESEA (Rome) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 22 December 2018. <http://www.enea.it/en/news-enea/news/research-the-first-component-of-the-iter-divertor-made-in-italy>

³⁸⁷⁴ Technology: CINECA and ENEA together to deliver supercomputer for EU research on fusion, ESEA (Rome) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 22 December 2018. <http://www.enea.it/en/news-enea/news/fusion-cineca-and-enea-together-to-deliver-supercomputer-to-support-eu-research-on-fusion>

³⁸⁷⁵ Technology: CINECA and ENEA together to deliver supercomputer for EU research on fusion, ESEA (Rome) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 22 December 2018. <http://www.enea.it/en/news-enea/news/fusion-cineca-and-enea-together-to-deliver-supercomputer-to-support-eu-research-on-fusion>

legislation and sector regulation.³⁸⁷⁶ The contract will aid the transfer of knowledge and expertise concerning the legislation and regulation of energy efficiency for buildings, thermal insulation criteria and energy recovery from existing buildings in Algeria.³⁸⁷⁷

On 29 January 2019, in Cyprus, at the Summit of Southern European Union Countries (comprising of Cyprus, France, Italy, Greece, Portugal, Malta and Spain), member states released the Nicosia Declaration. Members agreed to enhance energy efficiency, promote renewable energy sources, increase diversification of energy sources, and commit to completing a fully integrated and interconnected energy market and European Energy Union.³⁸⁷⁸ The European Energy Union aims to integrate and connect Member States with Western Mediterranean and Atlantic regions.³⁸⁷⁹

On 21 February 2019, ENEA launched an online survey to promote the use of Business Information Modelling by professionals to improve the energy efficiency of buildings throughout their life cycle.³⁸⁸⁰ The survey is carried out alongside seven European countries as part of the European Net-UBIEP project.³⁸⁸¹

On 4 April 2019, ENEA published a position paper submitted to the European Commission for developing a common EU-wide definition on energy poverty.³⁸⁸² This position paper also advocated for common parameters to take into account local dimensions and “national peculiarities,” while assisting in evaluating long-term measures to combat energy poverty.³⁸⁸³

On 9 May 2019, ENEA and EcoAzioni organized the second Thematic Workshop on Wind Energy policy roundtable in Rome. The discussions were joined by 25 stakeholders, including local

³⁸⁷⁶ Energy: ENEA signed 8.2m contract for technical assistance to Algeria on energy efficiency and renewable, Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (Rome) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <http://www.enea.it/en/news-enea/news/energy-enea-8-2-million-contract-for-technical-assistance-to-algeria-on-energy-efficiency-and-renewables>.

³⁸⁷⁷ Energy: ENEA signed 8.2m contract for technical assistance to Algeria on energy efficiency and renewable, Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (Rome) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <http://www.enea.it/en/news-enea/news/energy-enea-8-2-million-contract-for-technical-assistance-to-algeria-on-energy-efficiency-and-renewables>.

³⁸⁷⁸ Summit of the Southern European Union Countries – Nicosia Declaration, Government of Cyprus (Nicosia) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://presidency.gov.cy/international-presence/2019/01/29/summit-of-the-southern-european-union-countries-%E2%80%93-nicosia-declaration/>.

³⁸⁷⁹ Summit of the Southern European Union Countries – Nicosia Declaration, Government of Cyprus (Nicosia) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://presidency.gov.cy/international-presence/2019/01/29/summit-of-the-southern-european-union-countries---nicosia-declaration/>.

³⁸⁸⁰ Construction Industry: Online survey to improve energy efficiency in buildings, Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (Rome) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <http://www.enea.it/en/news-enea/news/construction-industry-at-the-start-survey-to-improve-energy-buildings-performance>.

³⁸⁸¹ Construction Industry: Online survey to improve energy efficiency in buildings, Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (Rome) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <http://www.enea.it/en/news-enea/news/construction-industry-at-the-start-survey-to-improve-energy-buildings-performance>.

³⁸⁸² Energy Poverty: ENEA proposes common European standards, Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (Rome) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <http://www.enea.it/en/news-enea/news/energy-poverty-enea-proposes-common-european-guidelines>.

³⁸⁸³ Energy Poverty: ENEA proposes common European standards, Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (Rome) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <http://www.enea.it/en/news-enea/news/energy-poverty-enea-proposes-common-european-guidelines>.

authorities, energy utility companies, research institutes, environmental and non-profit organizations, and government ministries responsible for the energy planning process.³⁸⁸⁴

On 9 May 2019, ENEA signed a collaborative partnership with Società Gasdotti Italia to carry out a pilot project using Power to Gas technology.³⁸⁸⁵ This technology will create an alternative energy storage process for the production of alternative gases through surplus energy from renewable sources.³⁸⁸⁶ The project will firstly focus on the production of “non-natural gases such as hydrogen and synthetic methane” produced with the reuse of carbon dioxide from industrial processes and/or natural sources to produce renewable sources of energy to “support existing national energy networks.”³⁸⁸⁷

On 23 May 2019, Giorgio Graditi of ENEA was elected President of the Mediterranean Association of National Agencies for Energy Management (MEDENER) from 2019-20. President Graditi will take on a leadership role within the association to promote and support energy efficiency and renewable sources in Mediterranean Countries. Specifically, he will implement global and integrated energy policies, stimulate the exchange of information, experiences and best practices, execute projects, partnerships and cross-border cooperative strategies to accelerate energy transition and sustainable economic development.³⁸⁸⁸

On 6 June 2019, ENEA and energy company Eni signed an MOU for collaborative research on magnetic confinement fusion.³⁸⁸⁹ The MOU aims to develop a new company, manage collaboration on the Divertor Tokmak Test (DTT) project, and test and develop clean, safe sustainable energy using magnetic confinement fusion.³⁸⁹⁰ The MOU also sets out steps to develop a “joint strategy” for the DTT project and a “joint assessment” of how best to structure the new company.³⁸⁹¹

³⁸⁸⁴ Energy: The EU project WinWind discusses social acceptance issues at the ENEA Headquarters in Rome, Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (Rome) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <http://www.enea.it/en/news-enea/news/energy-the-eu-project-winwind-discusses-social-acceptance-issues-at-the-enea-headquarters-in-rome>.

³⁸⁸⁵ Energy: ENEA – SGI agreement for decarbonisation projects of the energy system, Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (Rome) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <http://www.enea.it/en/news-enea/news/energy-enea-sgi-agreement-for-decarbonisation-projects-of-the-energy-system>.

³⁸⁸⁶ Energy: ENEA – SGI agreement for decarbonisation projects of the energy system, Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (Rome) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <http://www.enea.it/en/news-enea/news/energy-enea-sgi-agreement-for-decarbonisation-projects-of-the-energy-system>.

³⁸⁸⁷ Energy: ENEA – SGI agreement for decarbonisation projects of the energy system, Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (Rome) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <http://www.enea.it/en/news-enea/news/energy-enea-sgi-agreement-for-decarbonisation-projects-of-the-energy-system>.

³⁸⁸⁸ Energy: MEDENER, Giorgio Graditi (ENEA) new President, Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (Rome) 23 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <http://www.enea.it/en/news-enea/news/institutions-giorgio-graditi-enea-new-president-of-medener>.

³⁸⁸⁹ Energy: Eni and ENEA researching fusion together, Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (Rome) 6 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <http://www.enea.it/en/news-enea/news/energy-eni-and-enea-researching-fusion-together>.

³⁸⁹⁰ Energy: Eni and ENEA researching fusion together, Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (Rome) 6 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <http://www.enea.it/en/news-enea/news/energy-eni-and-enea-researching-fusion-together>.

³⁸⁹¹ Energy: Eni and ENEA researching fusion together, Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (Rome) 6 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <http://www.enea.it/en/news-enea/news/energy-eni-and-enea-researching-fusion-together>.

Italy has demonstrated leadership in strengthening collective energy security and ensuring that its energy systems continue to drive sustainable economic growth.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Wing Ka Tsang

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen collective energy security and demonstrate leadership in ensuring that its energy systems continue to drive sustainable economic growth.

On 3 July 2018, the Cabinet approved the new Strategic Energy Plan for Japan's new energy policy towards 2030. The plan will direct Japan's energy policy based on fundamental principles of "safety," "energy security," "improvement of economic efficiency," and "environmental suitability." The plan aims to achieve an optimal energy mix by 2030, including the promotion and expansion of renewable energy.³⁸⁹² By 2050, Japan aims to achieve the energy transition and decarbonization targets of the Paris Agreement.³⁸⁹³

On 22 October 2018, at the Arctic Circle Assembly held in Reykjavik, Iceland, Minister of Foreign Affairs Taro Kono welcomed cooperation between the Japan Oil, Gas, and Metals National Corporation and Russia's Novatek with a recently signed Memorandum of Understanding to explore energy development opportunities in the Arctic.³⁸⁹⁴ The project will aim to develop transport links via the North Sea for liquid natural gas deliveries to the Japanese and Asia Pacific markets.³⁸⁹⁵ Minister Kono reaffirmed the commitment and need to developing energy resources in a sustainable manner by taking into account the needs of the environment.³⁸⁹⁶

On 15 November 2018, the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry, in cooperation with Thailand's Ministry of Energy, hosted the joint Private Workshop on Clean Energy Technology in Bangkok, Thailand.³⁸⁹⁷ The workshop focused on Japan-Thailand cooperation in energy and climate change under the framework of the Japan-Thailand Energy Policy Dialogue.³⁸⁹⁸

On 13 November 2018, Japan and the United States announced a memorandum of cooperation (MOC) Concerning Research and Development and Industrial Cooperation in the Nuclear Energy

³⁸⁹² Cabinet Decision on the New Strategic Energy Plan, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 3 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/0703_002.html

³⁸⁹³ Cabinet Decision on the New Strategic Energy Plan, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 3 July 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/0703_002.html

³⁸⁹⁴ Speech by H. E. Mr. Taro Kono, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan at the Arctic Circle 2018, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018 <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000410409.pdf>

³⁸⁹⁵ Japan is entering the Arctic energy sector, High North News (Bodø) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. <https://www.highnorthnews.com/en/node/48740>

³⁸⁹⁶ Speech by H. E. Mr. Taro Kono, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan at the Arctic Circle 2018, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018 <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000410409.pdf>

³⁸⁹⁷ Japan and Thailand hold Government private workshop on clean energy technology, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 12 November 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1112_002.html

³⁸⁹⁸ Japan and Thailand hold Government private workshop on clean energy technology, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 12 November 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1112_002.html

Sector.³⁸⁹⁹ The MOC enhances bilateral cooperation via the Japan-United States Strategic Energy Partnership and reaffirms the importance of Japan-U.S. cooperation in nuclear energy and the development of solutions to address climate change and energy security.³⁹⁰⁰ The MOC covers commitments to “innovative” nuclear research and development, advancement of the global use of nuclear energy, and increased safety through industrial cooperation.³⁹⁰¹

On 19 November 2018, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Hiroshige Seko held bilateral meetings with the Minister for Resources and Northern Australia Matt Canavan in Darwin, Australia. The ministers discussed energy cooperation and agreed to promote Japan-Australia energy production cooperation in the fields of liquid natural gas, hydrogen, and the development of energy infrastructure in the Global South.^{3902,3903}

On 25 November 2018, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Japan-China Economic Association held the 12th Japan-China Energy Conservation and Environmental Forum in Beijing, China.³⁹⁰⁴ The forum was jointly hosted by the National Development and Reform Commission and the Chinese Ministry of Commerce. At the forum, Minister Seko stated the importance of harmonising regulations for hydrogen energy among private and private sectors under the Japan-China energy dialogues.³⁹⁰⁵ Japan and China signed cooperative agreements in 24 project areas including energy conservation, new energy development and pollution control.³⁹⁰⁶

On 28 November 2018, Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Akimasa Ishikawa, attended the International Energy Agency’s global summit with 39 representatives from global companies, NGOs and financial institutes, and ministers and officials from 9 countries on Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage (CCUS) in Edinburgh, UK. During the summit, Vice-Minister Ishikawa explained Japan’s effort to accelerate deployment of CCUS technologies and promoted technological innovation and forming public private collaboration. Vice-Minister Ishikawa also held bilateral meetings to exchange views on future approaches to energy cooperation with the ministers and officials of participating countries.³⁹⁰⁷

³⁸⁹⁹ Japan and the United States announce Memorandum of Cooperation Concerning Research and Development and Industrial Cooperation in the Nuclear Energy Sector, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1113_003.html

³⁹⁰⁰ Japan and the United States announce Memorandum of Cooperation Concerning Research and Development and Industrial Cooperation in the Nuclear Energy Sector, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1113_003.html

³⁹⁰¹ Japan and the United States announce Memorandum of Cooperation Concerning Research and Development and Industrial Cooperation in the Nuclear Energy Sector, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 3 December 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1113_003.html

³⁹⁰² METI Minister Seko Visits Australia, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 19 November 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1119_001.html

³⁹⁰³ METI Minister Seko Visits Australia, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 19 November 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1119_001.html

³⁹⁰⁴ The 12th Japan-China Energy Conservation and Environment Forum Held, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1126_002.html

³⁹⁰⁵ The 12th Japan-China Energy Conservation and Environment Forum Held, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1126_002.html

³⁹⁰⁶ China, Japan Sign cooperation deals on energy conservation, Xinhua (Beijing) 25 November 2018. Access Date: 14 December 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-11/25/c_137630683.htm

³⁹⁰⁷ METI Parliamentary Vice-Minister Ishikawa Attends IEA CCUS Summit, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2019. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1130_003.html

On 27 December 2018, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) submitted a partial revision to the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Electricity Business Act. Starting in April 2020, the revisions will introduce new regulations targeting general electricity transmission and distribution businesses.³⁹⁰⁸

On 15 February 2019, the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry and Parliamentary Vice-Minister Ishikawa attended an International CCUS roundtable in Washington D.C..³⁹⁰⁹ The discussion was attended by a range of participants, including think-tanks, governments, private companies, NGOs and G20 member countries. Vice Minister Ishikawa delivered a keynote speech stressing the importance of environmentally friendly CCUS technologies that will drive economic growth, improve global energy security and further global energy transition and low-carbonization.³⁹¹⁰ Vice Minister Ishikawa also proposed that member countries take action to disseminate and expand CCUS technologies.³⁹¹¹

On 27 February 2019, in cooperation with the Ministry of Industry and Trade of Vietnam, METI hosted a workshop on Clean Energy Technology in Hanoi, Vietnam. The workshop brought together government and the private sector as part of its cooperation commitments in the field of energy and climate change.³⁹¹² Participants shared their knowledge of clean energy to help Vietnam formulate its policies and regulations.³⁹¹³ Japan also encouraged Vietnam to intensify efforts involving the creation of the clean energy market and related business activities, and deepen cooperation between the two countries.³⁹¹⁴

Japan has demonstrated its commitment to strengthening energy security, promoting sustainable economic growth and building collective security with its counterparts.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Wing Ka Tsang

³⁹⁰⁸ Partial Revision of the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Electricity Business Act, Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (Tokyo) 27 December 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2019.

³⁹⁰⁹ METI Parliamentary Vice-Minister Ishikawa Visits Washington, D.C., the United States, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019.

³⁹¹⁰ METI Parliamentary Vice-Minister Ishikawa Visits Washington, D.C., the United States, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019.

³⁹¹¹ METI Parliamentary Vice-Minister Ishikawa Visits Washington, D.C., the United States, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019.

³⁹¹² Japan-Vietnam Government- Private Workshop on Clean Energy Technology to be held, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019.

³⁹¹³ Japan-Vietnam Government- Private Workshop on Clean Energy Technology to be held, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019.

³⁹¹⁴ Japan-Vietnam Government- Private Workshop on Clean Energy Technology to be held, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019.

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen collective energy security and demonstrate leadership in ensuring that its energy systems continue to drive sustainable economic growth.

On 14 June 2018, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy launched phase seven of the Energy Entrepreneurs Fund. The fund aims to support the development and demonstration of innovative technologies and processes in the areas of energy efficiency, power generation, and heat and energy storage. The fund will provide up to GBP10 million to entrepreneurs in support of the development of their projects.³⁹¹⁵

On 2 July 2018, the Department for Business, Energy and Industry Strategy released the Security of Network and Information Systems Regulation 2018 as guidelines for the regulation of the energy sector in Great Britain. The document specifically focuses on the integration of security measures for Operators of Essential Services (OES) and the types of resources available for OES. Additionally, it outlines requirements for OES and a timeline for implementation.³⁹¹⁶

On 20 July 2018, the Department for Business, Energy and Industry Strategy amended the Renewables Obligation Order to strengthen cost control measures for certain biomass conversion and co-firing stations. The amendment implements annual flexible caps on the amount of support that units not protected by the grandfathering policy can receive. The caps came into operation on 1 September 2018.³⁹¹⁷

On 15 October 2018, the government released a report titled “Delivering Clean Growth: Progress against meeting our carbon budgets” in response to the Committee on Climate Change’s 2018 Progress Report. The response offers updated action and milestones to previous goals in an effort to guide the Clean Growth Strategy for the future years, and it includes fourteen goals for “Clean, Smart, Flexible Power.”³⁹¹⁸

On 16 October 2018, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy released a low-carbon export toolkit. The toolkit is aimed at promoting the UK’s green technology and resources to companies seeking to expand their green energy infrastructure.³⁹¹⁹

On 17 October 2018, the Department for Business, Energy and Industry requested proposals from prospective fund managers to raise and manage the Clean Growth Fund. The fund aims to speed up the deployment of innovative, clean technologies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions by making

³⁹¹⁵ Energy Entrepreneurs Fund: phase 7, Department for Business, Energy and Industry Strategy (London) 14 June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/energy-entrepreneurs-fund-phase-7>

³⁹¹⁶ Security of Network and Information Systems Regulations 2018, Department for Business, Energy and Industry Strategy (London) 2 July 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/security-of-network-and-information-systems-regulation-2018-implementation-in-the-energy-sector-for-great-britain>

³⁹¹⁷ The Renewables Obligation: the biomass co-firing and conversion exempt combustion unit estimate, 2018 to 2019, Department for Business, Energy and Industry Strategy (London) 10 August 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-renewables-obligation-the-biomass-co-firing-and-conversion-exempt-combustion-unit-estimate-2018-to-2019>

³⁹¹⁸ Committee on Climate Change’s 2018 progress report: Government response, Department of Business, Energy and Industry Strategy (London) 15 October 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/committee-on-climate-changes-2018-progress-report-government-response>

³⁹¹⁹ Low-carbon export toolkit, Department for Business, Energy and Industry Strategy (London) 16 August 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/low-carbon-export-toolkit>

direct investments in these technologies.³⁹²⁰ The government aims to provide up to GBP20 million to start-up technologies.³⁹²¹

On 5 November 2018, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced measures to require landlords to install energy efficiency measures in homes with the lowest energy performance ratings.³⁹²² This is part of the government's efforts to eradicate fuel poverty and reduce carbon emissions.³⁹²³ With energy efficiency upgrades, the cost and energy required to heat a home will decrease.³⁹²⁴

On 6 November 2018, the Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy hosted the first small nuclear reactor (SMR) conference to explore investment opportunities in SMRs.³⁹²⁵ The aim of the conference was to garner interest into the future economic opportunities of SMRs and to create a foundation from which this industry can grow.³⁹²⁶ Clean and secure nuclear energy can provide a reliable source of low-carbon electricity and may strengthen the UK's competitiveness in the green energy economy.³⁹²⁷

ON 11 December 2018, the Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy announced an additional GBP100 million in funding for the Renewable Energy Performance Platform, which will support up to 40 new renewable energy projects in sub-Saharan Africa.³⁹²⁸ These projects are intended to help reduce carbon emissions in the region and provide hundreds of thousands of people in sub-Saharan Africa electricity for the first time.³⁹²⁹ Minister of Energy and Clean Growth Claire

³⁹²⁰ Clean Growth Fund, Department for Business, Energy and Industry Strategy (London) 17 October 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/clean-growth-equity-fund>

³⁹²¹ Clean Growth Fund, Department for Business, Energy and Industry Strategy (London) 17 October 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/clean-growth-equity-fund>

³⁹²² Energy upgrades for coldest privately rented homes to save billpayers GBP180 a year, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 5 November 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/energy-upgrades-for-coldest-privately-rented-homes-to-save-billpayers-180-a-year>.

³⁹²³ Energy upgrades for coldest privately rented homes to save billpayers GBP180 a year, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 5 November 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/energy-upgrades-for-coldest-privately-rented-homes-to-save-billpayers-180-a-year>.

³⁹²⁴ Energy upgrades for coldest privately rented homes to save billpayers GBP180 a year, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 5 November 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/energy-upgrades-for-coldest-privately-rented-homes-to-save-billpayers-180-a-year>.

³⁹²⁵ Industry experts assemble in bid to make cutting-edge nuclear technology a reality, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 6 November 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/industry-experts-assemble-in-bid-to-make-cutting-edge-nuclear-technology-a-reality>.

³⁹²⁶ Industry experts assemble in bid to make cutting-edge nuclear technology a reality, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 6 November 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/industry-experts-assemble-in-bid-to-make-cutting-edge-nuclear-technology-a-reality>.

³⁹²⁷ Industry experts assemble in bid to make cutting-edge nuclear technology a reality, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 6 November 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/industry-experts-assemble-in-bid-to-make-cutting-edge-nuclear-technology-a-reality>.

³⁹²⁸ GBP100 million for renewable energy projects in Africa to provide electricity to 2.4 million people a year, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/100-million-for-renewable-energy-projects-in-africa-to-provide-electricity-to-24-million-people-a-year>.

³⁹²⁹ GBP100 million for renewable energy projects in Africa to provide electricity to 2.4 million people a year, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/100-million-for-renewable-energy-projects-in-africa-to-provide-electricity-to-24-million-people-a-year>.

Perry stated that this project should give “countries a helping hand to shift to greener, cleaner economies.”³⁹³⁰

On 8 January 2019, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy created a proposal for a “Smart Export Guarantee” where electricity suppliers would pay new small-scale energy producers for excess electricity from homes and businesses being put back into the energy grid.³⁹³¹ This system combines the existing technologies like smart meters to build a more efficient energy system.³⁹³² This system would contain more green energy and reduce strain on energy networks.³⁹³³

On 7 March 2019, Minister Perry announced that green offshore wind is set to power 30 per cent of British electricity by 2030 with the launch of the joint government-industry Offshore Wind Sector Deal. The deal seeks to maximize advantages for industry from the global shift to clean growth and prompt the expansion of the green energy sector in the UK.³⁹³⁴

On 2 May 2019, the Committee on Climate Change released a report that advised a net zero emissions target by 2050 for the UK. This report was published based on research done by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the European Commission and international climate change groups. The report stated that every sector of the economy must reach net zero emissions by 2050, a goal that will push the country to adopt more clean energy technologies.³⁹³⁵ During the same week, the UK went a week without burning coal for electricity for the first time in 137 years.³⁹³⁶

The United Kingdom has consistently supported renewable energy research and sustainable economic growth by providing funding opportunities for the private sector and updating the goals and regulations on the energy sector. The UK has also taken action to strengthen collective energy security through its energy development initiative in sub-Saharan Africa, and cooperate with Member States and international organisations.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alexandra Johnston

³⁹³⁰ GBP100 million for renewable energy projects in Africa to provide electricity to 2.4 million people a year, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/100-million-for-renewable-energy-projects-in-africa-to-provide-electricity-to-24-million-people-a-year>.

³⁹³¹ Proposals to protect consumers whilst guaranteeing payments for households with solar by unlocking smarter energy system, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/proposals-to-protect-consumers-whilst-guaranteeing-payments-for-households-with-solar-by-unlocking-smarter-energy-system>.

³⁹³² Proposals to protect consumers whilst guaranteeing payments for households with solar by unlocking smarter energy system, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/proposals-to-protect-consumers-whilst-guaranteeing-payments-for-households-with-solar-by-unlocking-smarter-energy-system>.

³⁹³³ Proposals to protect consumers whilst guaranteeing payments for households with solar by unlocking smarter energy system, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/proposals-to-protect-consumers-whilst-guaranteeing-payments-for-households-with-solar-by-unlocking-smarter-energy-system>.

³⁹³⁴ Offshore wind energy revolution to provide a third of all UK electricity by 2030, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 6 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/offshore-wind-energy-revolution-to-provide-a-third-of-all-uk-electricity-by-2030>.

³⁹³⁵ Net Zero – The UK’s contribution to stopping global warming, Committee on Climate Change (London) 2 May 2019. Access Date: 6 June 2019. <https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/net-zero-the-uks-contribution-to-stopping-global-warming/>.

³⁹³⁶ The UK has now gone a week without coal power. It’s aiming for the most aggressive climate target in the world, Vox News (Washington, D.C.) 8 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.vox.com/2019/5/4/18528526/climate-change-uk-extinction-rebellion>.

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen collective energy security and demonstrate leadership in ensuring that its energy systems continue to drive sustainable economic growth.

On 25 June 2018, the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Israeli Energy Ministry signed an agreement to establish a joint research centre.³⁹³⁷ The aims of the centre are to advance energy research and energy security between the U.S. and Israel by diversifying energy supply.³⁹³⁸ The centre will also facilitate educational programs and act as an addition to the existing Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation.³⁹³⁹

On 25 July 2018, the DOE finalized a deregulatory measure to expedite the approval process for small-scale natural gas exports.³⁹⁴⁰ This measure eliminates the need for the DOE to conduct public interest reviews before authorizing such exports, asserting that all small-scale exports of natural gas are in public interest.³⁹⁴¹

On 13 September 2018, Secretary of Energy Rick Perry met with Russian Minister of Energy Alexander Novak. They discussed how the bilateral relationship between the U.S. and Russia as the world's leading producers of natural gas and oil can be used to strengthen energy stability, transparency and sustainability.³⁹⁴² The United States also condemned Russia's use of energy as an economic weapon.³⁹⁴³

On 15 November 2018, the DOE announced USD98 million in funding for 40 transformative energy projects.³⁹⁴⁴ The projects aim to transform the domestic energy system by enhancing energy security, electrical efficiency and manufacturing efficiency.³⁹⁴⁵

On 15 December 2018, at the 24th Conference of the Parties held under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Katowice, Poland, the U.S. maintained that it intends

³⁹³⁷ The United States and Israel Establish Joint Center of Excellence in Energy, Department of Energy (Washington D.C) 25 June 2018. Access Date: 14 November 2018. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/united-states-and-israel-establish-joint-center-excellence-energy>

³⁹³⁸ The United States and Israel Establish Joint Center of Excellence in Energy, Department of Energy (Washington D.C) 25 June 2018. Access Date: 14 November 2018. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/united-states-and-israel-establish-joint-center-excellence-energy>

³⁹³⁹ What is BIRD?, Binational Industrial and Research Development Foundation (Tel Aviv) Access Date: 14 November 2018. <http://www.birdf.com/What-is-BIRD/>

³⁹⁴⁰ U.S. Department of Energy Finalizes Rule to Expedite Approval for Small-Scale Natural Gas Exports, Department of Energy (Washington D.C) 25 July 2018. Access Date: 14 November 2018. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/us-department-energy-finalizes-rule-expedite-approval-small-scale-natural-gas-exports>

³⁹⁴¹ U.S. Department of Energy Finalizes Rule to Expedite Approval for Small-Scale Natural Gas Exports, Department of Energy (Washington D.C) 25 July 2018. Access Date: 14 November 2018. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/us-department-energy-finalizes-rule-expedite-approval-small-scale-natural-gas-exports>

³⁹⁴² U.S. Secretary of Energy Rick Perry Meets With Russian Minister of Energy, Department of Energy (Washington D.C) 13 September 2018. Access Date: 14 November 2018. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/us-secretary-energy-rick-perry-meets-russian-minister-energy-alexander-novak>

³⁹⁴³ U.S. Secretary of Energy Rick Perry Meets With Russian Minister of Energy, Department of Energy (Washington D.C) 13 September 2018. Access Date: 14 November 2018. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/us-secretary-energy-rick-perry-meets-russian-minister-energy-alexander-novak>

³⁹⁴⁴ Department of Energy Announces \$98 Million for 40 Transformative Energy Technology Projects, Department of Energy (Washington D.C) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 15 November 2018. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/department-energy-announces-98-million-40-transformative-energy-technology-projects>

³⁹⁴⁵ ARPA-E OPEN 2018 Project Descriptions, Department of Energy (Washington D.C) Access Date: 15 November 2018. https://arpa-e.energy.gov/sites/default/files/documents/files/OPEN_2018_Project_Descriptions_FINAL.pdf

to withdraw from the Paris Agreement. The U.S. stated that it hopes to promote a balanced approach to the environment, energy security, and economic growth.³⁹⁴⁶ Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Office of International Affairs of the Department of Energy Wells Griffith stated that “no country should have to sacrifice economic prosperity or energy security in pursuit of environmental sustainability.”³⁹⁴⁷

On 13 January 2019, Deputy Secretary of Energy Dan Brouillette attended the second Qatar-U.S. Strategic Dialogue in Doha, Qatar. The conversation focused on Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and addressed a potential interest in solar technology development.

On 12 February, Deputy Secretary Brouillette attended the German LNG Conference in Berlin. He discussed strategies to diversify Germany’s natural gas supply as a means of furthering energy security. The U.S. encouraged the construction of two new LNG import terminals in Germany as a means of achieving this objective.³⁹⁴⁸

On 16 February 2019, Deputy Secretary Brouillette discussed energy security at the Munich Security Conference. At the conference, Secretary Brouillette emphasized the importance of diversifying supply and sources for energy security, condemning “over-reliance on Russian gas.” The U.S. discussed with EU states various ways to further energy security through collective action.³⁹⁴⁹

On 28 February 2019, Secretary Perry announced a USD24 million initiative to research carbon capture technologies. The objective of the research is to reduce the cost of carbon capture, and “use both coal and natural gas with near-zero emissions.”³⁹⁵⁰

On 19 March 2019, President Trump and Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro announced their intent to establish the United States-Brazil Energy Forum. This bilateral framework aims to increase cooperation in energy, trade and mutually beneficial energy policies that facilitate investment.^{3951,3952}

On 25 March 2019, the DOE selected USD36 million worth of solar energy research projects to strengthen domestic energy security. Through increasing solar generation, the DOE hopes to

³⁹⁴⁶ Outcome of the 24th Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP24) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 15 December 2018. Access Date: 17 December 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/12/288121.htm>

³⁹⁴⁷ That was awkward — at world’s biggest climate conference, U.S. promotes fossil fuels, Washington Post (Washington D.C.) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 17 December 2018.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/that-was-awkward--at-worlds-biggest-climate-conference-us-promotes-fossil-fuels/2018/12/10/aa8600c4-f8ae-11e8-8642-c9718a256cbd_story.html?utm_term=.da0e88f3732f

³⁹⁴⁸ Deputy Secretary Brouillette Participates in German LNG Conference, Department of Energy (Washington D.C.). 12 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/deputy-secretary-brouillette-participates-german-lng-conference>.

³⁹⁴⁹ Deputy Secretary Brouillette at Munich Security Conference 2019, Department of Energy (Washington D.C.). 16 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/deputy-secretary-brouillett-munich-security-conference-2019>.

³⁹⁵⁰ Secretary Perry Announces \$24 Million in New Projects to Advance Transformational Carbon Capture Technologies, Department of Energy (Washington, D.C.) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/secretary-perry-announces-24-million-new-projects-advance-transformational-carbon-capture>.

³⁹⁵¹ U.S. Relations With Brazil, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs (Washington D.C.) 13 May 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-relations-with-brazil/>.

³⁹⁵² Establishment of the U.S.-Brazil Energy Forum, Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/establishment-us-brazil-energy-forum>.

augment the reliability and resilience of American energy infrastructure.³⁹⁵³ The following day, the DOE also announced up to USD130 million in funding for the advancement of early-stage solar research that contributes to greater energy security and economic growth.³⁹⁵⁴

On 3 May 2019, the DOE announced USD79 million in funding to support bioenergy research that seeks to diversify American energy supplies. The funding will support research that produces renewable energy from urban and suburban waste. Projects will also include research on reducing emissions in bioenergy.³⁹⁵⁵

On 13 May 2019, at the Concordia Americas Summit in Bogotá, Colombia, Secretary Perry held bilateral meetings with Latin American government leaders. At the summit, he expressed the Trump administration's hopes to expand energy partnerships in Latin America and further cooperation on energy security. Secretary Perry addressed furthering energy partnerships with Colombia, supporting the rebuilding of Venezuela's energy sector, and the United States-Brazil Energy Forum.³⁹⁵⁶

On 28 May 2019, the DOE increased the export capacity of Freeport LNG Terminal in Quintana Island, Texas. This decision is expected to increase energy security through diversification.³⁹⁵⁷ This decision also offers an alternative and affordable source of clean energy.³⁹⁵⁸

On 29 May 2019, the 10th Clean Energy Ministerial announced an international hydrogen initiative to promote cooperation between countries in the development and deployment of hydrogen technologies.³⁹⁵⁹ Amongst the leaders of this initiative is the United States. The initiative hopes to ease the transformation towards greater reliance on clean energy.³⁹⁶⁰

The United States has launched several domestic initiatives to diversify the national energy mix and improve cooperation with international members in collective energy leadership. The US has also demonstrated leadership in supporting sustainable economic growth.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Emi Yasuda

³⁹⁵³ Department of Energy Selects \$36 Million to Advance Solar Energy Integration, Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/department-energy-selects-36-million-advance-solar-energy-integration>.

³⁹⁵⁴ Department of Energy Announces \$130 Million for Early-Stage Solar Research Project, Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/department-energy-announces-130-million-early-stage-solar-research-project>.

³⁹⁵⁵ DOE Announces \$79 Million for Bioenergy Research and Development, Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 3 May 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-announces-79-million-bioenergy-research-and-development>.

³⁹⁵⁶ Readout of Secretary Perry's Visit to Bogota, Colombia, Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 13 May 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/readout-secretary-perry-s-visit-bogota-colombia>.

³⁹⁵⁷ Department of Energy Authorizes Additional LNG Exports from Freeport LNG (Washington D.C.) 28 May 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/department-energy-authorizes-additional-lng-exports-freeport-lng>.

³⁹⁵⁸ Department of Energy Authorizes Additional LNG Exports from Freeport LNG (Washington D.C.) 28 May 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/department-energy-authorizes-additional-lng-exports-freeport-lng>.

³⁹⁵⁹ U.S., Canada, Japan, Netherlands, and European Commission Launch New Hydrogen Initiative Under The Clean Energy Ministerial, Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 29 May 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/us-canada-japan-netherlands-and-european-commission-launch-new-hydrogen-initiative-under>.

³⁹⁶⁰ U.S., Canada, Japan, Netherlands, and European Commission Launch New Hydrogen Initiative Under The Clean Energy Ministerial, Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 29 May 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/us-canada-japan-netherlands-and-european-commission-launch-new-hydrogen-initiative-under>.

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen collective energy security and demonstrate leadership in ensuring that its energy systems continue to drive sustainable economic growth.

On 11 June 2018, the European Commission announced EUR500 million in funding for cross-border energy infrastructure under the Projects of Common Interest framework.³⁹⁶¹ The projects, which include studies and construction works, will “strengthen the EU’s internal energy market, enhance the security of energy supply, and help provide clean, sustainable energy for Europe.”³⁹⁶²

On 14 June 2018, the European Commission, Parliament, and Council came to an agreement with regards to increasing the use of renewable energy in Europe.³⁹⁶³ Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy Miguel Arias Cañete stated: “this new ambition will help us meet our Paris Agreement goals and will translate into more jobs, lower energy bills for consumers and fewer energy imports.”³⁹⁶⁴ He said that “this will put us on the right path towards the Long-Term Strategy that the Commission intends to present by the end of this year.”³⁹⁶⁵

On 15 June 2018, the EU announced its approval of the acquisition of Uniper by Fortum under the EU Merger Regulation.³⁹⁶⁶ Commissioner Margrethe Vestager stated: “ensuring competition in European power markets is essential since electricity is a good that everyone uses. Fortum and Uniper are important players in the generation of electricity in the Nordic countries, in particular, Sweden.”³⁹⁶⁷

On 19 June 2018, the European Commission announced a EUR45 million investment to upscale electricity and wind energy production on the island of Madeira, an autonomous region of Portugal.³⁹⁶⁸ Commissioner for Regional Policy Corina Cretu noted that: “the new, highly innovative and sustainable power station will help Madeira reduce its greenhouse gas emissions as well as its

³⁹⁶¹ More growth and jobs: €500 million in EU funding available for clean energy infrastructure, European Commission (Brussels) 11 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/more-growth-and-jobs-eu500-million-eu-funding-available-clean-energy-infrastructure-2018-jun-11_en

³⁹⁶² More growth and jobs: €500 million in EU funding available for clean energy infrastructure, European Commission (Brussels) 11 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/more-growth-and-jobs-eu500-million-eu-funding-available-clean-energy-infrastructure-2018-jun-11_en

³⁹⁶³ Europe leads the global clean energy transition: Commission welcomes ambitious agreement on further renewable energy development in the EU, European Commission (Brussels) 14 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-4155_en.htm

³⁹⁶⁴ Europe leads the global clean energy transition: Commission welcomes ambitious agreement on further renewable energy development in the EU, European Commission (Brussels) 14 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-4155_en.htm

³⁹⁶⁵ Europe leads the global clean energy transition: Commission welcomes ambitious agreement on further renewable energy development in the EU, European Commission (Brussels) 14 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-4155_en.htm

³⁹⁶⁶ Mergers: Commission approves the acquisition of Uniper by Fortum, European Commission (Brussels) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4187_en.htm

³⁹⁶⁷ Mergers: Commission approves the acquisition of Uniper by Fortum, European Commission (Brussels) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4187_en.htm

³⁹⁶⁸ Greener and more secure electricity in Madeira thanks to EU funds, European Commission (Brussels) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/greener-and-more-secure-electricity-madeira-thanks-eu-funds-2018-jun-19_en

dependence on fossil fuels — this is good news for the environment and the local economy at the same time.”³⁹⁶⁹

On 19 June 2018, the European Commission, Parliament, and Council came to an agreement on new rules and regulations for improving energy efficiency in Europe.³⁹⁷⁰ Commissioner Cañete stated that “this deal is a major push for Europe’s energy independence. Much of what we spend on imported fossil fuels will now be invested at home in more efficient buildings, industries and transport. The new target of 32.5 percent will boost industrial competitiveness, create jobs, reduce energy bills, help tackle energy poverty and improve air quality.”³⁹⁷¹

On 20 June 2018, the European Commission, Parliament, and Council came to an agreement on the governance of the Energy Union.³⁹⁷² The deal will equip EU member with the ability to govern the Energy Union, enabling the EU “to realise its goals of becoming a world leader on renewables, putting energy efficiency first, provide a fair deal for consumers and set the course for the EU’s strategy long-term greenhouse gas reduction.”³⁹⁷³

On 25 June 2018, the European Commission announced its participation in the World Nuclear Exhibition in Paris, France.³⁹⁷⁴ The event is “a forum for the global nuclear sector, it is an opportunity for high-level panel discussions and networking sessions.”³⁹⁷⁵

On 28 June 2018, European Commission President Juncker, alongside the Heads of State and Governments of Poland, Lithuania, and Latvia signed a roadmap for the “synchronisation of the Baltic States electricity grid with the continental European System” with a target date of 2025.³⁹⁷⁶ The discussion concluded with the agreement that “the decision will guarantee the safe operation of the Baltic States’ electricity grid at the same level as in the continental European electricity networks.”³⁹⁷⁷

On 29 June 2018, the European Commission announced the publication of its latest reports on gas and electricity markets.³⁹⁷⁸ The reports contain “a wide range of data about the supply and usage of electricity and gas in the EU.”³⁹⁷⁹

³⁹⁶⁹ Greener and more secure electricity in Madeira thanks to EU funds, European Commission (Brussels) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/greener-and-more-secure-electricity-madeira-thanks-eu-funds-2018-jun-19_en

³⁹⁷⁰ Energy efficiency first: Commission welcomes agreement on energy efficiency, European Commission (Brussels) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-3997_en.htm

³⁹⁷¹ Energy efficiency first: Commission welcomes agreement on energy efficiency, European Commission (Brussels) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-3997_en.htm

³⁹⁷² The Energy Union get simplified, robust and transparent governance, European Commission (Brussels) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4229_en.htm

³⁹⁷³ The Energy Union get simplified, robust and transparent governance, European Commission (Brussels) 20 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4229_en.htm

³⁹⁷⁴ Commission participates in World Nuclear Exhibition, European Commission (Brussels) 25 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-participates-world-nuclear-exhibition-2018-jun-25_en

³⁹⁷⁵ Commission participates in World Nuclear Exhibition, European Commission (Paris) 25 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-participates-world-nuclear-exhibition-2018-jun-25_en

³⁹⁷⁶ Synchronisation of the Baltic States’ electricity grid with the continental European system, European Commission (Brussels) 14 September 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/synchronisation-baltic-states-electricity-grid-continental-european-system-2018-sep-14_en

³⁹⁷⁷ Synchronisation of the Baltic States’ electricity grid with the continental European system, European Commission (Brussels) 14 September 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/synchronisation-baltic-states-electricity-grid-continental-european-system-2018-sep-14_en

³⁹⁷⁸ New energy market reports covering the first quarter of 2018, European Commission (Brussels) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/new-energy-market-reports-covering-first-quarter-2018-2018-jun-29_en

On 29 June 2018, the EU made a statement in support of the “swift implementation of the Greece-Bulgaria gas interconnector project (IGB).”³⁹⁸⁰ The approval of the project by the Prime Minister of Bulgaria Boyko Borissov and the Prime Minister of Greece Alexis Tsipras will provide greater energy security for the EU. President Juncker “recognised that the construction of the IGB project will be an important step towards bringing diversification to the energy systems of South Eastern Europe.”³⁹⁸¹

On 3 July 2018, the European Commission welcomed the completion of the Peer Review Report of the EU Stress Test in Belarus carried out by the European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group.³⁹⁸² The Commission stated that “all parties worked together constructively during this peer review with the commitment to increase transparency and improve nuclear safety.”³⁹⁸³

On 6 July 2018, the European Commission announced its approval of reductions of the nuclear levy for electro-intensive users in Slovakia.³⁹⁸⁴ The Commission concluded that “the Slovakian measure to grant reductions to the nuclear levy to electro-intensive users is in line with State aid rules because they will contribute to the competitiveness of these companies.”³⁹⁸⁵

On 9 July 2018, the EU’s Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EU) 2018/844 entered into force.³⁹⁸⁶ The directive includes measures to “accelerate the rate of building renovation towards more energy efficient systems and strengthen the energy performance of new buildings.”³⁹⁸⁷ The directive requires and expects member states to implement new elements of the directive within 20 months.³⁹⁸⁸

³⁹⁷⁹ New energy market reports covering the first quarter of 2018, European Commission (Brussels) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/new-energy-market-reports-covering-first-quarter-2018-2018-jun-29_en

³⁹⁸⁰ Important impetus for integration of energy markets in South East Europe: Prime Ministers issue statement of support for Greece-Bulgaria gas interconnector, European Commission (Brussels) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/important-impetus-integration-energy-markets-south-east-europe-prime-ministers-issue-statement-support-greece-bulgaria-gas-interconnector-2018-jun-29_en

³⁹⁸¹ Important impetus for integration of energy markets in South East Europe: Prime Ministers issue statement of support for Greece-Bulgaria gas interconnector, European Commission (Brussels) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/important-impetus-integration-energy-markets-south-east-europe-prime-ministers-issue-statement-support-greece-bulgaria-gas-interconnector-2018-jun-29_en

³⁹⁸² Comprehensive risk and safety assessments of the Belarus nuclear power plant completed, European Commission (Brussels) 3 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018 http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4347_en.htm

³⁹⁸³ Comprehensive risk and safety assessments of the Belarus nuclear power plant completed, European Commission (Brussels) 3 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018 http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4347_en.htm

³⁹⁸⁴ State aid: Commission approved reductions of nuclear levy for electro-intensive users in Slovakia, European Commission (Brussels) 6 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4383_en.htm

³⁹⁸⁵ State aid: Commission approved reductions of nuclear levy for electro-intensive users in Slovakia, European Commission (Brussels) 6 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4383_en.htm

³⁹⁸⁶ New Energy Performance in Buildings Directive comes into force on 9 July 2018, European Commission (Brussels) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/new-energy-performance-buildings-directive-comes-force-9-july-2018-2018-jun-19_en

³⁹⁸⁷ New Energy Performance in Buildings Directive comes into force on 9 July 2018, European Commission (Brussels) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/new-energy-performance-buildings-directive-comes-force-9-july-2018-2018-jun-19_en

³⁹⁸⁸ New Energy Performance in Buildings Directive comes into force on 9 July 2018, European Commission (Brussels) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/new-energy-performance-buildings-directive-comes-force-9-july-2018-2018-jun-19_en

On 10 July 2018, the European Parliament announced its endorsement of the European Commission's Clean Energy for All Europeans proposal.³⁹⁸⁹ The Committee on Industry, Research, Telecoms and Energy and the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety voted in favour of the proposal on the governance of the Energy Union.³⁹⁹⁰ Commissioner Cañete stated that “such strong support by Parliament is highly welcome and shows that all EU institutions are determined to get the clean energy transition right and strengthen our fight against climate change.”³⁹⁹¹

On 16 July 2018, the EU announced an investment of EUR48.4 million in multiple key European energy infrastructure projects.³⁹⁹² The Commission stated: “these are important projects with major cross-border benefits and by implementing them the energy resilience of EU members will be strengthened.”³⁹⁹³

On 16 July 2018, the President Juncker, President of the Council Donald Tusk, and Chinese Prime Minister Li Keqiang reaffirmed their collective commitment to “advance the implementation of the Paris Agreement and intensify their cooperation on climate change and clean energy.”³⁹⁹⁴

On 17 July 2018, the European Commission announced the launch of a public consultation on a strategy for long-term EU greenhouse gas emissions reduction.³⁹⁹⁵ The consultation will “feed into the Commission's deliberations for a strategy that will reflect on a long-term vision for a modern European economy for all Europeans and the opportunities and challenges that a long-term decarbonisation implies.”³⁹⁹⁶

On 27 July 2018, the Lisbon Declaration was signed at the Second Energy Interconnections summit.³⁹⁹⁷ Signed by the Prime Minister of Portugal, the President of France, the President of the

³⁹⁸⁹ One step closer towards fulfilling the Energy Union: Commission welcomes Parliament committee votes on Clean Energy Package, European Commission (Brussels) 10 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/one-step-closer-towards-fulfilling-energy-union-commission-welcomes-parliament-committee-votes-clean-energy-package-2018-jul-10_en

³⁹⁹⁰ One step closer towards fulfilling the Energy Union: Commission welcomes Parliament committee votes on Clean Energy Package, European Commission (Brussels) 10 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/one-step-closer-towards-fulfilling-energy-union-commission-welcomes-parliament-committee-votes-clean-energy-package-2018-jul-10_en

³⁹⁹¹ One step closer towards fulfilling the Energy Union: Commission welcomes Parliament committee votes on Clean Energy Package, European Commission (Brussels) 10 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/one-step-closer-towards-fulfilling-energy-union-commission-welcomes-parliament-committee-votes-clean-energy-package-2018-jul-10_en

³⁹⁹² Completing the Energy Union: EU invests €48 million in priority energy infrastructure, European Commission (Brussels) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/completing-energy-union-eu-invests-eu48-million-priority-energy-infrastructure-2018-jul-16_en

³⁹⁹³ Completing the Energy Union: EU invests €48 million in priority energy infrastructure, European Commission (Brussels) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/completing-energy-union-eu-invests-eu48-million-priority-energy-infrastructure-2018-jul-16_en

³⁹⁹⁴ EU and China step up cooperation on climate change and clean energy, European Commission (Brussels) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-and-china-step-cooperation-climate-change-and-clean-energy-2018-jul-16_en

³⁹⁹⁵ Public consultation on the strategy for the long-term EU greenhouse gas emissions reduction, European Commission (Brussels) 17 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/public-consultation-strategy-long-term-eu-greenhouse-gas-emissions-reduction-2018-jul-17_en

³⁹⁹⁶ Public consultation on the strategy for the long-term EU greenhouse gas emissions reduction, European Commission (Brussels) 17 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/public-consultation-strategy-long-term-eu-greenhouse-gas-emissions-reduction-2018-jul-17_en

³⁹⁹⁷ Second energy interconnection summit: Lisbon declaration is signed, European Commission (Brussels) 27 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/second-energy-interconnection-summit-lisbon-declaration-signed-2018-jul-27_en

government of the Kingdom of Spain, and President Juncker and Commissioner Cañete, the declaration “aims to strengthen regional cooperation in the framework of the Energy Union and better integrate the Iberian Peninsula into the internal energy market.”³⁹⁹⁸

On 14 August 2018, the European Investment Bank (EIB) announced the signing of a EUR100 million financing agreement with TenneT, in order to support an electricity interconnector between Norway and Germany.³⁹⁹⁹ Vice-President Maroš Šefčovič stated: “we need forward-looking investments into modern energy infrastructure with adequate interconnections, in particular, to integrate renewables into the grid. It is a vital element of our energy security as well as our climate action.”⁴⁰⁰⁰

On 9 August 2018, President Juncker and U.S. President Donald Trump agreed to strengthen EU-U.S. strategic cooperation on energy.⁴⁰⁰¹ The EU will import more liquid natural gas from the U.S. to diversify and secure its energy supply. Commissioner Cañete stated: “diversification is an important element for ensuring the security of gas supply in the EU. Increasing imports of competitively priced liquefied natural gas from the U.S. is, therefore, to be welcomed.”⁴⁰⁰²

On 17 August 2018, the European Commission announced its approval of support for three schemes of electricity production from wind and solar in Denmark in 2018 and 2019.⁴⁰⁰³ The three schemes include a multi-technology tender scheme for onshore and offshore wind turbines and solar installations, an aid scheme for onshore wind technology tests and demonstrations, and a transitional aid scheme for onshore wind energy.⁴⁰⁰⁴ The Commission concluded that “the three Danish schemes will encourage the development of offshore and onshore wind and solar technologies, in line with the requirements of the Guidelines.”⁴⁰⁰⁵

On 1 September 2018, the EU implemented lightbulb regulations that enable household energy savings and reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.⁴⁰⁰⁶ Standard halogen light bulbs will no longer

³⁹⁹⁸ Second energy interconnection summit: Lisbon declaration is signed, European Commission (Brussels) 27 July 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/second-energy-interconnection-summit-lisbon-declaration-signed-2018-jul-27_en

³⁹⁹⁹ Juncker Plan supports Nordlink interconnector with €100 million EIB investment, European Commission (Brussels) 14 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/juncker-plan-supports-nordlink-interconnector-eu100-million-eib-investment-2018-aug-14_en

⁴⁰⁰⁰ Juncker Plan supports Nordlink interconnector with €100 million EIB investment, European Commission (Brussels) 14 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/juncker-plan-supports-nordlink-interconnector-eu100-million-eib-investment-2018-aug-14_en

⁴⁰⁰¹ EU-U.S. Joint Statement of 25 July: European Union imports of U.S. Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) are on the rise, European Commission (Brussels) 9 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4920_en.htm

⁴⁰⁰² EU-U.S. Joint Statement of 25 July: European Union imports of U.S. Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) are on the rise, European Commission (Brussels) 9 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4920_en.htm

⁴⁰⁰³ State aid: Commission approves three support measures for renewable energy in Denmark, European Commission (Brussels) 17 August 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-5042_en.htm

⁴⁰⁰⁴ State aid: Commission approves three support measures for renewable energy in Denmark, European Commission (Brussels) 17 August 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-5042_en.htm

⁴⁰⁰⁵ State aid: Commission approves three support measures for renewable energy in Denmark, European Commission (Brussels) 17 August 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-5042_en.htm

⁴⁰⁰⁶ New lightbulb rules will enable household energy savings and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, European Commission (Brussels) 31 August 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/new-lightbulb-rules-will-enable-household-energy-savings-and-help-reduce-ghg-emissions-2018-aug-31_en

be sold across the EU.⁴⁰⁰⁷ Moving forward, halogen light bulbs will be replaced by LED light bulbs, which are safer, more affordable, and more energy efficient.⁴⁰⁰⁸

On 13 September 2018, at the Global Climate Action Summit in San Francisco, Commissioner Cañete and Michael R. Bloomberg promised to collaborate to lead the “global transition away from coal.”⁴⁰⁰⁹ Bloomberg Philanthropies, together with the European Commission, will facilitate the development of viable strategies for a low-carbon transition in Europe.⁴⁰¹⁰

On 25 September 2018, the European Commission approved plans to support the modernisation of a German cogeneration plant in Herne.⁴⁰¹¹ The Commission “found that Germany’s support to the two plants will contribute to the EU’s energy and environmental objectives without unduly distorting competition in the Internal Market.”⁴⁰¹²

On 27 September 2018, the European Commission approved a maximum of EUR3.5 billion support to three offshore wind farm projects located in Belgian territorial waters.⁴⁰¹³ Despite none of the projects reaching the 300MW individual threshold set out in the 2014 Guidelines on State Aid for Environmental Protection and Energy, the Commission concluded that “the projects will increase the share of electricity produced from renewable sources in Belgium and reduce pollution” and that the “decision complements the Commission’s Energy Union Strategy to deliver secure, sustainable and competitive energy in Europe.”^{4014,4015}

On 4 October 2018, the European Commission made EU energy statistics publicly available.⁴⁰¹⁶ The document “provides energy statistics for all EU countries and the EU as a whole, covering areas

⁴⁰⁰⁷ New lightbulb rules will enable household energy savings and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, European Commission (Brussels) 31 August 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/new-lightbulb-rules-will-enable-household-energy-savings-and-help-reduce-ghg-emissions-2018-aug-31_en

⁴⁰⁰⁸ New lightbulb rules will enable household energy savings and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, European Commission (Brussels) 31 August 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/new-lightbulb-rules-will-enable-household-energy-savings-and-help-reduce-ghg-emissions-2018-aug-31_en

⁴⁰⁰⁹ Michael R. Bloomberg partners with Commissioner Arias Cañete to support European transition to coal power, European Commission (Brussels) 14 September 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/michael-r-bloomberg-partners-commissioner-arias-canete-support-european-transition-coal-power-2018-sep-13_en

⁴⁰¹⁰ Michael R. Bloomberg partners with Commissioner Arias Cañete to support European transition to coal power, European Commission (Brussels) 14 September 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/michael-r-bloomberg-partners-commissioner-arias-canete-support-european-transition-coal-power-2018-sep-13_en

⁴⁰¹¹ State aid: Commission approves support to two highly efficient cogeneration plants in Germany, European Commission (Brussels) 25 September 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/state-aid-commission-approves-support-two-highly-efficient-cogeneration-plants-germany-2018-sep-25_en

⁴⁰¹² State aid: Commission approves support to two highly efficient cogeneration plants in Germany, European Commission (Brussels) 25 September 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/state-aid-commission-approves-support-two-highly-efficient-cogeneration-plants-germany-2018-sep-25_en

⁴⁰¹³ State aid: Commission approves €3.5 billion support to three offshore wind farms in Belgium, European Commission (Brussels) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-5922_en.htm

⁴⁰¹⁴ State aid: Commission approves €3.5 billion support to three offshore wind farms in Belgium, European Commission (Brussels) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-5922_en.htm

⁴⁰¹⁵ State aid: Commission approves €3.5 billion support to three offshore wind farms in Belgium, European Commission (Brussels) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-5922_en.htm

⁴⁰¹⁶ EU energy statistics — latest data now available, European Commission (Brussels) 4 October 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-energy-statistics-latest-data-now-available-2018-oct-04_en

including energy production and consumption, socio-economic indicators, and the impact of the energy sector on the environment.”⁴⁰¹⁷

On 5 October 2018, the Northwester 2 wind energy project off the coast of Belgium secured a loan of EUR210 million through the EIB.⁴⁰¹⁸ The wind farm is estimated to deliver 219MW of green energy to around 220,000 Belgian families.⁴⁰¹⁹ European Commission Vice-President Šefčovič stated that “this new wind farm off the Belgian coast — with a strong innovative and cross-border component — is yet another proof how committed we are to investing into the energy of tomorrow.”⁴⁰²⁰

On 12 October 2018, the EU implemented a fuel labelling policy, which requires public filling stations to provide clear information about fuel and environmental impacts on consumers, operators and businesses.⁴⁰²¹

On 19 October 2018, the European Commission announced its support for a loan of EUR60 million by the Portuguese company Windplus through the EIB.⁴⁰²² Commissioner of Research, Science and Innovation Carlos Moedas stated: “today’s deal is another example of how EU financing is helping to lower the risk of rolling out innovative energy solutions.”⁴⁰²³

On 19 October 2018, the European Commission announced an update to its emergency oil stocks directive.⁴⁰²⁴ The changes update minimum EU stocks of crude oil and petroleum products, which will ensure the security of energy supplies in Europe.⁴⁰²⁵

On 22 October 2018, the European Commission announced the approval of a new measure to support France until 2020 in electricity production from renewable sources.⁴⁰²⁶ The measure includes EUR200 million of funding to support the self-consumption of renewable sources, in line with the

⁴⁰¹⁷ EU energy statistics — latest data now available, European Commission (Brussels) 4 October 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-energy-statistics-latest-data-now-available-2018-oct-04_en

⁴⁰¹⁸ #InvestEU: Europe gets behind Northwester 2 Wind Park off Belgian coast, European Commission (Brussels) 5 October 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investeu-europe-gets-behind-northwester-2-wind-park-belgian-coast-2018-oct-05_en

⁴⁰¹⁹ #InvestEU: Europe gets behind Northwester 2 Wind Park off Belgian coast, European Commission (Brussels) 5 October 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investeu-europe-gets-behind-northwester-2-wind-park-belgian-coast-2018-oct-05_en

⁴⁰²⁰ #InvestEU: Europe gets behind Northwester 2 Wind Park off Belgian coast, European Commission (Brussels) 5 October 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investeu-europe-gets-behind-northwester-2-wind-park-belgian-coast-2018-oct-05_en

⁴⁰²¹ EU fuel labelling: clearer information for consumers and operators, European Commission (Brussels) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6101_en.htm

⁴⁰²² Clean energy: EU supporting floating wind farm in Portugal with €60 million loan, European Commission (Brussels) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/clean-energy-eu-supports-floating-wind-farm-portugal-eu60-million-loan-2018-oct-19_en

⁴⁰²³ Clean energy: EU supporting floating wind farm in Portugal with €60 million loan, European Commission (Brussels) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/clean-energy-eu-supports-floating-wind-farm-portugal-eu60-million-loan-2018-oct-19_en

⁴⁰²⁴ Ensuring security of energy supply in the EU: update of the emergency oil stocks Directive, European Commission (Brussels) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/ensuring-security-energy-supply-eu-update-emergency-oil-stocks-directive-2018-oct-19_en

⁴⁰²⁵ Ensuring security of energy supply in the EU: update of the emergency oil stocks Directive, European Commission (Brussels) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/ensuring-security-energy-supply-eu-update-emergency-oil-stocks-directive-2018-oct-19_en

⁴⁰²⁶ State aid: Commission approves €200 million in public support for renewable energy for self-suppliers of electricity in France, European Commission (Brussels) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6168_en.htm

EU's energy framework and climate objectives.⁴⁰²⁷ Commissioner Vestager stated that “this scheme will stimulate competition between renewable energy sources for self-suppliers and will further increase the share of renewables in France’s energy mix.”⁴⁰²⁸

On 31 October 2018, the European Commission approved support for the construction and operation of a liquid natural gas terminal at the Klaipėda seaport in Lithuania.⁴⁰²⁹ The seaport will “contribute to the EU’s Energy Union objective to reduce energy import dependency by diversifying supply and creating a fuller, interconnected, EU wide energy market.”⁴⁰³⁰

On 8 November 2018, the European Commission approved public support for a natural gas interconnector between Greece and Bulgaria. This project will contribute to the security and diversification of EU energy supplies.⁴⁰³¹ Commissioner Vestager stated: “the new gas interconnector between Greece and Bulgaria will increase the security of energy supply and enhance competition.”⁴⁰³²

On 8 November 2018, the European Commission made the formal decision to send letters of notice to Austria, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Spain due to their failure in adequately implementing certain requirements of the Energy Efficiency Directive.⁴⁰³³

On 13 November 2018, the European Commission welcomed the European Parliament’s new rules on renewables, energy efficiency, and governance of the Energy Union.⁴⁰³⁴ Vice-President Šefčovič stated: “with today’s vote, we unlock the true potential of Europe’s clean energy transition, helping us meet our Paris Agreement goals and translating into more jobs, lower energy bills for consumers and less energy imports.”⁴⁰³⁵

On 13 November 2018, the European Commission adopted the decision to amend the EU’s energy efficiency legislation in consideration of the United Kingdom’s withdrawal from the European

⁴⁰²⁷ State aid: Commission approves €200 million in public support for renewable energy for self-suppliers of electricity in France, European Commission (Brussels) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018.

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6168_en.htm

⁴⁰²⁸ State aid: Commission approves €200 million in public support for renewable energy for self-suppliers of electricity in France, European Commission (Brussels) 22 October 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018.

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6168_en.htm

⁴⁰²⁹ State aid: Commission approves support for Klaipėda LNG terminal in Lithuania, European Commission (Brussels) 31 October 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6266_en.htm

⁴⁰³⁰ State aid: Commission approves support for Klaipėda LNG terminal in Lithuania, European Commission (Brussels) 31 October 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6266_en.htm

⁴⁰³¹ State aid: Commission approves public support for natural gas interconnector between Greece and Bulgaria, European Commission (Brussels) 8 November 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6342_en.htm

⁴⁰³² State aid: Commission approves public support for natural gas interconnector between Greece and Bulgaria, European Commission (Brussels) 8 November 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6342_en.htm

⁴⁰³³ Energy efficiency: Commission calls on 7 Member States to correctly transpose EU rules, European Commission (Brussels) 8 November 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/energy-efficiency-commission-calls-7-member-states-correctly-transpose-eu-rules-2018-nov-08_en

⁴⁰³⁴ Commission welcomes European Parliament adoption of key files of the Clean Energy for All Europeans package, European Commission (Brussels) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6383_en.htm

⁴⁰³⁵ Commission welcomes European Parliament adoption of key files of the Clean Energy for All Europeans package, European Commission (Brussels) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6383_en.htm

Union.⁴⁰³⁶ The energy consumption figures in the Energy Efficiency Directive and the Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union were changed to reflect a union of 27 members.⁴⁰³⁷

On 19 November 2018, the European Commission announced its efforts to strengthen the EU-Algeria Energy Dialogue, which covers natural gas, renewable energy, and energy efficiency.⁴⁰³⁸ Commissioner Cañete and Minister of Energy of Algeria Mustapha Guitouni met on 20 November 2018 to restart the EU-Algeria energy partnership.⁴⁰³⁹

On 22 November 2018, the European Commission welcomed a political agreement by co-legislators of the Regulation on Risk Preparedness to improve the EU's crisis preparedness in the electricity sector.⁴⁰⁴⁰ Commissioner Cañete stated that "today's deal is another major delivery in our transition to a clean and secure energy system."⁴⁰⁴¹

On 4 December 2018, the European Commission formally adopted the revised Renewable Energy Directive and the new Governance Regulation, legislative acts that make up the "Clean Energy for All Europeans Package" of 2016.⁴⁰⁴² Commissioner Cañete stated: "Today's adoption sends a further strong signal to climate talks in Katowice underlining the EU's commitment to meeting our Paris Agreement objectives."⁴⁰⁴³

On 7 December 2018, the European Commission adopted a policy to force German grid operator TenneT to significantly increase cross-border electricity flows between Denmark and Germany.⁴⁰⁴⁴

⁴⁰³⁶ Brexit preparedness: European Commission proposed to make technical amendments to EU energy efficiency legislation to take account of UK's withdrawal, European Commission (Brussels) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6406_en.htm

⁴⁰³⁷ Brexit preparedness: European Commission proposed to make technical amendments to EU energy efficiency legislation to take account of UK's withdrawal, European Commission (Brussels) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6406_en.htm

⁴⁰³⁸ The European Union and Algeria strengthen their energy partnership, European Commission (Brussels) 19 November 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/european-union-and-algeria-strengthen-their-energy-partnership-2018-nov-19_en

⁴⁰³⁹ The European Union and Algeria strengthen their energy partnership, European Commission (Brussels) 19 November 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/european-union-and-algeria-strengthen-their-energy-partnership-2018-nov-19_en

⁴⁰⁴⁰ Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete welcomes the political agreement on a proposal to improve the EU's risk preparedness in the electricity sector, European Commission (Brussels) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-6533_en.htm

⁴⁰⁴¹ Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete welcomes the political agreement on a proposal to improve the EU's risk preparedness in the electricity sector, European Commission (Brussels) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 26 November 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-6533_en.htm

⁴⁰⁴² Commission welcomes Council adoption of new rules on Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and Governance, European Commission (Brussels) 4 December 2018. Access date: 28 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-welcomes-council-adoption-new-rules-renewable-energy-energy-efficiency-and-governance-2018-dec-04_en.

⁴⁰⁴³ Commission welcomes Council adoption of new rules on Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and Governance, European Commission (Brussels) 4 December 2018. Access date: 28 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-welcomes-council-adoption-new-rules-renewable-energy-energy-efficiency-and-governance-2018-dec-04_en.

⁴⁰⁴⁴ Antitrust: Commission imposes binding obligations on TenneT to increase electricity trading capacity between Denmark and Germany, European Commission (Brussels) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6722_en.htm.

The newly adopted policies will allow more electricity producers to access the German wholesale market, thereby making the European energy market more competitive and integrated.⁴⁰⁴⁵

On 11 December 2018, the EU and the International Solar Alliance signed a Joint Declaration. The declaration will provide a platform for cooperation between solar resource-rich countries, multilateral organizations, industries and other stakeholders, with the aim of achieving an increase in global solar energy use.⁴⁰⁴⁶ Commissioner Cañete noted: “it will showcase European businesses leading in the solar energy sector and contribute to the efforts of internationalisation of our companies and to the Commission’s priority of growth and job creation.”⁴⁰⁴⁷

On 18 December 2018, the European Commission approved reductions granted to energy-intensive companies in Greece with the aim of financing renewable electricity production and efficient cogeneration.⁴⁰⁴⁸ The policy aims to “promote EU energy and climate goals, and to ensure the global competitiveness of energy-intensive industries.”⁴⁰⁴⁹

On 8 January 2019, the European Commission approved support for electricity production from renewable energy sources and a measure to back electro-intensive companies in Lithuania.⁴⁰⁵⁰ Commissioner Margrethe Vestager stated: “these two schemes will allow Lithuania to both continue supporting the development of renewable energy sources in the country and to preserve the competitiveness of electricity-intensive companies.”⁴⁰⁵¹

On 8 January 2019, the European Commission approved a EUR320 million plan to support biomass energy installations located in Portugal that are considered “critical” due to the risk of fires.⁴⁰⁵² The

⁴⁰⁴⁵ Antitrust: Commission imposes binding obligations on TenneT to increase electricity trading capacity between Denmark and Germany, European Commission (Brussels) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6722_en.htm.

⁴⁰⁴⁶ Signature by the EU and the International Solar Alliance of a Joint Declaration for cooperation of solar energy, European Commission (Brussels) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/signature-eu-and-international-solar-alliance-joint-declaration-cooperation-solar-energy-2018-dec-11_en.

⁴⁰⁴⁷ Signature by the EU and the International Solar Alliance of a Joint Declaration for cooperation of solar energy, European Commission (Brussels) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/signature-eu-and-international-solar-alliance-joint-declaration-cooperation-solar-energy-2018-dec-11_en.

⁴⁰⁴⁸ State aid: Commission approves reductions in renewable energy and cogeneration surcharges for energy-intensive companies in Greece, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6847_en.htm.

⁴⁰⁴⁹ State aid: Commission approves reductions in renewable energy and cogeneration surcharges for energy-intensive companies in Greece, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6847_en.htm.

⁴⁰⁵⁰ State aid: Commission approves support for production of electricity from renewable energy sources and electro-intensive users in Lithuania, European Commission (Brussels) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-242_en.htm.

⁴⁰⁵¹ State aid: Commission approves support for production of electricity from renewable energy sources and electro-intensive users in Lithuania, European Commission (Brussels) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-242_en.htm.

⁴⁰⁵² State aid: Commission approves a €320 million scheme to support biomass energy installations close to forests at risk of fires in Portugal, European Commission (Brussels) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/state-aid-commission-approves-eu320-million-scheme-support-biomass-energy-installations-close-forests-risk-fires-portugal-2019-jan-08_en.

new installations will produce energy and incentivize forest owners to clean the forest by using excess biomass, thereby preventing future forest fires in Portugal.⁴⁰⁵³

On 21 January 2019, France opened bids for a 300-megawatt solar power project as part of its conversion plan for the country's oldest nuclear power plant Fessenheim.⁴⁰⁵⁴ The conversion is part of the government's plan to increase the development of renewable energies.⁴⁰⁵⁵ Minister of Ecology François de Rugy stated that “the launch of the tender shows the commitment of the government on the conversion of Fessenheim. It will help develop local electricity production from renewable energies.”⁴⁰⁵⁶ The European Commission has approved the EUR250 million project, stating that “the aid ... will contribute to the French and European objectives of energy efficiency and energy production from renewable sources, in line with the EU's environmental objectives, with possible distortions of competition state support being reduced to a minimum.”⁴⁰⁵⁷

On 23 January 2019, the European Commission announced a further investment of EUR800 million in priority energy infrastructure that has major cross-border benefits.⁴⁰⁵⁸ Vice-President Maroš Šefčovič stated: “today's approved list showcases that Energy Union is an efficient tool to modernise and green our economies, to make them future proof in line with climate and environmental goals.”⁴⁰⁵⁹

On 28 January 2019, the European Commission approved a EUR36 million investment in Polish chemical company LG Chem for a new electric vehicle battery plant. The new plant will contribute to the region's development while also preserving and facilitating competition.⁴⁰⁶⁰

On 14 February 2019, the European Commission launched a consultation that will explore views on ways to apply the Commission Recommendation on the international role of the Euro in the energy sector.⁴⁰⁶¹ Commissioner Cañete stated: “strengthening the international role of the Euro in the field

⁴⁰⁵³ State aid: Commission approves a €320 million scheme to support biomass energy installations close to forests at risk of fires in Portugal, European Commission (Brussels) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/state-aid-commission-approves-eu320-million-scheme-support-biomass-energy-installations-close-forests-risk-fires-portugal-2019-jan-08_en.

⁴⁰⁵⁴ France Opens 300 MW Solar Tender in Fessenheim Nuclear Conversion Plan, Reuters (Paris) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://uk.reuters.com/article/france-electricity-solar/france-opens-300-mw-solar-tender-in-fessenheim-nuclear-conversion-plan-idUKL8N1ZN23J>.

⁴⁰⁵⁵ France Opens 300 MW Solar Tender in Fessenheim Nuclear Conversion Plan, Reuters (Paris) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://uk.reuters.com/article/france-electricity-solar/france-opens-300-mw-solar-tender-in-fessenheim-nuclear-conversion-plan-idUKL8N1ZN23J>.

⁴⁰⁵⁶ France Opens 300 MW Solar Tender in Fessenheim Nuclear Conversion Plan, Reuters (Paris) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://uk.reuters.com/article/france-electricity-solar/france-opens-300-mw-solar-tender-in-fessenheim-nuclear-conversion-plan-idUKL8N1ZN23J>.

⁴⁰⁵⁷ EU Approves France's Plan to Replace Nuclear Plant with 300 MW of PV, PV Magazine. 21 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.pv-magazine.com/2019/01/21/eu-approves-frances-plan-to-replace-nuclear-plant-with-300-mw-of-pv/>.

⁴⁰⁵⁸ Energy Union: EU invests a further €800 million in priority energy infrastructure, European Commission (Brussels) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-561_en.htm.

⁴⁰⁵⁹ Energy Union: EU invests a further €800 million in priority energy infrastructure, European Commission (Brussels) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-561_en.htm

⁴⁰⁶⁰ State aid: Commission approves 36 million Polish investment aid to LG Chem's electric vehicles batteries plant, European Commission (Brussels) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-744_en.htm.

⁴⁰⁶¹ Commission launches consultation on strengthening the global role of the euro in the field of energy, European Commission (Brussels) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-launches-consultation-strengthening-global-role-euro-field-energy-2019-feb-14_en.

of energy investment and trade will help reduce the risk of supply disruptions and promote the autonomy of European businesses.”⁴⁰⁶²

On 18 February 2019, the European Commission announced the official launch of a clean energy transition initiative by 26 European islands.⁴⁰⁶³ Director-General for Energy at the European Commission Dominique Ristori stated: “the 26 islands selected display a remarkable potential and enthusiasm for developing strong and lasting multi-stakeholder collaborations around the clean energy transition.”⁴⁰⁶⁴

On 25 February 2019, the European Commission approved state aid for four floating demonstration offshore wind farms in France, with one to be situated in the Atlantic Ocean and three others in the Mediterranean.⁴⁰⁶⁵ Each wind farm is projected to have a total installed capacity of 24 megawatts despite different construction, with “the objective [being] to test these different technological solutions, with the long-term goal to test [sic] this technology before deploying it on a larger scale.”⁴⁰⁶⁶ The European Commission noted that “the four projects will promote the use of electricity generated from renewable sources and will help France meet its climate targets, without unduly distorting competition.”⁴⁰⁶⁷

On 26 February 2019, the European Commission announced an investment programme for low-carbon technologies with the aim of increasing global competitiveness.⁴⁰⁶⁸ Worth over EUR10 billion, the investment programme aims to create local green jobs and growth, energy-efficient homes, cleaner air, more efficient public transport systems, and secure supplies of energy.⁴⁰⁶⁹

On 8 March 2019, the European Commission welcomed the provisional agreement reached by the European Parliament and the Council Europe Facility (CEF) to fund high-performing energy infrastructure and enhance Europe’s connectivity.⁴⁰⁷⁰ Commissioner Cañete stated: “today’s

⁴⁰⁶² Commission launches consultation on strengthening the global role of the euro in the field of energy, European Commission (Brussels) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-launches-consultation-strengthening-global-role-euro-field-energy-2019-feb-14_en.

⁴⁰⁶³ 26 European islands launch clean energy transition, European Commission (Brussels) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/26-european-islands-launch-clean-energy-transition-2019-feb-18_en.

⁴⁰⁶⁴ 26 European islands launch clean energy transition, European Commission (Brussels) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/26-european-islands-launch-clean-energy-transition-2019-feb-18_en.

⁴⁰⁶⁵ State Aid: Commission Approves Support for Four Floating Demonstration Offshore Wind Farms in France, European Commission (Brussels) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1412_en.htm?locale=en.

⁴⁰⁶⁶ State Aid: Commission Approves Support for Four Floating Demonstration Offshore Wind Farms in France, European Commission (Brussels) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1412_en.htm?locale=en.

⁴⁰⁶⁷ State Aid: Commission Approves Support for Four Floating Demonstration Offshore Wind Farms in France, European Commission (Brussels) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1412_en.htm?locale=en.

⁴⁰⁶⁸ Towards a climate-neutral Europe: EU invests over €10bn in innovative clean technologies, European Commission (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1381_en.htm.

⁴⁰⁶⁹ Towards a climate-neutral Europe: EU invests over €10bn in innovative clean technologies, European Commission (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1381_en.htm.

⁴⁰⁷⁰ EU Budget: Commission welcomes provisional agreement for funding high-performance infrastructure to better connect Europeans, European Commission (Brussels) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1600_en.htm.

agreement will enable us to build the infrastructure needed for the clean energy transition and help achieve our ambitious 2030 climate and energy targets.”⁴⁰⁷¹

On 8 March 2019, the European Commission approved an increase in the budget of a plan to compensate energy-intensive companies in Spain.⁴⁰⁷² The budget increase will directly benefit companies active in sectors facing heightened electricity costs, especially those that are unprotected from international competition.⁴⁰⁷³

On 18 March 2019, the European Commission approved plans to support the increase of regasification capacity and the development of additional functionalities of an LNG terminal in Poland.⁴⁰⁷⁴ The project will receive EUR128 million in funding from the European Regional Development Fund and the Cohesion fund to ensure the security of gas supplies in Poland and in the overall Baltic region.⁴⁰⁷⁵

On 19 March 2019, the European Commission launched the first edition of the RESponsible Island Prize, allotted to islands with innovative and sustainable, local and renewable energy production for electricity, heating, cooling and transport.⁴⁰⁷⁶

On 20 March 2019, the EU awarded a EUR323 million grant to Baltic synchronisation projects that will support the Baltic States’ electricity network and the European system.⁴⁰⁷⁷ Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy Miguel Arias Cañete stated: “today marks another important milestone for the European Energy Union and in the Baltic States’ ambition to truly integrate their electricity system with continental Europe, improving energy security in the Baltic region and reinforce European solidarity.”⁴⁰⁷⁸

⁴⁰⁷¹ EU Budget: Commission welcomes provisional agreement for funding high-performance infrastructure to better connect Europeans, European Commission (Brussels) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1600_en.htm.

⁴⁰⁷² State aid: Commission approves budget increase for support scheme for energy-intensive companies in Spain, European Commission (Brussels) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/state-aid-commission-approves-budget-increase-support-scheme-energy-intensive-companies-spain-2019-mar-08_en.

⁴⁰⁷³ State aid: Commission approves budget increase for support scheme for energy-intensive companies in Spain, European Commission (Brussels) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/state-aid-commission-approves-budget-increase-support-scheme-energy-intensive-companies-spain-2019-mar-08_en.

⁴⁰⁷⁴ State aid: Commission clears increase in regasification capacity of LNG terminal in Świnoujście, Poland, European Commission (Brussels) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/state-aid-commission-clears-increase-regasification-capacity-lng-terminal-swinoujscie-poland-2019-mar-18_en.

⁴⁰⁷⁵ State aid: Commission clears increase in regasification capacity of LNG terminal in Świnoujście, Poland, European Commission (Brussels) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/state-aid-commission-clears-increase-regasification-capacity-lng-terminal-swinoujscie-poland-2019-mar-18_en.

⁴⁰⁷⁶ Competition starts today: new prize to reward islands for local renewable energy production, European Commission (Brussels) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/competition-starts-today-new-prize-reward-islands-local-renewable-energy-production-2019-mar-19_en.

⁴⁰⁷⁷ Energy Union: EU awards €323 million grant to Baltic synchronisation project at policy conference on interconnected energy grids, European Commission (Brussels) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/energy-union-eu-awards-eu323-million-grant-baltic-synchronisation-project-policy-conference-interconnected-energy-grids-2019-mar-20_en.

⁴⁰⁷⁸ Energy Union: EU awards €323 million grant to Baltic synchronisation project at policy conference on interconnected energy grids, European Commission (Brussels) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/energy-union-eu-awards-eu323-million-grant-baltic-synchronisation-project-policy-conference-interconnected-energy-grids-2019-mar-20_en.

On 20 March 2019, the European Commission released EUR750 million in funding for key European energy infrastructure projects with the intention to support programming and initiatives for trans-European energy infrastructure.⁴⁰⁷⁹

On 3 April 2019, the European Commission adopted a recommendation that provides guidance on how to address and prevent challenges of cybersecurity in the energy sector. This is indicative of the measures being taken to ensure European energy and grid resilience.⁴⁰⁸⁰

On 15 April 2019, the European Commission approved a EUR5 billion Polish scheme that will support high-efficiency cogeneration and reduce financing surcharges for energy-intensive users.⁴⁰⁸¹ Commissioner Margrethe Vestager stated: “the Polish support scheme approved today will provide an important contribution to EU environmental and climate goals without unduly distorting competition.”⁴⁰⁸²

On 15 April 2019, the European Commission signed an agreement regarding the EUR214.9 million Connecting Europe Facility grant for the Baltic Pipe project, which will connect Poland and Denmark with Norway.⁴⁰⁸³ The Baltic Pipe Project is an infrastructure project that aims to allow the shipment of gas from the North Sea to the Polish market and broader Baltic States and neighbouring countries.⁴⁰⁸⁴

On 16 April 2019, the European Commission approved EUR64 million in funding for a highly efficient waste-to-energy cogeneration plant in Olsztyn, Poland.⁴⁰⁸⁵ Cogeneration increases energy

⁴⁰⁷⁹ Energy Union: €750 million in EU funding available for clean energy infrastructure, European Commission (Brussels) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/energy-union-eu750-million-eu-funding-available-clean-energy-infrastructure-2019-mar-20_en.

⁴⁰⁸⁰ Tackling cybersecurity challenges in energy: Commission adopts recommendation on cybersecurity in the energy sector, European Commission (Brussels) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/tackling-cybersecurity-challenges-energy-commission-adopts-recommendation-cybersecurity-energy-sector-2019-apr-03_en.

⁴⁰⁸¹ State aid: Commission approves €5 billion Polish support for cogenerated electricity and surcharge reductions for large energy consumers; open in-depth investigation into reductions in capacity mechanism surcharge, European Commission (Brussels) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2150_en.htm.

⁴⁰⁸² State aid: Commission approves €5 billion Polish support for cogenerated electricity and surcharge reductions for large energy consumers; open in-depth investigation into reductions in capacity mechanism surcharge, European Commission (Brussels) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2150_en.htm.

⁴⁰⁸³ Energy Union: Commission to endorse Baltic Pipe project, a pipeline that unites creating a new gas supply corridor in the European market, European Commission (Brussels) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/energy-union-commission-endorse-baltic-pipe-project-pipeline-unites-creating-new-gas-supply-corridor-european-market-2019-apr-15_en.

⁴⁰⁸⁴ Energy Union: Commission to endorse Baltic Pipe project, a pipeline that unites creating a new gas supply corridor in the European market, European Commission (Brussels) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/energy-union-commission-endorse-baltic-pipe-project-pipeline-unites-creating-new-gas-supply-corridor-european-market-2019-apr-15_en.

⁴⁰⁸⁵ State aid: Commission approves €54 million support for a waste-to-energy highly efficient cogeneration plant in Poland, European Commission (Brussels) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/state-aid-commission-approves-eu54-million-support-waste-energy-highly-efficient-cogeneration-plant-poland-2019-apr-16_en.

efficiency by recycling heat from power generation for other purposes, and this plant contribute to the EU's energy and environmental objectives without unduly distorting competition.⁴⁰⁸⁶

On 16 April 2019, the European Commission approved Irish plans in support of heat energy generation through biomass and anaerobic digestion.⁴⁰⁸⁷ These renewable technologies will be open to various users across commercial, agricultural, industrial, district heating sectors and other non-domestic heat users.⁴⁰⁸⁸

On 23 April 2019, the European Commission approved EUR386 million in support of renewable electricity production in Lithuania, which will contribute largely to Lithuania's transition to a low-carbon, resilient and sustainable energy supply.⁴⁰⁸⁹

On 10 May 2019, the European Commission approved compensation granted by Slovakia to the electric utility company Slovenské Elektrárne a.s. in response to a national plan to entrust the utility company with ensuring the security of energy supply in regions insufficiently connected to the rest of Slovakia's national electricity grid.⁴⁰⁹⁰

On 7 May 2019, France and Ireland announced that a bilateral 700-megawatt power link, the first of its kind for the two states, was approved and due for commission in 2026. The French government will cover 35 per cent of the EUR930 million cost. The European Commission declared that the project is eligible for EU financial support, with 60 per cent of its costs being covered. Ireland has expressed that the prospect of Brexit has made it imperative to establish Ireland's energy security and connections to Europe.⁴⁰⁹¹

On 22 May 2019, the EU formally adopted four new pieces of legislation that restructures the EU electricity market.⁴⁰⁹² This legislation builds on the previously introduced "Clean energy for all Europeans package" to provide a "modern, stable legal environment and setting a clear and common sense of direction ... to stimulate necessary public and private investment" in ensuring a clean and

⁴⁰⁸⁶ State aid: Commission approves €54 million support for a waste-to-energy highly efficient cogeneration plant in Poland, European Commission (Brussels) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/state-aid-commission-approves-eu54-million-support-waste-energy-highly-efficient-cogeneration-plant-poland-2019-apr-16_en.

⁴⁰⁸⁷ State aid: Commission approves Irish scheme for renewable heat generation, European Commission (Brussels) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/state-aid-commission-approves-irish-scheme-renewable-heat-generation-2019-apr-16_en.

⁴⁰⁸⁸ State aid: Commission approves Irish scheme for renewable heat generation, European Commission (Brussels) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/state-aid-commission-approves-irish-scheme-renewable-heat-generation-2019-apr-16_en.

⁴⁰⁸⁹ State aid: Commission approves €385 million support for production of electricity from renewable sources in Lithuania, European Commission (Brussels) 23 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2230_en.htm.

⁴⁰⁹⁰ State aid: Commission approves provisional measure ensuring security of local electricity supply in Slovakia, European Commission (Brussels) 10 May 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2469_en.htm.

⁴⁰⁹¹ France and Ireland Agree 700MW Interconnector, Energy Reporters (Paris) 7 May 2019. Access Date: 11 June 2019. <https://www.energy-reporters.com/transmission/france-and-ireland-agree-700mw-interconnectors>.

⁴⁰⁹² Clean energy for all Europeans package completed: good for consumers, good for growth and jobs, and good for the planet, European Commission (Brussels) 22 May 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/clean-energy-all-europeans-package-completed-good-consumers-good-growth-and-jobs-and-good-planet-2019-may-22_en.

fair energy transition while reinforcing consumer rights.⁴⁰⁹³ Commissioner Cañete stated: “this is the most ambitious set of energy proposals ever presented by the European Commission... I truly believe it will accelerate the clean energy transition and give all Europeans access to secure, competitive and sustainable energy.”⁴⁰⁹⁴

On 29 May 2019, the European Commission, the European Investment Bank, and Breakthrough Energy Ventures established a EUR100 million investment fund that will support the development of innovative European companies and bring cutting-edge clean energy solutions to the market.⁴⁰⁹⁵

The European Union has demonstrated compliance with its commitment by consistently developing sustainable economic growth, demonstrating leadership in collective energy security, and cooperating with other members on energy transition.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Benson Ompoc

⁴⁰⁹³ Clean energy for all Europeans package completed: good for consumers, good for growth and jobs, and good for the planet, European Commission (Brussels) 22 May 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019.

https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/clean-energy-all-europeans-package-completed-good-consumers-good-growth-and-jobs-and-good-planet-2019-may-22_en.

⁴⁰⁹⁴ Clean energy for all Europeans package completed: good for consumers, good for growth and jobs, and good for the planet, European Commission (Brussels) 22 May 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019.

https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/clean-energy-all-europeans-package-completed-good-consumers-good-growth-and-jobs-and-good-planet-2019-may-22_en.

⁴⁰⁹⁵ The European Commission, European Investment Bank and Breakthrough Energy Ventures establish a new €100 million fund to support clean energy investments, European Commission (Brussels) 29 May 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2770_en.htm.

18. Gender: Quality Education for Girls and Women

“We will ensure commitment to gender equality and prioritize improved access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts, while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.”

G7 Charlevoix Declaration on Quality Education for Girls, Adolescent Girls and Women in Developing Countries

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France		0	
Germany		0	
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union		0	
Average		+0.63	

Background

In recent years, gender equality has been a growing topic within the G7. In 1979, the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women was conceived, a ground-breaking moment for the fight for gender equality within global governance.⁴⁰⁹⁶ The Convention provides the framework of “equality between women and men through ensuring women’s equal access to, and equal opportunities in, political and public life — including the right to vote and to stand for election -- as well as education, health, and employment.”⁴⁰⁹⁷

In the following years, major advances towards the overall goal for gender equality were made. On 15 September 1995, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action was created with an unprecedented 17,000 participants and 30,000 activists for the Fourth World Conference on Women.⁴⁰⁹⁸ This conference created the most progressive blueprint of its time for advancing women’s rights, and for connecting women’s rights movements and activism with a global platform.⁴⁰⁹⁹ The Platform of Action imagined a world where “woman and girls can exercise [their] freedoms and choices and realize all [their] rights ... [and] to go to school.”⁴¹⁰⁰

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development reflects a turning point in global governance, namely one that turns its attention to girls and women. All 193 United Nations member states committed to the goal of ending gender inequality by 2030.⁴¹⁰¹ This demonstrates global will to tackle the issue

⁴⁰⁹⁶ Overview of the Convention, UN Women 1979. Access Date: 21 July 2018.

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/>.

⁴⁰⁹⁷ Overview of the Convention, UN Women 1979. Access Date: 21 July 2018.

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/>.

⁴⁰⁹⁸ The Beijing Platform for Action, UN Women 2015. Access Date: 21 July 2018.

<http://beijing20.unwomen.org/en/about>.

⁴⁰⁹⁹ The Beijing Platform for Action, UN Women 2015. Access Date: 21 July 2018.

<http://beijing20.unwomen.org/en/about>.

⁴¹⁰⁰ The Beijing Platform for Action, UN Women 2015. Access Date: 21 July 2018.

<http://beijing20.unwomen.org/en/about>.

⁴¹⁰¹ UN Adopts new Global Goals, charting sustainable development for people and planet by 2030, UN News 25 September 2015. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2015/09/509732-un-adopts-new-global-goals-charting-sustainable-development-people-and-planet>.

from its root causes. Sustainable Development Goal 5 specifically targets the “end of all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere (5.1),” and to “ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life (5.5).”⁴¹⁰²

Moreover, the global call to action by the UN Secretary General’s High-Level Panel (HLP) for Women’s Economic Empowerment was an important step for gender equality.⁴¹⁰³ On 22 September 2016, HLP for Women’s Economic Empowerment released its first findings at the UN General Assembly. This report strived to show the challenges faced by disadvantaged and vulnerable women.⁴¹⁰⁴

On 26 June 2010, at the Muskoka Summit, the host nation Canada set a precedent for Maternal, Newborn and Under-Five Child Health under the G8 Muskoka Initiative.⁴¹⁰⁵ In this initiative, the G8 emphasized the necessity of improving education for women and girls as action is required on all factors that affect the health of women and children.⁴¹⁰⁶

On 27 May 2016 at the Ise-Shima Summit, the leaders committed to empowering women and girls through capacity building, which included education and training, alongside science, technology, engineering and mathematics.⁴¹⁰⁷ This goal was set in the hopes that women and girls would realize their full potential, which is why the G7 leaders endorsed the G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls: towards Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace.⁴¹⁰⁸

On 16 November 2017, along with the representatives from the G7 members, the Gender Equality Ministers met in Taormina, Italy. This meeting was the last of 13 ministerial meetings that took place during the Italian G7 presidency. The discussions focused on how women’s economic empowerment could be a driver for global growth and development. Namely, the ministers reaffirmed commitments from previous summits, especially the commitments made by previous G7 and G20 presidencies and declarations. They committed to taking the full effort to “meet the respective qualitative and quantitative targets and deadlines set out in the G7 Roadmap for Gender-Responsive Economic Environment.”⁴¹⁰⁹ The declaration also noted the importance to invest in social

⁴¹⁰² Target & Indicators Goal 5, Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform March 2016. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg5>.

⁴¹⁰³ Press Release: First report by High-Level Panel on Women’s Economic Empowerment outlines drivers to advance gender equality, UN Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel on Women’s Economic Empowerment 22 September 2016. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <http://hlp-wee.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2016/09/press-release-first-report-by-high-level-panel-on-womens-economic-empowerment>.

⁴¹⁰⁴ Press Release: First report by High-Level Panel on Women’s Economic Empowerment outlines drivers to advance gender equality, UN Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel on Women’s Economic Empowerment 22 September 2016. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <http://hlp-wee.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2016/09/press-release-first-report-by-high-level-panel-on-womens-economic-empowerment>.

⁴¹⁰⁵ Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Center 26 June 2010. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>.

⁴¹⁰⁶ Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Center 26 June 2010. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>.

⁴¹⁰⁷ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Center 27 May 2016. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>.

⁴¹⁰⁸ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Center 27 May 2016. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>.

⁴¹⁰⁹ G7 Ministerial Meeting on Gender Equality: Declaration of the Minister Taromina, Italy, G7 Information Centre 16 November 2017. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/gender/2017-gender-quality.html>.

infrastructure to support households' care for children, including quality of life in education facilities.⁴¹¹⁰

Leading up to the 2018 G7 summit in Charlevoix, Canadian prime minister Justin Trudeau promised an unprecedented emphasis on women and girls over the course of the group's deliberations.⁴¹¹¹ All G7 members expressed support for Canada's theme of gender equality and female empowerment. Uniquely to the Charlevoix Summit, Prime Minister Trudeau created the G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council, which signifies a significant step as a host nation championing and mainstreaming gender equality. The advisory council is composed of prominent feminist leaders, in an attempt to bring forth insightful commitments that spark real change.⁴¹¹² A core commitment was to girls' education.⁴¹¹³

On 9 June 2018, G7 leaders agreed upon a summit declaration entitled Quality Education for Girls, Adolescent Girls and Women in Developing Countries.⁴¹¹⁴ The declaration recognized the necessity for the full participation of everyone in order to promote social development and sustainable economic growth. The leaders emphasized support for "education, through our development and humanitarian assistance, that aspires to achieve gender equality."⁴¹¹⁵ Specifically, the emphasis was placed on the importance of safe transportation and investment in secure school facilities, in order to make education a rewarding and welcoming environment for girls around the world.

Commitment Features

The G7 member "will ensure commitment to gender equality and prioritize improved access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts, while supporting schools as safe spaces for children." The word "will" is understood to mean a commitment which entails a pledge that "ensures" direct action for gender equality. "Ensure" is considered to make something certain to happen.⁴¹¹⁶ Gender equality in the context of the G7 is understood as binary (men/boys and women/girls) and does not refer to the larger spectrum of gender and sexual identities.

This commitment will ensure gender equality between men/boys and women/girls by prioritiz[ing] improved access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts, while support[ing] schools as safe spaces for children.

⁴¹¹⁰ G7 Roadmap for a Gender-Responsive Economic Environment, G7 Information Centre 27 May 2017. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/gender.html>.

⁴¹¹¹ Trudeau says equality will be top priority a G7 summit despite concern about Trump's distractions, The Globe and Mail 5 June 2018. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/politics/article-trudeau-says-gender-equality-will-be-top-priority-at-g7-summit-despite/>

⁴¹¹² Trudeau says equality will be top priority a G7 summit despite concern about Trump's distractions, The Globe and Mail 5 June 2018. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/politics/article-trudeau-says-gender-equality-will-be-top-priority-at-g7-summit-despite/>.

⁴¹¹³ Trudeau says equality will be top priority a G7 summit despite concern about Trump's distractions, The Globe and Mail 5 June 2018. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/politics/article-trudeau-says-gender-equality-will-be-top-priority-at-g7-summit-despite/>.

⁴¹¹⁴ Charlevoix Declaration on Quality Education for Girls, Adolescent Girls and Women in Developing Countries, G7 Information Centre 9 June 2018. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/education-commitment.html>.

⁴¹¹⁵ Charlevoix Declaration on Quality Education for Girls, Adolescent Girls and Women in Developing Countries, G7 Information Centre 9 June 2018. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/education-commitment.html>.

⁴¹¹⁶ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Global Governance Program (Toronto) 27 September 2017. Access Date: 30 August 2018.

In the first part of the commitment, “prioritize” is defined as to “give high priority to” the need to improve access to quality education for girls and women. “Women” refers to all female persons of working age whereas “girls” is defined a female under aged 18, or a persons’ child. “Access” should be interpreted to mean the right to obtain or make use of the entity in reference.⁴¹¹⁷ According to the International Labour Organization, this includes all women aged 15 or above who are either employed, unemployed, or not in the labour force.⁴¹¹⁸ As understood by the United Nations, a girl child can be defined as a socially constructed category around female persons between 0 and 18 years.⁴¹¹⁹

“Improve” refers to taking concrete actions for the betterment of something.⁴¹²⁰ Examples of improvements include enhancing and updating old initiatives or implementing new ones to reach an old goal. When talking about improved access to quality education, the member is expected to partner with key humanitarian and development organization and host government to promote coordination when providing education in early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding. These efforts will be made in order to ensure gender equality, and thus, girls and women must be the subject and target of members’ initiatives. It is particularly important that such efforts are of “quality” which is understood as an initiative that adequately and sufficiently addresses women’s’ needs in the school environment. Examples of quality education include teachers, supplies and basic infrastructure needed such as women/girl’s bathrooms.

The “early stages” is understood as the “stabilization when immediate emergency needs have been addressed and return/recovery, when those who are displaced are returning home and/or the focus is on rebuilding systems and structures and transitioning to development.”⁴¹²¹ It is important to note, that “early stages” is not limited to this time period but requires a fulsome approach to the emergency, looking at a wholesome response that includes prevention, pre-crisis, and the crisis in order to promote humanitarian responses and peacebuilding efforts.⁴¹²² According to the United Nations Population Fund, these are the four stages of humanitarian response: emergency preparation & contingency planning, acute emergency response, chronic humanitarian situations, transition, and recovery.⁴¹²³ Peacebuilding would entail specifically “chronic situations & transition/recovery.”⁴¹²⁴ “We share a responsibility” to build a more peaceful and secure world, recognizing that respect for human rights, the rule of law and equality of opportunity are necessary for lasting security and to

⁴¹¹⁷ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Global Governance Program (Toronto) 27 September 2017. Access Date: 12 September 2018.

⁴¹¹⁸ Definitions, International Labour Organization (Geneva) 2011. Access Date: 21 July 2018.
https://www.ilo.org/ilostat/faces/home/statisticaldata/conceptsdefinitions?_afLoop=245436817571306#%40%3F_afrLoop%3D245436817571306%26_adf.ctrl-state%3Dpxg0kcjth_38.

⁴¹¹⁹ Girl child empowerment: A challenge for all, United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women 2006. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/egm/elim-disc-viol-girlchild/ExpertPapers/EP.8%20%20%20Bidegain.pdf>.

⁴¹²⁰ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Global Governance Program (Toronto) 27 September 2017. Access Date: 20 July 2018.

⁴¹²¹ Stages of Emergency, UN WOMEN May 2007. Access Date: 30 August 2018.
<http://www.endvawnow.org/en/articles/1510-stages-of-emergency.html>.

⁴¹²² Stages of Emergency, UN WOMEN May 2007. Access Date: 30 August 2018.
<http://www.endvawnow.org/en/articles/1510-stages-of-emergency.html>.

⁴¹²³ A Human Rights-Based Approach to Programming, United Nations Population Fund 2010. Access Date: 12 September 2018. <https://www.unfpa.org/resources/human-rights-based-approach-programming-0>.

⁴¹²⁴ A Human Rights-Based Approach to Programming, United Nations Population Fund 2010. Access Date: 12 September 2018. <https://www.unfpa.org/resources/human-rights-based-approach-programming-0>.

enable economic growth that works for everyone.”⁴¹²⁵ This is from the communique under “building a more peaceful and secure world.”⁴¹²⁶

Humanitarian response is the material and logistical assistance to people in need with the intention of alleviating human suffering.⁴¹²⁷ Peacebuilding efforts is a broad term that has “diverse actors in government and civil society at the community, national, and international levels to address the immediate impacts and root causes of conflict before, during, and after a violent conflict occurs.”⁴¹²⁸ Examples of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts include both government and non-government projects.

To fulfill the first aspect of the commitment, the G7 member must prioritize improved access to quality education: 1) for girls, 2) for women, 3) in early stages of humanitarian response and 4) in early stages of peacebuilding effort.

The second part of the commitment reflects the importance of the work environment for women and girls as they receive an education. “Supporting” refers to the act of providing aid, assistance, or public affirmation to an initiative or entity.⁴¹²⁹ In the context of this commitment, G7 members must aid, assist, or affirm their schools to be safe spaces for children. Therefore, examples of supporting “safety” in schools include implementing precautionary measures and outlining safety concerns for both male and female students attending their schools. “Supporting safe spaces,” in the context of this commitment refers to any actions taken to improve accessibility and security for children in school. Examples of actions taken towards supporting schools as safe spaces for children include but are not limited to: Supporting developing country partners in their efforts to provide equal opportunities for girls and women to complete at least 12 years of quality education from their early years through to secondary school or Supporting actions to make schools and education institutions safe and welcoming for girls and women, including through investments in secure schools.⁴¹³⁰

To fulfill the second aspect of the commitment, the G7 member must take initiatives to support a safe school environment for children, both male and female, in addition to the four options of providing access.

To achieve full compliance a G7 member must successfully prioritize improved access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children. For further context on the concept of gender equality, please refer to the document published by the Gender Equality Advisory Council for Canada’s G7 Presidency entitled Make Gender Inequality History.⁴¹³¹

⁴¹²⁵ A Human Rights-Based Approach to Programming, United Nations Population Fund 2010. Access Date: 12 September 2018. <https://www.unfpa.org/resources/human-rights-based-approach-programming-0>.

⁴¹²⁶ A Human Rights-Based Approach to Programming, United Nations Population Fund 2010. Access Date: 12 September 2018. <https://www.unfpa.org/resources/human-rights-based-approach-programming-0>.

⁴¹²⁷ Defining humanitarian assistance, Development Initiatives. Access Date: 12 September 2018. <http://devinit.org/defining-humanitarian-assistance/#>.

⁴¹²⁸ What is Peacebuilding? Alliance for Peacebuilding. Access Date: 30 August 2018. <http://www.allianceforpeacebuilding.org/what-is-peacebuilding/>.

⁴¹²⁹ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Global Governance Program (Toronto) 27 September 2017. Access Date: 30 September 2018.

⁴¹³⁰ Charlevoix Declaration on Quality Education for Girls, Adolescent Girls and Women in Developing Countries, G7 Information Centre 9 June 2018. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/education-commitment.html>.

⁴¹³¹ Make Gender Inequality History, G7 2018 Charlevoix Advancing Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment 4 June 2018. Access Date: 21 July 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Recommendations-by-the-Gender-Equality-Advisory-Council.pdf>.

Partial compliance is a score of 0 when the G7 member has fulfilled one of the four components of prioritized access to education while supported schools as safe spaces for children. This means that the G7 member has, for example, successfully prioritized improved access to quality education for girls while supporting schools as a safe place. The G7 member will receive a score of -1 for non-compliance if they have not successfully prioritized improved access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts nor supported schools as safe spaces for children.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member has NOT prioritized improved access to quality education 1) for girls, 2) for women, 3) in early stages of humanitarian response and 4) in early stages of peacebuilding efforts NOR 2) supported schools as safe spaces for children
0	G7 member has EITHER prioritized improved access to quality education 1) for girls, 2) for women, 3) in early stages of humanitarian response and 4) in early stages of peacebuilding efforts WHILE 2) supported schools as safe spaces for children
+1	G7 member has prioritized improved access to quality education 1) for girls, 2) for women, 3) in early stages of humanitarian response and 4) in early stages of peacebuilding efforts WHILE 2) supported schools as safe spaces for children

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Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with the commitment to prioritize improved access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.

On 9 June 2018, Canada, along with the European Union, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the World Bank invested CAD 3.8 billion to improving access and reducing barriers to quality education around the world.⁴¹³² This is an investment in education for women and girls in crisis and conflict situations.⁴¹³³

On 23 September 2018, Canada and Spain publicly reaffirmed their commitment to gender equality.⁴¹³⁴ This included the principles of the Charlevoix commitment to support developing

⁴¹³² Canada and partners announce historic investment in education for women and girls in crisis and conflict situations, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/06/09/canada-and-partners-announce-historic-investment-education-women-and-girls-crisis>.

⁴¹³³ Canada and partners announce historic investment in education for women and girls in crisis and conflict situations, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/06/09/canada-and-partners-announce-historic-investment-education-women-and-girls-crisis>.

⁴¹³⁴ Declaration in favour of gender equality between the government of Spain and the government of Canada, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Montreal) 23 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/09/23/declaration-favour-gender-equality-between-government-spain-and-government-canada>.

countries in their efforts to provide improved access to education for girls and women and support of investments to make schools safe spaces.⁴¹³⁵

On 24 September 2018, Canada pledged support for the International Finance Facility for Education at a session at the United Nations General Assembly.⁴¹³⁶ The Facility proposes an innovative model to address gaps in financing for lower and middle-income countries seeking to invest in their education systems.⁴¹³⁷

On 27 September 2018, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau delivered opening remarks at 12 Years to Break Barriers and Leave No Girls Behind, co-hosts of which included the UK, France Jordan, Kenya, and Niger.⁴¹³⁸ More than 500 stakeholders reaffirmed and issued their commitment to undertake concrete policy action to address barriers in order to provide 12 years of free, safe and quality education for all girls.⁴¹³⁹

On 10 October 2018, Greg Fergus, the Member of Parliament for Hull-Aylmer, on behalf of the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Public Services and Procurement Canada, and Minister of Public Services and Procurement Canada, announced the Canadian government is opening its training centre in Gatineau to students of Ecole secondaire Mont-Bleu for the remainder of the school year after the school was damaged by lightning during a storm.⁴¹⁴⁰ Space was made available in the Asticou Centre to ensure that students have an adequate and safe learning environment.

On 10 October 2018, John Oliver, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health announced more than CAD 4.1 million in funding under Health Canada's Substance Use and Addictions Program prior to the Cannabis Act coming into force.⁴¹⁴¹ As part of this funding package, the Ontario Physical and Health Education Association will receive CAD 653,000 for a program that

⁴¹³⁵ Declaration in favour of gender equality between the government of Spain and the government of Canada, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Montreal) 23 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/09/23/declaration-favour-gender-equality-between-government-spain-and-government-canada>.

⁴¹³⁶ Make Impossible Possible: Unlocking Human Potential Through Education, The Education Commission 24 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://educationcommission.org/updates/make-impossible-possible-unlocking-human-potential-through-education/>.

⁴¹³⁷ Make Impossible Possible: Unlocking Human Potential Through Education, The Education Commission 24 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <http://educationcommission.org/updates/make-impossible-possible-unlocking-human-potential-through-education/>.

⁴¹³⁸ Prime Minister concludes successful week at the United Nations General Assembly, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (New York) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/09/26/prime-minister-concludes-successful-week-united-nations-general-assembly>.

⁴¹³⁹ 12 Years to Break Barriers and Leave No Girl Behind, United Nations Girls' Education Initiative 15 September 2018. Access date: 17 October 2018. http://www.ungei.org/index_6525.html.

⁴¹⁴⁰ Government of Canada makes Asticou Centre available for Mont Bleu students, Public Safety Canada (Gatineau) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2018/10/government-of-canada-makes-asticou-centre-available-for-mont-bleu-students-displaced-by-recent-tornado.html>.

⁴¹⁴¹ Government of Canada funds innovative cannabis public education projects targeting young Canadians, Health Canada (Toronto) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2018/10/government-of-canada-funds-innovative-cannabis-public-education-projects-targeting-young-canadians.html>.

equips school educators with the necessary tools to address cannabis use and safety risks in schools.⁴¹⁴²

On 12 October 2018, Canada's Minister of International Development announced the provision of up to CAD 50 million over two years for Palestinian refugees through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.⁴¹⁴³ Up to CAD 40 million will assist in the provision of basic services, including helping over 500,000 Palestinian children receive a basic quality education.⁴¹⁴⁴ However, this assistance is not limited to women and girls specifically.

Included in the 12 October 2018 announcement is Canada's commitment to providing up to CAD 12.5 million over five years for Right to Play International.⁴¹⁴⁵ Right to Play International will collaborate with UNRWA to create safe, inclusive and gender-responsive classrooms for Palestinian refugee children in the West Bank and Gaza.⁴¹⁴⁶

Between 23 and 31 October 2018, the Governor General of Canada visited three West African nations, including Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, and Nigeria, to deepen Canada's relations with these states and reaffirm partnerships committed to promoting access to quality education.⁴¹⁴⁷ As part of the visit, the Governor General visited a school in Burkina Faso to emphasize the importance of equitable and quality education for the country's youth.⁴¹⁴⁸

On 6 November 2018, Marie-Claude Bibeau, the Minister of International Development, announced an additional CAD 50 million in funding, taken out of the CAD 400 million budget pledged at the Charlevoix G7 summit, for the Global Financing Facility through 2020.⁴¹⁴⁹ It is an innovative financing mechanism that helps developing countries transform investment models in the health

⁴¹⁴² Government of Canada funds innovative cannabis public education projects targeting young Canadians, Health Canada (Toronto) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2018/10/government-of-canada-funds-innovative-cannabis-public-education-projects-targeting-young-canadians.html>.

⁴¹⁴³ Canada provides support to Palestinian refugees, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/10/canada-provides-support-to-palestinian-refugees.html>.

⁴¹⁴⁴ Backgrounder — Canada's support for Palestinian refugees, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa). Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/10/canadas-support-for-palestinian-refugees.html>.

⁴¹⁴⁵ Canada provides support to Palestinian refugees, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 12 October 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/10/canada-provides-support-to-palestinian-refugees.html>.

⁴¹⁴⁶ Backgrounder — Canada's support for Palestinian refugees, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa). Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/10/canadas-support-for-palestinian-refugees.html>.

⁴¹⁴⁷ Governor General of Canada to visit Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, and Nigeria. Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 16 October 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/10/16/governor-general-canada-visit-burkina-faso-cote-divoire-and-nigeria>.

⁴¹⁴⁸ Governor General of Canada to visit Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, and Nigeria. Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 16 October 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/10/16/governor-general-canada-visit-burkina-faso-cote-divoire-and-nigeria>.

⁴¹⁴⁹ Canada announces additional support for Global Financing Facility, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 6 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/11/canada-announces-additional-support-for-global-financing-facility.html>

sector to benefit women and children and reduce barriers to accessing care, services, and education in order to ultimately reduce poverty.⁴¹⁵⁰

On 13 November 2018, the Canadian government announced CAD 19.5 million through 2023 for gender-responsive education through Right to Play in Ghana, Mozambique, and Rwanda.⁴¹⁵¹ The project will address challenges in the education sector, including barriers to education for young girls.⁴¹⁵²

On 16 November 2018, Jane Philpott, the Minister of Indigenous Services, announced an investment of CAD 248 million in partnership with First Nations communities for new school infrastructure in four First Nation reserves, as well as major renovations to an existing school in northern Manitoba.⁴¹⁵³ The new and upgraded facilities will ensure the delivery of quality education and reduce the need for students to move off-reserve in order to complete their education.⁴¹⁵⁴

On 16 November 2018, Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of International Development announced CAD 23 million in funding for two initiatives that will help advance gender equality for women and girls in Ethiopia.⁴¹⁵⁵ One of the initiatives is Women's Voice and Leadership, which supports local women's organizations across Ethiopia to strengthen their capacity to promote gender equality and empower women and girls in their communities.⁴¹⁵⁶

On 2 December 2018, Canada pledged CAD 50 million over three years to Education Cannot Wait as part of its initial Charlevoix G7 Summit commitment of CAD 400 million to reduce barriers to quality education for women and girls in conflict zones.⁴¹⁵⁷ Education Cannot Wait addresses gaps in financing, capacity, and coordination in crisis situations to provide quality education for children.⁴¹⁵⁸

On 15 December 2018, Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Chrystia Freeland, and the Minister of International Development, Marie-Claude Bibeau, issued a statement in support of the UN-

⁴¹⁵⁰ Canada announces additional support for Global Financing Facility, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 6 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/11/canada-announces-additional-support-for-global-financing-facility.html>

⁴¹⁵¹ Canada announces funding for projects in Rwanda, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa). Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/11/canada-announces-funding-for-projects-in-rwanda.html>.

⁴¹⁵² Canada announces funding for projects in Rwanda, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa). Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/11/canada-announces-funding-for-projects-in-rwanda.html>.

⁴¹⁵³ Four new schools to be built in one of the largest infrastructure contracts ever awarded by First Nations in partnership with Indigenous Services Canada (Winnipeg) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2018/11/four-new-schools-to-be-built-in-one-of-the-largest-infrastructure-contracts-ever-awarded-by-first-nations-in-partnership-with-indigenous-services-c.html>.

⁴¹⁵⁴ Four new schools to be built in one of the largest infrastructure contracts ever awarded by First Nations in partnership with Indigenous Services Canada (Winnipeg) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2018/11/four-new-schools-to-be-built-in-one-of-the-largest-infrastructure-contracts-ever-awarded-by-first-nations-in-partnership-with-indigenous-services-c.html>.

⁴¹⁵⁵ Minister Bibeau concludes visit to Ethiopia by announcing initiatives to empower women and girls, Global Affairs Canada (Addis Ababa) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/11/minister-bibeau-concludes-visit-to-ethiopia-by-announcing-initiatives-to-empower-women-and-girls.html>

⁴¹⁵⁶ Minister Bibeau concludes visit to Ethiopia by announcing initiatives to empower women and girls, Global Affairs Canada (Addis Ababa) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/11/minister-bibeau-concludes-visit-to-ethiopia-by-announcing-initiatives-to-empower-women-and-girls.html>

⁴¹⁵⁷ About Education Cannot Wait, Global Affairs Canada. (Ottawa). Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/12/about-education-cannot-wait.html>.

⁴¹⁵⁸ About Education Cannot Wait, Global Affairs Canada. (Ottawa). Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/12/about-education-cannot-wait.html>.

sponsored peace consultations on Yemen.⁴¹⁵⁹ The statement reaffirmed Canada's continued support of gender-responsive humanitarian action in Yemen, including addressing the specific humanitarian needs of girls and women.⁴¹⁶⁰ However, explicit mention of action on access to education for women and girls was not included.

On 19 December 2018, Bardish Chagger, on behalf of Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of International Development, announced CAD17.97 million in funding over five years for the Mennonite Economic Development Associates project in Senegal.⁴¹⁶¹ The project promotes the use of innovative technologies and best practices for women and youth to improve economic resilience.⁴¹⁶² Project activities will include developing customized training programs for women and youth in financial management, business planning and adapting to climate change.⁴¹⁶³

On 16 January 2019, Canada's Minister for Women and Gender Equality, Maryam Monsef, met with the newly established Advisory Committee on the Framework to Prevent and Address Gender-Based Violence at Post-Secondary Institutions.⁴¹⁶⁴ The Committee provides advice and expertise on the development, consultation and implementation of the framework, which will serve as a comprehensive resource for post-secondary institutions to help guide actions in addressing gender-based violence.⁴¹⁶⁵ The Government of Canada is working with the Advisory Council of partners to ensure the safety of Canada's youth while they complete their studies.⁴¹⁶⁶

On 21 January 2019, the Government of Canada and Assembly of First Nations announced a new policy and funding approach for First Nations K-12 education on reserve.⁴¹⁶⁷ The funding will

⁴¹⁵⁹ Canada encouraged by UN-sponsored peace consultations on Yemen, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 15 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/12/canada-encouraged-by-un-sponsored-peace-consultations-on-yemen.html>.

⁴¹⁶⁰ Canada encouraged by UN-sponsored peace consultations on Yemen, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 15 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/12/canada-encouraged-by-un-sponsored-peace-consultations-on-yemen.html>.

⁴¹⁶¹ Canada announces Canada funding for the empowerment of women and youth in Senegal, MEDA (Waterloo) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.meda.org/press-releases/1499-la-ministre-chagger-annonce-le-financement-d-affaires-mondiales-canada-pour-l-autonomisation-des-femmes-et-des-jeunes-au-senegal>.

⁴¹⁶² Canada announces new initiative to empower women and youth in Senegal, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/12/canada-announces-new-initiative-to-empower-women-and-youth-in-senegal.html>.

⁴¹⁶³ Canada announces new initiative to empower women and youth in Senegal, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/12/canada-announces-new-initiative-to-empower-women-and-youth-in-senegal.html>.

⁴¹⁶⁴ Minister Monsef establishes new Advisory Committee to support efforts to end gender-based violence at post-secondary institutions, Status of Women Canada (Montreal) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/01/minster-monsef-establishes-new-advisory-committee-to-support-efforts-to-end-gender-based-violence-at-post-secondary-institutions.html>.

⁴¹⁶⁵ Minister Monsef establishes new Advisory Committee to support efforts to end gender-based violence at post-secondary institutions, Status of Women Canada (Montreal) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/01/minster-monsef-establishes-new-advisory-committee-to-support-efforts-to-end-gender-based-violence-at-post-secondary-institutions.html>.

⁴¹⁶⁶ Minister Monsef establishes new Advisory Committee to support efforts to end gender-based violence at post-secondary institutions, Status of Women Canada (Montreal) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/01/minster-monsef-establishes-new-advisory-committee-to-support-efforts-to-end-gender-based-violence-at-post-secondary-institutions.html>.

⁴¹⁶⁷ Government of Canada and Assembly of First Nations announce new policy and funding approach for First Nations K-12 education on reserve, Indigenous Services Canada (Unceded Algonquin Territory, Ottawa) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-and-assembly-of-first-nations-announce-new-policy-and-funding-approach-for-first-nations-k-12-education-on-reserve.html>.

support First Nations with control of their own education, ensure predictable and sufficient funding, and better support the needs of students on reserve by accounting for factors such as remoteness, school size, language and socio-economic conditions.⁴¹⁶⁸ This new approach allows First Nations to build education systems that reflect their needs and vision of holistic learning, and a culturally safe space for First Nations children to learn.⁴¹⁶⁹

On 22 January 2019, the Minister of Border Security and Organized Crime Reduction, Bill Blair, and Minister of Defence announced CAD7.5 million in federal funding for the Surrey Anti-Gang Family Empowerment (SAFE) Program.⁴¹⁷⁰ SAFE provides at-risk youth with alternatives to joining gangs and is funded through the National Crime Prevention Strategy which funds programs that target young people through schools, community centers and neighbourhood activities.⁴¹⁷¹

On 22 January 2019, Member of Parliament for Saint Boniface-Saint Vital and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Indigenous Services, Dan Vandal, announced a CAD9.5 million investment for two education infrastructure projects.⁴¹⁷² This includes the expansion of the Amikobi primary school and a new centre for the Aboriginal Head Start on Reserve program which helps children develop healthy lifestyles.⁴¹⁷³ The investment provides access to renovated education facilities that focuses on the physical, emotional, culture and social well-being of children.⁴¹⁷⁴

On 23 January 2019, Prime Minister Trudeau announced funding for Dene High School in La Loche, Saskatchewan to support cultural and language based programs, on-the-land activities, and mental

⁴¹⁶⁸ Government of Canada and Assembly of First Nations announce new policy and funding approach for First Nations K-12 education on reserve, Indigenous Services Canada (Unceded Algonquin Territory, Ottawa) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-and-assembly-of-first-nations-announce-new-policy-and-funding-approach-for-first-nations-k-12-education-on-reserve.html>.

⁴¹⁶⁹ Government of Canada and Assembly of First Nations announce new policy and funding approach for First Nations K-12 education on reserve, Indigenous Services Canada (Unceded Algonquin Territory, Ottawa) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-and-assembly-of-first-nations-announce-new-policy-and-funding-approach-for-first-nations-k-12-education-on-reserve.html>.

⁴¹⁷⁰ Government of Canada provides support to at-risk youth in Surrey to create safer communities, Public Safety Canada (Surrey) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-provides-support-to-at-risk-youth-in-surrey-to-create-safer-communities.html>.

⁴¹⁷¹ Government of Canada provides support to at-risk youth in Surrey to create safer communities, Public Safety Canada (Surrey) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-provides-support-to-at-risk-youth-in-surrey-to-create-safer-communities.html>.

⁴¹⁷² Government of Canada congratulates the Nation Anishnabe du Lac Simon on Amikobi primary school expansion and new centre for the Aboriginal Head Start on reserve program, Indigenous Services Canada (Lac Simon) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-congratulates-the-nation-anishnabe-du-lac-simon-on-amikobi-primary-school-expansion-and-new-centre-for-the-aboriginal-head-sta.html>.

⁴¹⁷³ Government of Canada congratulates the Nation Anishnabe du Lac Simon on Amikobi primary school expansion and new centre for the Aboriginal Head Start on reserve program, Indigenous Services Canada (Lac Simon) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-congratulates-the-nation-anishnabe-du-lac-simon-on-amikobi-primary-school-expansion-and-new-centre-for-the-aboriginal-head-sta.html>.

⁴¹⁷⁴ Government of Canada congratulates the Nation Anishnabe du Lac Simon on Amikobi primary school expansion and new centre for the Aboriginal Head Start on reserve program, Indigenous Services Canada (Lac Simon) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-congratulates-the-nation-anishnabe-du-lac-simon-on-amikobi-primary-school-expansion-and-new-centre-for-the-aboriginal-head-sta.html>.

health services for students.⁴¹⁷⁵ The funding is a result of recommendations from the community and supports the Holistic Healing Plan that the Dene High School developed after the 2016 shootings.⁴¹⁷⁶ It builds on work the federal government is already doing in La Loche, including funding mental health services and supporting at-risk youth to ensure that every child has access to quality education in a safe environment.⁴¹⁷⁷

On 23 January 2019, Seamus O'Regan, the Minister of Indigenous Services, Rob Fleming, British Columbia Minister of Education, and Tyrone McNeil, President of the First Nations Education Steering Committee announced the signing of the BC Tripartite Education Agreement.⁴¹⁷⁸ It is a five-year agreement that will benefit First Nations students in BC attending on-reserve, public or independent schools.⁴¹⁷⁹ The Agreement includes the establishment of new funding models and the creation of a First Nations Language policy leading to full-course offerings of First Nations languages in public schools.⁴¹⁸⁰ It is intended to close the education outcome gaps and provide a sense of safety and security to explore personal cultural identity for First Nations youth.⁴¹⁸¹

On 4 February 2019, the Government of Canada announced a contribution of CAD52.89 million towards a stabilization and humanitarian response to the crisis in Venezuela and neighbouring

⁴¹⁷⁵ Prime Minister announces funding for La Loche high school, Prime Minister of Canada (La Loche) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2019/01/23/prime-minister-announces-funding-la-loche-high-school>.

⁴¹⁷⁶ Prime Minister announces funding for La Loche high school, Prime Minister of Canada (La Loche) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2019/01/23/prime-minister-announces-funding-la-loche-high-school>.

⁴¹⁷⁷ Prime Minister announces funding for La Loche high school, Prime Minister of Canada (La Loche) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2019/01/23/prime-minister-announces-funding-la-loche-high-school>.

⁴¹⁷⁸ First Nations students to benefit from BC Tripartite Education Agreement with Canada, British Columbia and the First Nations Education Steering Committee, Indigenous Services Canada (West Vancouver) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2019/01/first-nations-students-to-benefit-from-bc-tripartite-education-agreement-with-canada-british-columbia-and-the-first-nations-education-steering-comm.html>.

⁴¹⁷⁹ First Nations students to benefit from BC Tripartite Education Agreement with Canada, British Columbia and the First Nations Education Steering Committee, Indigenous Services Canada (West Vancouver) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2019/01/first-nations-students-to-benefit-from-bc-tripartite-education-agreement-with-canada-british-columbia-and-the-first-nations-education-steering-comm.html>.

⁴¹⁸⁰ First Nations students to benefit from BC Tripartite Education Agreement with Canada, British Columbia and the First Nations Education Steering Committee, Indigenous Services Canada (West Vancouver) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2019/01/first-nations-students-to-benefit-from-bc-tripartite-education-agreement-with-canada-british-columbia-and-the-first-nations-education-steering-comm.html>.

⁴¹⁸¹ First Nations students to benefit from BC Tripartite Education Agreement with Canada, British Columbia and the First Nations Education Steering Committee, Indigenous Services Canada (West Vancouver) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2019/01/first-nations-students-to-benefit-from-bc-tripartite-education-agreement-with-canada-british-columbia-and-the-first-nations-education-steering-comm.html>.

countries.⁴¹⁸² This funding will assist with the provision of basic needs, including access to health care, water and sanitation, and education, with an emphasis on the needs of women and girls.⁴¹⁸³

On 5 February 2019, Seamus O'Regan, Minister of Indigenous Services Canada, congratulated the Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation on the completion of improvements to the Aboriginal Head Start on Reserve facility.⁴¹⁸⁴ The federal government provided CAD1,088,276 for renovations, including energy efficiency and accessibility upgrades.⁴¹⁸⁵ The renovations provide a safe and accessible space for the children and are part of a wider initiative of working with First Nation communities to improve on-reserve education facilities for students.⁴¹⁸⁶

On 11 February 2019, Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Health, announced more than CAD1.2 million in funding over five years for the University of Calgary to deliver and evaluate a teen and youth dating violence prevention program called WiseGuyz.⁴¹⁸⁷ The program is delivered in schools and promotes healthy masculinities and positive ways of being a young man to grade nine boys to help prevent teen dating violence.⁴¹⁸⁸ The funding will increase the delivery of the program to students across Alberta.⁴¹⁸⁹

On 13 February 2019, Member of Parliament Peter Fragiskatos, on behalf of Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Health, announced nearly CAD5 million in funding over five years to Western University's Healthy Relationships Approach to Violence Prevention and Mental Health Promotion

⁴¹⁸² Canada announces assistance for those affected by Venezuela crisis, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 4 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/02/canada-announces-assistance-for-those-affected-by-venezuela-crisis.html>.

⁴¹⁸³ Canada announces assistance for those affected by Venezuela crisis, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 4 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/02/canada-announces-assistance-for-those-affected-by-venezuela-crisis.html>.

⁴¹⁸⁴ Government of Canada Congratulates the Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation on the Grand Opening of the Mne Koodi Headstart Centre, Indigenous Services Canada (Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-congratulates-the-alexis-nakota-sioux-nation-on-the-grand-opening-of-the-mne-koodi-headstart-centre.html>.

⁴¹⁸⁵ Government of Canada Congratulates the Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation on the Grand Opening of the Mne Koodi Headstart Centre, Indigenous Services Canada (Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-congratulates-the-alexis-nakota-sioux-nation-on-the-grand-opening-of-the-mne-koodi-headstart-centre.html>.

⁴¹⁸⁶ Government of Canada Congratulates the Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation on the Grand Opening of the Mne Koodi Headstart Centre, Indigenous Services Canada (Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-congratulates-the-alexis-nakota-sioux-nation-on-the-grand-opening-of-the-mne-koodi-headstart-centre.html>.

⁴¹⁸⁷ Government of Canada announces funding to promote healthy relationships to prevent teen dating violence, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-promote-healthy-relationships-to-prevent-teen-dating-violence.html>.

⁴¹⁸⁸ Government of Canada announces funding to promote healthy relationships to prevent teen dating violence, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-promote-healthy-relationships-to-prevent-teen-dating-violence.html>.

⁴¹⁸⁹ Government of Canada announces funding to promote healthy relationships to prevent teen dating violence, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-promote-healthy-relationships-to-prevent-teen-dating-violence.html>.

with Vulnerable Youth project.⁴¹⁹⁰ The project is an evidence-based program aimed at preventing teen and youth dating violence.⁴¹⁹¹

On 18 February 2019, Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Health, awarded nearly CAD1.8 million to two projects aimed at addressing teen and youth dating violence.⁴¹⁹² Boost Child & Youth Advocacy Centre delivers a curriculum through the Toronto District School Board and the Toronto District Catholic School Board.⁴¹⁹³ The University of Windsor's Girl, you got this! Project will adapt and deliver an intervention focused on helping young women resist sexual coercion and assault.⁴¹⁹⁴

On 21 February 2019, the Minister of Indigenous Services, Seamus O'Regan, reaffirmed the Government of Canada's commitment to improve and support student safety and to ensure that education and health services meet the needs of students.⁴¹⁹⁵ The statement is a result of a report card release on progress made on recommendations from the 2016 Ontario Coroner's inquest into the deaths of seven First Nations youth who died while attending high school in Thunder Bay.⁴¹⁹⁶

On 26 February 2019, Chrystia Freeland, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of International Development, announced an additional CAD46.7 million to respond to the humanitarian crisis in Yemen, building on the existing CAD130 million provided since 2015.⁴¹⁹⁷ The funding will be allocated to international organizations and agencies for urgent assistance and will

⁴¹⁹⁰ Government of Canada announces funding to promote healthy relationships for vulnerable youth, Public Health Agency of Canada (London) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-promote-healthy-relationships-for-vulnerable-youth.html>.

⁴¹⁹¹ Government of Canada announces funding to promote healthy relationships for vulnerable youth, Public Health Agency of Canada (London) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-promote-healthy-relationships-for-vulnerable-youth.html>.

⁴¹⁹² Government of Canada announces funding to help prevent teen dating violence, Public Health Agency of Canada (Windsor) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-help-prevent-teen-dating-violence---projects-will-provide-students-with-skills-and-resources-to-recognize.html>.

⁴¹⁹³ Government of Canada announces funding to help prevent teen dating violence, Public Health Agency of Canada (Windsor) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-help-prevent-teen-dating-violence---projects-will-provide-students-with-skills-and-resources-to-recognize.html>.

⁴¹⁹⁴ Government of Canada announces funding to help prevent teen dating violence, Public Health Agency of Canada (Windsor) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-help-prevent-teen-dating-violence---projects-will-provide-students-with-skills-and-resources-to-recognize.html>.

⁴¹⁹⁵ The Government of Canada remains committed to addressing coroner's recommendations in Thunder Bay youth Inquest, Indigenous Services Canada (Thunder Bay). 21 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2019/02/the-government-of-canada-remains-committed-to-addressing-coroners-recommendations-in-thunder-bay-youth-inquest.html>.

⁴¹⁹⁶ The Government of Canada remains committed to addressing coroner's recommendations in Thunder Bay youth Inquest, Indigenous Services Canada (Thunder Bay). 21 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2019/02/the-government-of-canada-remains-committed-to-addressing-coroners-recommendations-in-thunder-bay-youth-inquest.html>.

⁴¹⁹⁷ Canada announces new humanitarian funding and remains committed to supporting people of Yemen in achieving long-lasting peace, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa). 26 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/02/canada-announces-new-humanitarian-funding-and-remains-committed-to-supporting-people-of-yemen-in-achieving-long-lasting-peace.html>.

also focus on the urgent needs of women and girls, in particular.⁴¹⁹⁸ However, it does not explicitly mention improving access to education for girls.

On 4 March 2019, Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Health, announced the provision of nearly CAD1 million to the Students Commission of Canada's Be the Change project to help prevent teen and youth dating violence.⁴¹⁹⁹ The project will develop a youth dating violence intervention to be designed and delivered by youth in 15 communities in Canada.⁴²⁰⁰ It will examine issues including the influence of media, online content and school settings on attitudes.⁴²⁰¹

On 4 March 2019, Maryam Monsef, Minister of International Development and Minister for Women and Gender Equality, launched a national committee committed to gender equality.⁴²⁰² The purpose of the committee is to increase awareness of gender equality and inclusion of diversity and engage in discussions with Canadians on how to work to improve the lives of women and girls domestically and abroad.⁴²⁰³

On 8 March 2019, Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Health, reaffirmed the government's commitment to preventing gender-based violence by committing CAD1 million over five years to Raison d'Art's PortraitX project.⁴²⁰⁴ The project will use technology and art therapy in schools to educate students on how to identify and prevent dating violence in select schools in Montreal and Oakville.⁴²⁰⁵

On 13 April 2019, Maryam Monsef, Minister of International Development and Minister for Women and Gender Equality, announced the launch of a guiding document for Canada's feminist foreign

⁴¹⁹⁸ Canada announces new humanitarian funding and remains committed to supporting people of Yemen in achieving long-lasting peace, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa). 26 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/02/canada-announces-new-humanitarian-funding-and-remains-committed-to-supporting-people-of-yemen-in-achieving-long-lasting-peace.html>.

⁴¹⁹⁹ Government of Canada announces funding to help prevent teen dating violence, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-help-prevent-teen-dating-violence.html>.

⁴²⁰⁰ Government of Canada announces funding to help prevent teen dating violence, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-help-prevent-teen-dating-violence.html>.

⁴²⁰¹ Government of Canada announces funding to help prevent teen dating violence, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-help-prevent-teen-dating-violence.html>.

⁴²⁰² Women Deliver 2019 Conference: Government of Canada launches national committee to engage Canadians in taking action on gender equality, Global Affairs Canada (Toronto) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/03/women-deliver-2019-conference-government-of-canada-launches-national-committee-to-engage-canadians-in-taking-action-on-gender-equality.html>.

⁴²⁰³ Women Deliver 2019 Conference: Government of Canada launches national committee to engage Canadians in taking action on gender equality, Global Affairs Canada (Toronto) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/03/women-deliver-2019-conference-government-of-canada-launches-national-committee-to-engage-canadians-in-taking-action-on-gender-equality.html>.

⁴²⁰⁴ Government of Canada announces funding for innovative project to help prevent teen dating violence, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-announces-funding-for-innovative-project-to-help-prevent-teen-dating-violence.html>.

⁴²⁰⁵ Government of Canada announces funding for innovative project to help prevent teen dating violence, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-announces-funding-for-innovative-project-to-help-prevent-teen-dating-violence.html>.

policy entitled *A Feminist Approach: Gender Equality in Humanitarian Action*.⁴²⁰⁶ The document outlines the actions Canada will take to increase gender responsiveness in humanitarian action, including innovative approaches to removing obstacles to quality education in order to empower women and girls.⁴²⁰⁷

On 17 April 2019, Patty Hajdu, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour, announced a commitment of nearly CAD3 million over five years to support three initiatives to prevent teen dating violence in rural and Indigenous communities.⁴²⁰⁸ The projects will be funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada and will include a school-based program targeting teenagers in Thunder Bay, Ontario.⁴²⁰⁹

On 30 April 2019, Pam Damoff, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health, announced more than CAD 6.4 million in funding for seven projects aimed at preventing gender-based violence amongst teens and youth.⁴²¹⁰ The selected projects include Planned Parenthood Ottawa, which designs and implements classroom-based workshops for grade eight and nine students to reduce teen dating violence.⁴²¹¹ Additionally, a school-based intervention delivered by the University of Quebec will help students identify and understand impacts of teen dating violence, and train educators, school administrators and parents to effectively address and respond to such violence.⁴²¹²

On 10 May 2019, Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Health, announced CAD5 million in funding for UpLift.⁴²¹³ UpLift is an initiative to promote healthy eating and physical wellbeing among

⁴²⁰⁶ Statement by Minister Monsef on building a more gender-responsive humanitarian system, Global Affairs Canada (Washington) 13 April 2019. Access date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/04/statement-by-minister-monsef-on-building-a-more-gender-responsive-humanitarian-system.html>.

⁴²⁰⁷ *A Feminist Approach: Gender Equality in Humanitarian Action*, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 12 April 2019. Access date: 10 June 2019. https://international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/priorities-priorites/fiap_humanitarian-action-humanitaire_paif.aspx?lang=eng.

⁴²⁰⁸ Government of Canada announces funding to prevent teen dating violence in rural and Indigenous communities, Public Health Agency of Canada (Thunder Bay) 17 April 2019. Access date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-prevent-teen-dating-violence-in-rural-and-indigenous-communities.html>.

⁴²⁰⁹ Government of Canada announces funding to prevent teen dating violence in rural and Indigenous communities, Public Health Agency of Canada (Thunder Bay) 17 April 2019. Access date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-prevent-teen-dating-violence-in-rural-and-indigenous-communities.html>.

⁴²¹⁰ Government of Canada supports partners focused on preventing gender-based violence, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 30 April 2019. Access date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-supports-partners-focused-on-preventing-gender-based-violence.html>

⁴²¹¹ Projects help prevent teen and youth dating violence in Canada including rural and Indigenous communities, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 30 April 2019. Access date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/04/backgrounder-projects-help-prevent-teen-and-youth-dating-violence-in-canada-including-rural-and-indigenous-communities.html>.

⁴²¹² Projects help prevent teen and youth dating violence in Canada including rural and Indigenous communities, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 30 April 2019. Access date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/04/backgrounder-projects-help-prevent-teen-and-youth-dating-violence-in-canada-including-rural-and-indigenous-communities.html>.

⁴²¹³ Government of Canada supports physical activity, healthy eating, and wellbeing for students across Nova Scotia, Public Health Agency of Canada (Amherst) 10 May 2019. Access date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-supports-physical-activity-healthy-eating-and-wellbeing-for-students-across-nova-scotia.html>.

students in Nova Scotia by optimizing school environments, including supporting students to identify and implement actions that contribute to healthy and safe schools.⁴²¹⁴

On 22 May 2019, Kamal Khera, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Development, announced a commitment of nearly CAD100 million in humanitarian and development initiatives for those affected by the Rohingya crisis in Bangladesh.⁴²¹⁵ This includes CAD67.7 million in development assistance which includes addressing gender-based violence, skills training for women, and expanding health and education services.⁴²¹⁶ While the funding includes gender-responsive initiatives, the education component does not explicitly mention a focus on girls.

On 24 May 2019, Rachel Bendayan, member of Parliament for Outremont, announced funding for a project in Montreal that is part of a larger CAD18 million investment in Funding to Advance Gender Equality.⁴²¹⁷ The project, *Prévention Côte-des-Neiges-Notre-Dame-de-Grâce*, will receive CAD393,429 in funding from the federal government to assist in preventing sexual violence against girls in high schools and the larger community.⁴²¹⁸

On 29 May 2019, Carla Qualtrough, Minister of Public Services and Procurement and Accessibility, announced several initiatives aimed at improving accessibility for students.⁴²¹⁹ This includes over CAD430,000 in support from the Youth Innovation Component of the Enabling Accessibility Fund to 53 organizations across the country for youth-driven projects that will increase accessibility and safety for those with disabilities.⁴²²⁰

On 2 June 2019, Maryam Monsef, Minister of International Development and Minister for Women and Gender Equality, announced Canada will partner with the Equality Fund to establish legacy investments with organizations that support women's rights and gender equality in Canada and

⁴²¹⁴ Government of Canada supports physical activity, healthy eating, and wellbeing for students across Nova Scotia, Public Health Agency of Canada (Amherst) 10 May 2019. Access date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-supports-physical-activity-healthy-eating-and-wellbeing-for-students-across-nova-scotia.html>.

⁴²¹⁵ Parliamentary Secretary Khera announces new initiatives to support Rohingya as she concludes visit to Bangladesh, Global Affairs Canada (Dhaka) 22 May 2019. Access date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/05/parliamentary-secretary-khera-announces-new-initiatives-to-support-rohingya-as-she-concludes-visit-to-bangladesh.html>.

⁴²¹⁶ Parliamentary Secretary Khera announces new initiatives to support Rohingya as she concludes visit to Bangladesh, Global Affairs Canada (Dhaka) 22 May 2019. Access date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/05/parliamentary-secretary-khera-announces-new-initiatives-to-support-rohingya-as-she-concludes-visit-to-bangladesh.html>.

⁴²¹⁷ Government of Canada announces funding to protect young people and advance gender equality in Montreal, Department for Women and Gender Equality (Montreal) 24 May 2019. Access date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-protect-young-people-and-advance-gender-equality-in-montreal.html>.

⁴²¹⁸ Government of Canada announces funding to protect young people and advance gender equality in Montreal, Department for Women and Gender Equality (Montreal) 24 May 2019. Access date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-protect-young-people-and-advance-gender-equality-in-montreal.html>.

⁴²¹⁹ Government of Canada invites youth leaders to help build a more accessible Canada, Employment and Social Development Canada (Toronto) 29 May 2019. Access date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-invites-youth-leaders-to-help-build-a-more-accessible-canada.html>.

⁴²²⁰ Government of Canada invites youth leaders to help build a more accessible Canada, Employment and Social Development Canada (Toronto) 29 May 2019. Access date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-invites-youth-leaders-to-help-build-a-more-accessible-canada.html>.

abroad.⁴²²¹ This new funding model will support women's rights organizations in developing countries to shift power into the hands of local women leaders and remove barriers to gender equality.⁴²²² Although no explicit reference to gender equality in education is mentioned in Canada's announcement, current partners of the Fund include organizations that provide support and resources for girls to stay in school in a number of developing countries.⁴²²³

On 4 June 2019, Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Health, announced nearly CAD4 million in funding for four projects in British Columbia aimed at preventing youth and teen dating violence.⁴²²⁴ This investment includes several projects which will deliver responsive education and school-based programs to equip both youth and school staff with the knowledge and skills to prevent dating violence and create a safer school community.⁴²²⁵

Canada has fully complied on providing access for women, girls and in early stages of humanitarian response while supporting a safe space for children in schools, through inclusive and equitable education, which increases the accessibility and security for children. By investing in safe and quality education for Palestinian refugee children in the West Bank and Gaza, Canada has specifically targeted early stages of peacebuilding efforts in a conflict area. Domestically, Canada invested in new and improved education infrastructure for First Nations communities as well as a program for educators to address the safety risks of cannabis use in schools and arranged alternative school facilities for Gatineau students whose school had been structurally damaged by a recent storm. Financial support has also been provided for addressing domestic violence in Canadian post-secondary institutions and improving infrastructure for the Canadian Coast Guard College.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Emily Burton-Brown

France: 0

France has partially complied with the commitment to prioritize improved access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.

On 10 July 2018, the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), France's public development bank, allocated EUR323,248 to SIPAR, a Cambodian non-profit organization promoting reading and education access for all, which is the first half of the global EUR646,497 budget allocated for the

⁴²²¹ Partnerships to fund gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in Canada and abroad, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 2 June 2019. Access date: 10 June 2019. https://www.international.gc.ca/gac-amc/campaign-campagne/gender_equality-egalite_des_genres/index.aspx?lang=eng.

⁴²²² Partnerships to fund gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in Canada and abroad, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 2 June 2019. Access date: 10 June 2019. https://www.international.gc.ca/gac-amc/campaign-campagne/gender_equality-egalite_des_genres/index.aspx?lang=eng.

⁴²²³ Meet our Partners, The Match Fund (Ottawa). Access date: 10 June 2019. <https://matchinternational.org/grantee-profiles/#34>.

⁴²²⁴ Projects to help prevent teen and youth dating violence in British Columbia, Public Health Agency of Canada (Vancouver) 4 June 2019. Access date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/06/projects-to-help-prevent-teen-and-youth-dating-violence-in-british-columbia.html>.

⁴²²⁵ Government of Canada supports projects in British Columbia focused on preventing gender-based violence, Public Health Agency of Canada (Vancouver) 4 June 2019. Access date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/06/government-of-canada-supports-projects-in-british-columbia-focused-on-preventing-gender-based-violence.html>.

SIPAR project.⁴²²⁶ This project is a reading and education program that gives access to libraries and education to factory workers, including women and children, in urban and rural areas.⁴²²⁷

On 10 July 2018, the AFD announced the creation of the Education League to develop a network of young ambassadors “strongly committed to engaging young people locally and internationally, with the implementation of civic service programs and international volunteering.”⁴²²⁸ This will have territorial relays of the league, educators, and supervisors working with trainers to promote a cohesive environment.⁴²²⁹

On 30 July 2018, the French government passed a law banning the use of smartphones and smart devices for children aged 3 to 15 years of age⁴²³⁰ in a move to create safer school environments and protect children from cyberbullying and violence.⁴²³¹

On 30 August 2018, the AFD issued its strategic plan for 2018-2022 and announced that France would increase grant assistance to EUR1.3 billion in 2019 to reach 19 priority countries in Africa, of which investment in education and gender equality is a priority.⁴²³² Moreover, gender equality is set to be a central theme in the AFD’s new strategy, with one of its five foundational commitments being “increasing access to education and promoting gender equality.”⁴²³³

On 13 September 2018, President Emmanuel Macron announced plans to open more daycare centres in disadvantaged areas in order to make education more equitable for all children. Moreover, funding will be given to schools to provide heavily subsidized meals in a push to make education accessible for all.⁴²³⁴

On 17 September 2018, the French government announced its intention to scrap 2,650 jobs in education, including teaching posts, in an attempt to reduce the number of public service workers. This proposal is intended only for secondary schools and colleges.⁴²³⁵ Approximately 1,800 secondary

⁴²²⁶ L’AFD soutient 23 nouveaux projets, Agence Française au Développement. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/ong-lafd-soutient-23-nouveaux-projets>.

⁴²²⁷ L’AFD soutient 23 nouveaux projets, Agence Française au Développement. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/ong-lafd-soutient-23-nouveaux-projets>.

⁴²²⁸ L’AFD soutient 23 nouveaux projets, Agence Française au Développement. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/ong-lafd-soutient-23-nouveaux-projets>.

⁴²²⁹ L’AFD soutient 23 nouveaux projets, Aide Française au Développement. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/ong-lafd-soutient-23-nouveaux-projets>.

⁴²³⁰ France bans smartphones from schools, CNN 31 July 2018. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <https://www.cnn.com/2018/07/31/europe/france-smartphones-school-ban-intl/index.html>.

⁴²³¹ What changes about schools in France from this September, The Local 3 September 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.thelocal.fr/20180903/what-changes-about-schools-in-france-from-this-september>.

⁴²³² Macron’s development vision takes shape, Devex (Brussels) 11 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.devex.com/news/macron-s-development-vision-takes-shape-93375>.

⁴²³³ The New AFD Group Strategy, Agence Française de Développement 3 September 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.afd.fr/en/new-afd-group-strategy>.

⁴²³⁴ More creches and €1 school lunches: Here’s Macron’s plan to fight poverty in France, The Local 13 September 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.thelocal.fr/20180913/how-macron-plans-to-fight-poverty-in-france>.

⁴²³⁵ Why is France getting rid of hundreds of teachers? The Local 17 September 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.thelocal.fr/20180917/why-is-france-getting-rid-of-hundreds-of-teachers>.

school teaching positions are expected to be cut.⁴²³⁶ For primary school, the government intends to create 1,800 jobs.⁴²³⁷

On 25 September 2018, France was one of the leaders of #LeaveNoGirlBehind meeting at the 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly, along with G7 members Canada and the United Kingdom.⁴²³⁸ In a joint statement, the three world leaders called for countries to improve girls' access to education internationally, as well as ensure 12 years of free, safe, and quality education. The statement, which emphasizes this action in "developing contexts and countries struggling with conflict," outlines 11 resolutions to do so, including ensuring schools are safe places for learning, and increasing international, regional, national, and South-South cooperation to ensure gender equality in education.⁴²³⁹

As of 27 September 2018, France has pledged to increase its grants to less developed countries from USD10 billion to USD15 billion in 2020 to 2030, a considerable portion of which, President Macron said, would focus on the education of girls, particularly in African countries.⁴²⁴⁰

On 11 October 2018 at the 17th Summit of La Francophonie Yerevan, Armenia, France adopted a strategy for the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) to promote gender equality and the rights and empowerment of women and children. This strategy will be included in "all international solidarity and development policies of the OIF and its agencies."⁴²⁴¹

On 19 November 2018, the French Minister of State for Gender Equality Marlène Schiappa re-affirmed France's commitment to gender equality at the World Forum for Democracy, and has highlighted that France has already announced measures regarding "emotional and sexual education in schools."⁴²⁴²

On 25 November 2018, the Government of France launched a campaign focused on securing the universal adoption of the Council of Europe's Istanbul Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence.⁴²⁴³

On 4 December 2018, the Government of Togo, in partnership with the AFD, inaugurated drinking water wells and sanitation facilities for at least 69 cantons in the Savannah region, as part of the

⁴²³⁶ France: education is no longer a priority for the government, Education International 18 September 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.ei-ie.org/en/detail/15972/france-education-is-no-longer-a-priority-for-the-government>.

⁴²³⁷ Why are teachers across France on strike? The Local 12 November 2018. Access Date: December 7 2018. <https://www.thelocal.fr/20181112/why-are-teachers-across-france-on-strike>.

⁴²³⁸ 12 years to break barriers and leave no girl behind: Countdown to 2030, Global Partnership for Education (New York) 25 September 2018. Access Date: 29 October 2018. <https://www.globalpartnership.org/event/12-years-break-barriers-and-leave-no-girl-behind-countdown-2030>.

⁴²³⁹ Countries Pledge to Take Action to Leave No Girl Behind, Global Citizen 11 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/leave-no-girl-behind/>.

⁴²⁴⁰ France Pledges to Increase Aid to Africa for Girl Child Education, Others, AllAfrica 27 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201809270511.html>.

⁴²⁴¹ France's International Strategy on Gender Equality (2018-2022), France Diplomatie. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/meae_strategie_-_en_cle076525.pdf.

⁴²⁴² Marlène Schiappa: gender equality, a priority for the French Chairmanship of the Council of Europe in 2019, Council of Europe (Strasbourg) 20 November 2018. Access Date: December 6 2018. <https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/marlene-schiappa-gender-equality-a-priority-for-the-french-chairmanship-of-the-council-of-europe-in-2019>.

⁴²⁴³ France to launch a campaign aimed at securing the universal adoption of the Council of Europe's Istanbul Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, Council of Europe (Strasbourg) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.coe.int/en/web/istanbul-convention/-/france-to-launch-a-campaign-aimed-at-securing-the-universal-adoption-of-the-council-of-europe-s-istanbul-convention-on-preventing-and-combating-violen>.

Project for the Improvement of Health Conditions in Schools and Rural Areas.⁴²⁴⁴ The project includes hundreds of new boreholes and latrines built for schools.⁴²⁴⁵ The AFD was responsible for subsidizing the infrastructure.⁴²⁴⁶

On 6 December 2018, protesting high school students in Mantes-la-Jolie were rounded up by French police and made to kneel.⁴²⁴⁷ The protests were meant to decry President Emmanuel Macron's educational reforms.⁴²⁴⁸

On 18 December 2018, the French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Jean-Yves Le Drian, announced that French ministers responsible for gender equality will create legislative packages containing "laws most conducive to equality between women and men in the world."⁴²⁴⁹ President Macron, also established the Simone Veil Prize for Women's Freedom to be awarded to those who "further the cause of women." To bring discussions about the plight of women to the forefront of society.⁴²⁵⁰

On 20 December 2018, the French Parliament approved the Finance Bill for 2019, where a record EUR530 million was delegated to gender equality.^{4251,4252}

On 17 January 2019, France's independent High Council for Equality Between Women and Men released a report on the state of sexism in France.⁴²⁵³ It has been described as "the first official investigation into sexism" in the country.⁴²⁵⁴

⁴²⁴⁴ TOGO: Authorities inaugurate water and sanitation project in Savannahs, Afrik 21 4 December 2018. Access Date: December 7 2018. <https://www.afrik21.africa/en/togo-authorities-inaugurate-water-and-sanitation-project-in-savannahs/>.

⁴²⁴⁵ TOGO: Authorities inaugurate water and sanitation project in Savannahs, Afrik 21 4 December 2018. Access Date: December 7 2018. <https://www.afrik21.africa/en/togo-authorities-inaugurate-water-and-sanitation-project-in-savannahs/>.

⁴²⁴⁶ TOGO: Authorities inaugurate water and sanitation project in Savannahs, Afrik 21 4 December 2018. Access Date: December 7 2018. <https://www.afrik21.africa/en/togo-authorities-inaugurate-water-and-sanitation-project-in-savannahs/>.

⁴²⁴⁷ Outcry as French police round up protesting high-school students, France 24 (Paris). 7 December 2018. Access Date: 11 February 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20181207-france-student-police-yellow-vest-macron-mantes-la-jolie-yvelines-kneel-mud>.

⁴²⁴⁸ Outcry as French police round up protesting high-school students, France 24 (Paris). 7 December 2018. Access Date: 11 February 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20181207-france-student-police-yellow-vest-macron-mantes-la-jolie-yvelines-kneel-mud>.

⁴²⁴⁹ French G7 Presidency Priorities – Speech by Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian (Biarritz, 18 December 2018), France Diplomatie (Paris). 18 December 2018. Access Date: 12 February 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/french-g7-presidency/article/french-g7-presidency-priorities-speech-by-minister-jean-yves-le-drian-biarritz?fbclid=IwAR1UeIK2ems126hdhsgEa8DEROmDn0yb2yeTOvI0kc46Nm7aRxO9UyLKDfs>.

⁴²⁵⁰ French G7 Presidency Priorities – Speech by Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian (Biarritz, 18 December 2018), France Diplomatie (Paris). 18 December 2018. Access Date: 12 February 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/french-g7-presidency/article/french-g7-presidency-priorities-speech-by-minister-jean-yves-le-drian-biarritz?fbclid=IwAR1UeIK2ems126hdhsgEa8DEROmDn0yb2yeTOvI0kc46Nm7aRxO9UyLKDfs>.

⁴²⁵¹ French Parliament approves Finance Bill for 2019, EY Global (London) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--french-parliament-approves-finance-bill-for-2019>.

⁴²⁵² Gender equality: the Government's motto is to let nothing pass, Gouvernement.fr (Paris) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/gender-equality-the-government-s-motto-is-to-let-nothing-pass>.

⁴²⁵³ 1er état des lieux du sexisme en France : lutter contre une tolérance sociale qui persiste, Haut Conseil à l'Egalité entre les femmes et les hommes (Paris). 17 January 2019. Access Date: 11 February 2019. <http://www.haut-conseil-egalite.gouv.fr/stereotypes-et-roles-sociaux/actualites/article/1er-etat-des-lieux-du-sexisme-en-france-lutter-contre-une-tolerance-sociale-qui>.

On 25 January 2019, the Government of France signed two loan financing agreements with Uganda aimed at supporting access to clean water and upgrading water and sanitation infrastructures in the region, worth EUR150 million and EUR120 million respectively.⁴²⁵⁵ The French envoy emphasized that it this will make education more accessible for girls because “girls and women are often the one fetching the water.”⁴²⁵⁶

On of 29 January 2019, the Ministry for Education and Youth announced a campaign named “All Equal, All Allies” that seeks to combat anti-LGBTQ+ violence in middle and high schools across the country and create safe spaces for members of the LGBTQ+ community within them.⁴²⁵⁷

On 31 January 2019, Minister of State for Gender Equality and the Fight against Discrimination, Marlène Schiappa, unveiled the priorities of France’s feminist diplomacy for the year, which is set to be carried out with the UN Commission of the Status of Women, France’s Chairmanship of the Council of Europe, and France’s Presidency of the G7.⁴²⁵⁸ Among their three main priorities is the education of women and girls.⁴²⁵⁹ Schiappa further announced that the Gender Equality Advisory Council, set up under the Canadian presidency, will hold its first meeting under the French presidency in mid-February.⁴²⁶⁰

On 6 February 2019, the French Government released a statement calling on the international community to put an end to female genital mutilation.⁴²⁶¹ The government did not, however, outline further steps that it will take to reach this goal.

On 11 February 2019, the Government of France’s initiative “Ensemble pour l’école inclusive,” was officially presented to the Minister of National Education Jean-Michel Blanquer and Secretary of State for Persons with Disabilities Sophie Cluzel.⁴²⁶² Crafted in close consultation with the Conseil

⁴²⁵⁴ 1er état des lieux du sexisme en France : lutter contre une tolérance sociale qui persiste, Haut Conseil à l’Egalité entre les femmes et les hommes (Paris). 17 January 2019. Access Date: 11 February 2019. <http://www.haut-conseil-egalite.gouv.fr/stereotypes-et-roles-sociaux/actualites/article/1er-etat-des-lieux-du-sexisme-en-france-lutter-contre-une-tolerance-sociale-qui>.

⁴²⁵⁵ France Lends Shs 1.1 Trillion To Uganda For Water, Sanitation Projects, Soft Power (Uganda). 25 January 2019. Access Date: 11 February 2019. <https://www.softpower.ug/france-lends-shs-1-1-trillion-to-uganda-for-water-sanitation-projects/>.

⁴²⁵⁶ France Lends Shs 1.1 Trillion To Uganda For Water, Sanitation Projects, Soft Power (Uganda). 25 January 2019. Access Date: 11 February 2019. <https://www.softpower.ug/france-lends-shs-1-1-trillion-to-uganda-for-water-sanitation-projects/>.

⁴²⁵⁷ Tous égaux, tous alliés, ac-amiens.fr (Paris). 29 January 2019. Access Date: 11 February 2019. <http://www.ac-amiens.fr/2245-tous-egaux-tous-allies.html>.

⁴²⁵⁸ Gender equality, a G7 priority, Gouvernement.fr (Paris). 1 February 2019. Access Date: 11 February 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/gender-equality-a-g7-priority>.

⁴²⁵⁹ Gender equality, a G7 priority, Gouvernement.fr (Paris). 1 February 2019. Access Date: 11 February 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/gender-equality-a-g7-priority>.

⁴²⁶⁰ Gender equality, a G7 priority, Gouvernement.fr (Paris). 1 February 2019. Access Date: 11 February 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/gender-equality-a-g7-priority>.

⁴²⁶¹ Human rights - International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (February 6, 2016), France Diplomatie (Paris). 6 February 2019. Access Date: 11 February 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/human-rights/events/article/human-rights-international-day-of-zero-tolerance-for-female-genital-mutilation>.

⁴²⁶² Ensemble pour une école inclusive : une concertation et un diagnostic partagé pour progresser, Ministère de l’Éducation nationale et de la Jeunesse (Paris). 11 February 2019. Access Date: 11 February 2019. <http://www.education.gouv.fr/cid138964/ensemble-pour-une-ecole-inclusive-une-concertation-et-un-diagnostic-partage-pour-progresser.html>.

national consultatif des personnes handicapées, it aims to make schools a safer space for its students.⁴²⁶³

On 12 February 2019, the French Parliament passed an amendment to make schools replace the words “mother” and “father” with “parent 1” and “parent 2” in order to make school a safer space for children of same sex parents.⁴²⁶⁴

On 20 February 2019, President Macron stated that he will take extra measures to combat rising anti-Semitism in France, including investigating acts of racism and harassment against Jewish students in France’s public schools.⁴²⁶⁵

On 20 February 2019, President Macron stated that he will take extra measures to combat rising anti-Semitism in France, including investigating acts of racism and harassment against Jewish students in France’s public schools.⁴²⁶⁶

On 4 March 2019, France’s Ambassador to the United Nations affirmed again that gender equality is “one of France’s top priorities,” and that France is focusing on the protection of women in conflicts, among other priorities.⁴²⁶⁷

On 8 April 2019, The Global Partnership for Education announced that the AFD has allocated USD25.6 million for the education of children in Burundi, particularly in the most vulnerable areas of the country, with a focus on the needs of marginalized groups such as girls.⁴²⁶⁸

On 23 April 2019, Education Minister, Jean-Michel Blanquer, and Junior Health and Solidarity Minister, Christelle Dubos, announced EUR6 million in funding for free breakfast programs in public schools as part of the “priority education network.”⁴²⁶⁹

On 10 May 2019, Minister for Gender Equality, Marlene Schiappa, chaired a meeting on gender equality and signed a joint-declaration with other G7 members recognizing gender equality a global

⁴²⁶³ Ensemble pour une école inclusive : une concertation et un diagnostic partagé pour progresser, Ministère de l'Éducation nationale et de la Jeunesse (Paris). 11 February 2019. Access Date: 11 February 2019. <http://www.education.gouv.fr/cid138964/ensemble-pour-une-ecole-inclusive-une-concertation-et-un-diagnostic-partage-pour-progresser.html>.

⁴²⁶⁴ Schools in France to replace 'mother and father' with 'parent 1 and 2' under controversial same sex amendment, The Telegraph (Paris) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/02/14/schools-france-replace-mother-father-parent-1-2-controversial/>.

⁴²⁶⁵ Macron announces measures to combat anti-Semitism in France, France 24 (Paris) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190220-macron-announces-measures-combat-anti-semitism-france-crif-definition-anti-zionism>.

⁴²⁶⁶ Macron announces measures to combat anti-Semitism in France, France 24 (Paris). 21 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190220-macron-announces-measures-combat-anti-semitism-france-crif-definition-anti-zionism>.

⁴²⁶⁷ Security Council Presidency: Two Friends, France and Germany, Now Share an Office, PassBlue 4 March 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.passblue.com/2019/03/04/security-council-presidency-two-friends-france-and-germany-now-share-an-office/>.

⁴²⁶⁸ Global Partnership for Education scales up funding for children’s education, Global Partnership for Education (Washington D.C.) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.globalpartnership.org/news-and-media/news/global-partnership-education-scales-funding-childrens-education>.

⁴²⁶⁹ France to invest €6 million in free breakfasts at public schools, France 24 (Paris) 23 April 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190423-france-invest-6-million-euros-free-breakfast-public-schools>.

cause.⁴²⁷⁰ France and other G7 members committed to adopting the Biarritz Partnership laws, which are “a set of laws that are most favourable to women worldwide,” at the August 2019 G7 Summit.⁴²⁷¹

On 4 June 2019, the AFD signed an agreement with the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) to use football as a vehicle for “education, development, and social change,” and to empower girls and women around the world.⁴²⁷² The agreement is focused on implementing joint social programs related to football, such as the Football for Schools Programme, in order to create “positive change in society and communities.”⁴²⁷³

On 6 June 2019, the Government of France signed an agreement with Angola to educate 50 Angolan students at French universities, specifically in the oil and gas industry.⁴²⁷⁴ This initiative will be co-financed by the French and Angolan governments.⁴²⁷⁵

France has made it clear that it prioritizes education for girls and women both at home and in developing countries but has not clarified on whether it will prioritize it in either the early stages of humanitarian response or peacebuilding. It has, also, confirmed its commitment to ensuring that schools are safe places for children.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Ninar Fawal

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with the commitment to prioritizing improved access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.

On 9 June 2018, Germany along with the European Union, Canada, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the World Bank invested CAD3.8 billion to improving access and reducing barriers to quality

⁴²⁷⁰ G7 ministers pledge to make gender equality 'global cause', France 24 (Paris) 10 May 2019. Access Date: 7 June 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190510-g7-ministers-pledge-make-gender-equality-global-cause>.

⁴²⁷¹ Feedback on the G7 Gender Equality Ministers meeting, Élysée (Paris) 11 May 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.elysee.fr/en/g7/2019/05/11/feedback-on-the-g7-gender-equality-ministers-meeting>.

⁴²⁷² FIFA and AFD sign landmark cooperation agreement to promote women's football and develop school football in Africa, FIFA (Zurich) 4 June 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.fifa.com/about-fifa/who-we-are/news/fifa-and-afd-sign-landmark-cooperation-agreement-to-promote-women-s-football-and>.

⁴²⁷³ FIFA and AFD sign landmark cooperation agreement to promote women's football and develop school football in Africa, FIFA (Zurich) 4 June 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.fifa.com/about-fifa/who-we-are/news/fifa-and-afd-sign-landmark-cooperation-agreement-to-promote-women-s-football-and>.

⁴²⁷⁴ Angola and France sign agreement to train Angolan students in oil industry, Devdiscourse (Paris) 6 June 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.devdiscourse.com/article/education/550281-angola-and-france-sign-agreement-to-train-angolan-students-in-oil-industry>.

⁴²⁷⁵ Angola and France sign agreement to train Angolan students in oil industry, Devdiscourse (Paris) 6 June 2019. Access Date: 8 June 2019. <https://www.devdiscourse.com/article/education/550281-angola-and-france-sign-agreement-to-train-angolan-students-in-oil-industry>.

education around the world.⁴²⁷⁶ Germany will invest EUR75 million itself.⁴²⁷⁷ This is an investment in education for women and girls in crisis and conflict situations.⁴²⁷⁸

On 18 September 2018, Germany reiterated its commitment towards assisting the Palestinian Refugees in the Near East, through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).⁴²⁷⁹ The federal government had pledged to increase their financial assistance to EUR100 million, in order to ensure that the UNRWA would continue to provide children with an adequate education through schools.⁴²⁸⁰

On 4 October 2018, through the “German-Israeli Program on Cooperation in Vocational Education and Training,” both governments had verbally committed to providing more nourishing and nutrient-based food at local Israeli schools, in an attempt to improve the overall quality of life of young girls.⁴²⁸¹

On 26 October 2018, the German government had strengthened its commitment towards reducing the tragedies amongst women and children in Yemen, by collaborating with a non-profit organization known as the Berghof Foundation.⁴²⁸² This was instigated in order to resume failed peace negotiations between the parties causing hardship upon the entirety of Yemen.⁴²⁸³

On 27 November 2018, during the Women Wage Peace International Congress, the Chancellor of Germany Angela Merkel prioritized women, security, and peace within Israel after Germany becomes a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council in 2019.⁴²⁸⁴ The following speech was made to support women during peace negotiations, as the Middle East had failed to include women during peacebuilding efforts.

⁴²⁷⁶ Canada and partners announce historic investment in education for women and girls in crisis and conflict situations. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/06/09/canada-and-partners-announce-historic-investment-education-women-and-girls-crisis>.

⁴²⁷⁷ Canada and partners announce historic investment in education for women and girls in crisis and conflict situations. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/06/09/canada-and-partners-announce-historic-investment-education-women-and-girls-crisis>.

⁴²⁷⁸ Canada and partners announce historic investment in education for women and girls in crisis and conflict situations. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/06/09/canada-and-partners-announce-historic-investment-education-women-and-girls-crisis>.

⁴²⁷⁹ German assistance for UNRWA, Federal Foreign Office. 28 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/themen/humanitaerehilfe/german-assistance-for-unrwa/2142812>.

⁴²⁸⁰ German assistance for UNRWA, Federal Foreign Office. 28 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/themen/humanitaerehilfe/german-assistance-for-unrwa/2142812>.

⁴²⁸¹ Joint Statement by the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Prime Minister of the State of Israel, German-Israeli Inter-Government Consultations (Jerusalem). 4 October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/blob/228220/cfa39cadc63eaa7d8f3d6ec23f5147a9/160216-d-isr-kons-gem-erklaerung-data.pdf>.

⁴²⁸² To ease suffering and support solutions: Germany’s work in Yemen. 26 October 2018. Access Date: 19 December 2018. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/jemen-node/germany-yemen/2155088>.

⁴²⁸³ To ease suffering and support solutions: Germany’s work in Yemen. 26 October 2018. Access Date: 19 December 2018. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/jemen-node/germany-yemen/2155088>.

⁴²⁸⁴ Keynote speech by Minister of State Michelle Müntefering on the occasion of the Women Wage Peace International Congress “Removing Barriers to Middle East Peace” in Tel Aviv. 27 November 2018. Access Date: 19 December 2018. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/muntefering-women-wage-peace-conference/2164956>.

On 1 January 2019, Germany was announced as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council.⁴²⁸⁵ Germany reiterated its commitment to assisting women in conflict situations by accepting a co-chairmanship for the Informal Expert Group on Women, Peace, and Security, which will be held throughout 2019.⁴²⁸⁶

On 12 February 2019, Barbel Kofler, German Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid, allocated EUR1.5 billion towards humanitarian aid for children in crisis situations.⁴²⁸⁷ The Commissioner reiterated Germany's commitment to eradicating the existence of child soldiers globally.⁴²⁸⁸

On 21 February 2019, German Minister of State, Niels Annen, ensured that the protection of women and their empowerment will be a political priority for both Germany and Peru at the United Nations Security Council.⁴²⁸⁹ This will progress throughout 2020, as Germany will target countries such as Afghanistan and South Sudan to ensure that women are involved in peace negotiations.⁴²⁹⁰

On 26 February 2019, the German Federal Government Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid, Bärbel Kofler, committed EUR100 million towards providing humanitarian assistance for the crisis in Yemen.⁴²⁹¹ The financial commitment made by Germany will assist towards providing clean water and nourishing food for young boys and girls in Yemen.⁴²⁹²

On 31 March 2019, the Government of Germany allocated EUR10 million towards UNICEF's "No Lost Generation" program.⁴²⁹³ The following initiative will provide approximately 442,000 vulnerable

⁴²⁸⁵ Germany as a member of the United Nations Security Council in 2019 20, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin). 1 January 2019. Access Date: 6 January 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/internationale-organisationen/vereintenationen/germany-united-nations-security-council-2019-20/2174260>.

⁴²⁸⁶ Germany as a member of the United Nations Security Council in 2019 20, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin). 1 January 2019. Access Date: 6 January 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/internationale-organisationen/vereintenationen/germany-united-nations-security-council-2019-20/2174260>.

⁴²⁸⁷ Human Rights Commissioner on the International Day against the Use of Child Soldiers, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin). 12 February 2019. Access Date 12 February 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/kofler-red-hands-day/2188758>.

⁴²⁸⁸ Human Rights Commissioner on the International Day against the Use of Child Soldiers, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin). 12 February 2019. Access Date 12 February 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/kofler-red-hands-day/2188758>.

⁴²⁸⁹ Opening Remarks by Minister of State Niels Annen at the Workshop "Women, Peace and Security: Strengthening the Agenda Against Conflict-related Sexual Violence", Federal Foreign Office (Berlin). 21 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/annen-workshop-women-peace-security/2192186>.

⁴²⁹⁰ Opening Remarks by Minister of State Niels Annen at the Workshop "Women, Peace and Security: Strengthening the Agenda Against Conflict-related Sexual Violence", Federal Foreign Office (Berlin). 21 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/annen-workshop-women-peace-security/2192186>.

⁴²⁹¹ Major humanitarian crisis in Yemen: Germany pledges support, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin). 28 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/jemen-node/jemen-german-support/2194272>.

⁴²⁹² Major humanitarian crisis in Yemen: Germany pledges support, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin). 28 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/jemen-node/jemen-german-support/2194272>.

⁴²⁹³ Germany renews its support to UNICEF's 'No Lost Generation' initiative in Syria through a EUR10 million contribution, UNICEF (Damascus). 31 March 2019. Access Date: 25 May 2019. <https://www.unicef.org/mena/press-releases/germany-renews-its-support-unicefs-no-lost-generation-initiative-syria-through-eur10>.

children in Syria with adequate education, while maintaining and developing safe learning environments.⁴²⁹⁴

On 28 May 2019, the German Minister of Foreign Affairs, Heiko Maas announced the initiation of the newly founded women’s network referred to as UNIDAS.⁴²⁹⁵ The following network will ensure that the rights of women are promoted within the Caribbean, Latin America, and Germany.⁴²⁹⁶ UNIDAS will encourage women to engage with and be represented in regional matters in an effort to promote equality.⁴²⁹⁷

Germany has continued to increase its commitments towards humanitarian responses and is attempting to establish access to quality education for girls and women in crisis situations. However, no significant contribution has been made towards the promotion of schools as safe spaces for children and advocating for women’s and children’s rights.

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Saranngan Vaithianathan

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with the commitment to prioritize gender equality and improving access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.

On 1 August 2018, the governing Italian coalition introduced Bill 735 to enforce “perfect co-parenting,” whereby children of divorced parents will spend exactly the same amount of time with each parent.⁴²⁹⁸ Bill 735 further mandates that couples with children who seek a divorce must first attend couples’ mediation, which must be paid for out of pocket.⁴²⁹⁹ This stipulation reduces the ability of Italian women, particularly women economically dependent on their husbands, from obtaining a divorce.

On 3 September 2018, the Italian Minister for the Interior, Matteo Salvini, announced the allocation of EUR2.5 million to 15 beneficiary cities under the “#ScuoleSicure” program.⁴³⁰⁰ The program aims

⁴²⁹⁴ Germany renews its support to UNICEF’s ‘No Lost Generation’ initiative in Syria through a EUR10 million contribution, UNICEF (Damascus). 31 March 2019. Access Date: 25 May 2019. <https://www.unicef.org/mena/press-releases/germany-renews-its-support-unicefs-no-lost-generation-initiative-syria-through-eur10>.

⁴²⁹⁵ Latin America and the Caribbean come to Berlin – together for international cooperation and women’s rights, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin). 28 May 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/regionaleschwerpunkte/lateinamerika/latin-america-caribbean-conference-berlin-/2220382>.

⁴²⁹⁶ Latin America and the Caribbean come to Berlin – together for international cooperation and women’s rights, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin). 28 May 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/regionaleschwerpunkte/lateinamerika/latin-america-caribbean-conference-berlin-/2220382>.

⁴²⁹⁷ Latin America and the Caribbean come to Berlin – together for international cooperation and women’s rights, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin). 28 May 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/regionaleschwerpunkte/lateinamerika/latin-america-caribbean-conference-berlin-/2220382>.

⁴²⁹⁸ Legislature 18th — draft law n. 735, Senato della Repubblica (Rome). 1 August 2018. Access Date: December 11 2018. <https://www.senato.it/japp/bgt/showdoc/18/DDLPRES/0/1071882/index.html>.

⁴²⁹⁹ Legislature 18th — draft law n. 735, Senato della Repubblica (Rome). 1 August 2018. Access Date: December 11 2018. <https://www.senato.it/japp/bgt/showdoc/18/DDLPRES/0/1071882/index.html>.

⁴³⁰⁰ Fra poco riaprono le SCUOLE dei nostri figli, sto lavorando perché per gli spacciatori di morte finisca la pacchia. Con #ScuoleSicure, diverse città italiane avranno a disposizione 2,5 milioni di euro per incrementare i controlli, Twitter (Italy). 2 September 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018.

<https://twitter.com/matteosalvinimi/status/1037271912324444161>.

to promote safety in schools through improved video surveillance, information campaigns, and increased access to police resources.⁴³⁰¹

On 3 September 2018, the Government of Italy participated in the High-Level Conference on the Lake Chad region in Berlin, where it affirmed a USD17 million allocation for crisis response and development initiatives across four countries.⁴³⁰² The conference emphasized the need for enhanced protection against gender-based violence for women and girls.⁴³⁰³

On 10 September 2018, the Italian Minister for Education, University and Research, Marco Bussetti, announced the commencement of a joint initiative between the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, the Italian Space Agency, and the National Research Council for the satellite mapping of 40,000 school buildings across Italy.⁴³⁰⁴

On 11 September 2018, the Government of Italy made a EUR500,000 contribution to the World Food Program for the provision of daily meals to schoolchildren in Mali.⁴³⁰⁵

On 21 September 2018, the Italian Minister for Education, University and Research, Marco Bussetti, allocated EUR3.6 million for the reconstruction of three school buildings affected by the August earthquake in Molise.⁴³⁰⁶

On 25 September 2018, the Italian Minister for Education, University and Research, Marco Bussetti, pledged EUR7 billion for the construction and redevelopment of school buildings in the upcoming budget, and established frameworks to ensure a faster allocation of this funding to local authorities.⁴³⁰⁷

On 28 September 2018, the Government of Italy implemented a EUR3.5 million joint initiative with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women for the economic participation of women in Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador.⁴³⁰⁸

⁴³⁰¹ Operazione "Scuole sicure" anche a Catania: Salvini lancia controlli antidroga, CataniaToday/Itynews (Catania). 3 September 2018. Access Date: 1 November 2018. <http://www.cataniatoday.it/cronaca/droga-scuola-salvini-operazione-3-settembre-2018.html>.

⁴³⁰² High-level Conference on the Lake Chad Region: Outcome Statement by the Co-hosts, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin). 4 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://lakechadberlin.de/wp-eb6f4-content/uploads/2018/09/ENG-001-CO-HOSTS-OUTCOME-STATEMENT-FINAL-2.pdf>.

⁴³⁰³ High-level Conference on the Lake Chad Region: Outcome Statement by the Co-hosts, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin). 4 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://lakechadberlin.de/wp-eb6f4-content/uploads/2018/09/ENG-001-CO-HOSTS-OUTCOME-STATEMENT-FINAL-2.pdf>.

⁴³⁰⁴ Minister Bussetti: satellite mapping of 40,000 school buildings now underway with ASI and CNR, Ministero dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca via ResearchItaly (Rome). 9 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.researchitaly.it/en/news/minister-bussetti-satellite-mapping-of-40-000-school-buildings-now-underway-with-asi-and-cnr/>

⁴³⁰⁵ Italy allocates 500 thousand Euros for school meals in Mali", Onuitalia (Rome). 11 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <http://www.onuitalia.com/2018/09/11/italy-allocates-500-thousand-euros-for-school-meals-in-mali/>.

⁴³⁰⁶ Il ministro Bussetti stanziava 3milioni e 600mila euro per le tre scuole molisane colpite dal sisma, Gazzetta Molisana (Molisana). 21 September 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <http://www.gazzettamolisana.com/il-ministro-bussetti-stanzia-3milioni-e-600mila-euro-per-le-tre-scuole-molisane-colpite-dal-sisma.html>.

⁴³⁰⁷ Interview to the Associazione Nazionale Comuni Italiani. Marco Bussetti, Italian Minister for Education, University and Research (Rome). 25 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <http://www.anci.it/index.cfm?layout=dettaglio&IdSez=821213&IdDett=64694>.

⁴³⁰⁸ AICS e UN Women lanciano il progetto "Empowerment economico delle donne in El Salvador," Onuitalia (San Salvador). 28 September 2018. Access date: 19 October 2018. <http://www.onuitalia.com/2018/09/28/aics-e-un-women-lanciano-il-progetto-empowerment-economico-delle-donne-in-el-salvador/>.

On 1 October 2018, the Government of Italy made a EUR1 million contribution to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees, with the purpose of providing Palestinian refugee children in Syria with access to education and psychosocial support.⁴³⁰⁹ This contribution also provides training to teachers and parents on gender-based violence.⁴³¹⁰

On 22 November 2018, Italy's Presidency of the Council of Ministers Department for Equal Opportunities signed a memorandum of understanding with the Bank of Italy and the Italian Companies and Exchange Commission, establishing an inter-institutional program for data collection and research concerning women's participation in the administration and control of Italian companies, effective 1 January 2019.⁴³¹¹

On 24 November 2018, Italian Undersecretary for the Presidency of the Council of Ministers with responsibility for Equal Opportunities and Young People, Vincenzo Spadafora, announced the launch of the “#lapartitaditutti” initiative.⁴³¹² It is a media campaign for the prevention and tackling of violence against women and domestic abuse.⁴³¹³ The initiative seeks to challenge stereotypes and encourage women and girls to speak out in difficult or isolated situations, emphasizing the importance of educating young persons in combating violence against women.⁴³¹⁴

On 24 November 2018, Italian Undersecretary for the Presidency of the Council of Ministers with responsibility for Equal Opportunities and Young People, Vincenzo Spadafora, pledged EUR33 million to combat gender-based violence against women and girls.⁴³¹⁵ Further, Spadafora established a victim's fund for female victims of gender-based violence.⁴³¹⁶

⁴³⁰⁹ Da Cooperazione contributo di un milione a Unrwa per rifugiati palestinesi in Siria, Onuitalia (Rome). 1 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <http://www.onuitalia.com/2018/10/01/da-cooperazione-contributo-di-un-milione-a-unrwa-per-rifugiati-palestinesi-in-siria/>.

⁴³¹⁰ Da Cooperazione contributo di un milione a Unrwa per rifugiati palestinesi in Siria, Onuitalia (Rome). 1 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <http://www.onuitalia.com/2018/10/01/da-cooperazione-contributo-di-un-milione-a-unrwa-per-rifugiati-palestinesi-in-siria/>.

⁴³¹¹ Al via dal 2019 l'Osservatorio inter-istituzionale sulla presenza femminile al vertice delle società. Firmato il Protocollo d'intesa tra Dipartimento per le Pari Opportunità, Consob e Banca d'Italia, Dipartimento per le Pari Opportunità Press Release (Rome). 22 November 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. www.pariopportunita.gov.it/news/al-via-dal-2019-losservatorio-inter-istituzionale-sulla-presenza-femminile-al-vertice-delle-societa/.

⁴³¹² La violenza sulle donne è #lapartitaditutti, al via la campagna e nuova indagine Ipsos sulla percezione della disparità di genere, Mr. Vincenzo Spadafora (Rome). 24 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <http://www.governo.it/articolo/la-violenza-sulle-donne-lapartitaditutti/10420>.

⁴³¹³ La violenza sulle donne è #lapartitaditutti, al via la campagna e nuova indagine Ipsos sulla percezione della disparità di genere, Mr. Vincenzo Spadafora (Rome). 24 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <http://www.governo.it/articolo/la-violenza-sulle-donne-lapartitaditutti/10420>.

⁴³¹⁴ #lapartitaditutti, la campagna contro la violenza sulle donne, Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri Press Release (Rome). 24 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <http://www.governo.it/media/lapartitaditutti-la-campagna-contro-la-violenza-sulle-donne/10422>.

⁴³¹⁵ La violenza sulle donne è #lapartitaditutti, al via la campagna e nuova indagine Ipsos sulla percezione della disparità di genere, Mr. Vincenzo Spadafora (Rome). 24 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <http://www.governo.it/articolo/la-violenza-sulle-donne-lapartitaditutti/10420>.

⁴³¹⁶ La violenza sulle donne è #lapartitaditutti, al via la campagna e nuova indagine Ipsos sulla percezione della disparità di genere, Mr. Vincenzo Spadafora (Rome). 24 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <http://www.governo.it/articolo/la-violenza-sulle-donne-lapartitaditutti/10420>.

On 5 December 2018, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation announced, in unison with UNICEF and the Tunisian Ministries of Health and Education, a program to improve sanitary conditions and practices of children and adolescents in Tunisian primary schools.⁴³¹⁷

On 22 January 2019, Italian Consul General in Jerusalem, Fabio Skolowicz, and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation Representative in Jerusalem, Cristina Natoli, allocated EUR36 million towards supporting Palestine's healthcare system, in cooperation with the World Health Organization.⁴³¹⁸ Specifically, the funds seek to address mental health deficiencies, neonatal care, and the transportation of vulnerable patients.⁴³¹⁹

On 10 March 2019, the Italian Government implemented legislation requiring school children be fully vaccinated to attend public schools.⁴³²⁰ Italian parents had until 10 March 2019 to ensure their children were fully vaccinated, and students aged 0-6 were sent home if they did not have proof of vaccinations.⁴³²¹ While children between the ages of 6-16 may still attend school without vaccinations, they may only do so after paying a USD560 fine.⁴³²² The program is the Italian Government's way of participating in a global push towards full vaccinations, and will allow children with impaired immune systems - who currently must stay home due to uncertainty over their classmates' vaccination status - to finally attend school.⁴³²³

On April 17, 2019, Italy as part of the Equal Rights Coalition (ERC) expressed concern at Brunei's decision to implement a revised penal code that allows extreme penalties.⁴³²⁴ Many of these penalties, according to Italy, target vulnerable groups such as women and children.⁴³²⁵ They committed, along with other ERC members, to press the Brunei government to abolish the penalties.⁴³²⁶

On 17 April 2019, the Italian Foreign Ministry committed EUR5 million in aid for the UNHCR from its Africa Fund to support Eritrean refugees in Ethiopia, and to support the Tunisian government's efforts to provide shelter for refugees in Tunisia.⁴³²⁷ The aid will be put towards healthcare services,

⁴³¹⁷ ICS e UNICEF in Tunisia: salute bambini passa anche dalla buona pratica di lavarsi le mani, Onultalia (Tunis). 5 December 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018: <http://www.onultalia.com/2018/12/05/aics-e-unicef-in-tunisia-salute-bambini-passa-anche-dalla-buona-pratica-di-lavarsi-le-mani/>.

⁴³¹⁸ Nuovo contributo italiano all'Organizzazione Mondiale della Sanità in Cisgiordania e Gaza, (Jerusalem). 22 January 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://gerusalemme.aics.gov.it/news/2771/>.

⁴³¹⁹ Nuovo contributo italiano all'Organizzazione Mondiale della Sanità in Cisgiordania e Gaza, (Jerusalem). 22 January 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://gerusalemme.aics.gov.it/news/2771/>.

⁴³²⁰ Italy has banned unvaccinated children from schools, World Economic Forum (Cologne). 13 March 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2019/03/italy-bans-unvaccinated-children-going-to-school/>.

⁴³²¹ Italy has banned unvaccinated children from schools, World Economic Forum (Cologne). 13 March 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2019/03/italy-bans-unvaccinated-children-going-to-school/>.

⁴³²² Italy has banned unvaccinated children from schools, World Economic Forum (Cologne). 13 March 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2019/03/italy-bans-unvaccinated-children-going-to-school/>.

⁴³²³ Italy has banned unvaccinated children from schools, World Economic Forum (Cologne). 13 March 2019. Access Date: 19 June 2019. <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2019/03/italy-bans-unvaccinated-children-going-to-school/>.

⁴³²⁴ Statement by Equal Rights Coalition on the situation in Brunei (Rome). 17 April 2019. Access Date: 3 June 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/approfondimenti/2019/04/statement-by-equal-rights-coalition-on-the-situation-in-brunei.html.

⁴³²⁵ Statement by Equal Rights Coalition on the situation in Brunei (Rome). 17 April 2019. Access Date: 3 June 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/approfondimenti/2019/04/statement-by-equal-rights-coalition-on-the-situation-in-brunei.html.

⁴³²⁶ Statement by Equal Rights Coalition on the situation in Brunei (Rome). 17 April 2019. Access Date: 3 June 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/approfondimenti/2019/04/statement-by-equal-rights-coalition-on-the-situation-in-brunei.html.

⁴³²⁷ La Farnesina a tutela dei rifugiati: finanziamento di 5 milioni di euro per UNHCR (Rome). 17 April 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2019/04/la-farnesina-a-tutela-dei-rifugiati-finanziamento-di-5-milioni-di-euro-per-unhcr.html.

activities for refugee children and persons with specific needs, water for refugee camps, and expanded primary schooling for Eritrean refugees.⁴³²⁸

Italy has fully complied with prioritizing gender equality and improving access to quality education for women and girls in crisis situations. Italy has taken action to intervene in early stages of humanitarian response and in peacebuilding efforts while ensuring spaces for girls in schools, although the majority of Italy's focus has been on improving health and hygiene standards.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 1.

Analysts: Spenser Borrie and Vanda Mayer

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with the commitment to prioritize gender equality and improving access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.

On 9 June 2018, Japan, along with the European Union, Germany, Canada, the United Kingdom, and the World Bank invested CAD3.8 billion to improve access and reduce barriers to quality education around the world.⁴³²⁹ This is an investment in education for women and girls in crisis and conflict situations.⁴³³⁰

On 9 June 2018, Japan allocated USD200 million for girl's and women's quality education, including in conflict-ridden regions.⁴³³¹

On 24 July 2018, government spokesman Yoshihide Suga announced that the Japanese Government would ensure that all schools are equipped with air conditioners by the following summer to protect the lives of schoolchildren.⁴³³² This commitment is in response to the unprecedented heat wave that swept across Japan in July 2018, highlighting the inadequate climate control in Japanese schools.⁴³³³

On 4 August 2018, the Japanese Education Minister, Yoshimasa Hayashi, ordered Tokyo Medical University to disclose the results of the university's investigation of administrators, who allegedly

⁴³²⁸ La Farnesina a tutela dei rifugiati: finanziamento di 5 milioni di euro per UNHCR (Rome). 17 April 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. <https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2019/04/la-farnesina-a-tutela-dei-rifugiati-finanziamento-di-5-milioni-di-euro-per-unhcr.html>.

⁴³²⁹ Canada and partners announce historic investment in education for women and girls in crisis and conflict situations, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (La Malbaie). 9 June 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/06/09/canada-and-partners-announce-historic-investment-education-women-and-girls-crisis>.

⁴³³⁰ Canada and partners announce historic investment in education for women and girls in crisis and conflict situations, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (La Malbaie). 9 June 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/06/09/canada-and-partners-announce-historic-investment-education-women-and-girls-crisis>.

⁴³³¹ Canada and partners announce historic investment in education for women and girls in crisis and conflict situations, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (La Malbaie). 9 June 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/06/09/canada-and-partners-announce-historic-investment-education-women-and-girls-crisis>.

⁴³³² 'Unprecedented' Japan heatwave kills 65 in one week and leaves 23,000 in hospital, The Telegraph (London). 24 July 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/07/24/unprecedented-japan-heatwave-kills-65-one-week-leaves-23000/>.

⁴³³³ 'Unprecedented' Japan heatwave kills 65 in one week and leaves 23,000 in hospital, The Telegraph (London). 24 July 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/07/24/unprecedented-japan-heatwave-kills-65-one-week-leaves-23000/>.

lowered exam scores of female applicants, so as to investigate gender discrimination in Japanese medical schools.⁴³³⁴

On 10 August 2018, the Japanese Education Ministry requested all private and public medical schools to assess their admission procedures for possible discrimination against female applicants.⁴³³⁵ The ministry also evaluated the gender ratio of successful applicants from the previous six months to identify recent cases of gender discrimination in medical schools.⁴³³⁶

On 10 August 2018, the Japanese Education Ministry reported that a quarter of Japan's schools have dangerous external walls.⁴³³⁷ The ministry plans to use state subsidies from the 2019 budget to repair or remove dangerous walls to ensure the safety of school children.⁴³³⁸

On 2 October 2018, the Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe, reduced the number of women in his cabinet to one.⁴³³⁹ This cabinet reshuffle comes only a few months after the Japanese Legislator passed a bill to increase women's participation in government.⁴³⁴⁰

On 12 October 2018, Japan announced funding of buses exclusively for women and children in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa region of Pakistan.⁴³⁴¹ These buses are called "sakura buses," and provide safe transportation for women who are vulnerable to sexual assault and harassment on public transportation.⁴³⁴² The sakura buses aim to help women feel safe to commute to school or work, so as to increase the mobility and participation of women in Pakistani society.⁴³⁴³

On 19 November 2018, Japan provided JPY510 million to assist in Pakistan's efforts to eradicate polio.⁴³⁴⁴ The assistance will "support the supply of the essential polio vaccine for the campaigns

⁴³³⁴ Tokyo Medical University faces government pressure to quickly disclose results of sex discrimination probe, The Japan Times (Tokyo). 4 August 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018.

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/08/04/national/japan-urges-speedy-probe-discrimination-women-tokyo-medical-university/#.W8pWHETkiUk>.

⁴³³⁵ Japan launches unprecedented probe into gender discrimination after Tokyo med school excludes women, Dawn (Karachi). 10 August 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.awn.com/news/1426178>.

⁴³³⁶ Japan launches unprecedented probe into gender discrimination after Tokyo med school excludes women, Dawn (Karachi). 10 August 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.awn.com/news/1426178>.

⁴³³⁷ Post-quake survey finds quarter of Japan's schools have dangerous external walls, The Japan Times (Tokyo). 10 August 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/08/10/national/post-quake-survey-finds-quarter-japans-schools-dangerous-external-walls/#.W8qMFUtKiUm>.

⁴³³⁸ Post-quake survey finds quarter of Japan's schools have dangerous external walls, The Japan Times (Tokyo). 10 August 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/08/10/national/post-quake-survey-finds-quarter-japans-schools-dangerous-external-walls/#.W8qMFUtKiUm>.

⁴³³⁹ Inauguration of the Reshuffled Fourth Abe Cabinet, Prime Minister of Japan and his Cabinet (Tokyo). 2 October 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201810/_00003.html.

⁴³⁴⁰ Draft Law on Promotion of Gender Equality in Politics, Japanese House of Representatives (Tokyo). 30 August 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018. http://www.shugiin.go.jp/internet/itdb_gian.nsf/html/gian/honbun/houan/g19001060.htm.

⁴³⁴¹ 'Sakura Buses' for Women in Pakistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo). 12 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/page22e_000857.html.

⁴³⁴² 'Sakura Buses' for Women in Pakistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo). 12 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/page22e_000857.html.

⁴³⁴³ 'Sakura Buses' for Women in Pakistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo). 12 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/page22e_000857.html.

⁴³⁴⁴ Japan provides 510 million Yen to assist Pakistan's efforts for Polio Eradication, Reliefweb (New York). 19 November 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/pakistan/japan-provides-510-million-yen-assist-pakistan-s-efforts-polio-eradication>.

during the 2018/19 low transmission season of the poliovirus,” and quickly close the immunity gaps in high risk areas.⁴³⁴⁵

On 22 November 2018, Japan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs partnered with the United Nations Development Program to operate disaster simulations in disaster-prone regions of Cambodia.⁴³⁴⁶ The initiative facilitated a drill that involved 1500 students and strengthened the region’s preparedness for tsunamis.⁴³⁴⁷

On 22 November 2018, Japan contributed USD5 million to the World Food Programme to scale up their efforts to address “undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies and obesity in Ghana.”⁴³⁴⁸ This contribution will “allow more pregnant and nursing women, children, and adolescent girls to access nutritious foods.”⁴³⁴⁹

On 29 November 2018, the Japanese government granted USD505,210 to the Bokeo Province of Laos to construct secondary school facilities and support gender education.⁴³⁵⁰ Due to the traditional gender norms of the region, many girls marry early and do not have access to secondary education.⁴³⁵¹ The initiative aims to “create gender-sensitive school environments and develop the capacity of secondary school teachers, students, and communities to promote gender equality.”⁴³⁵²

From 30 November to 1 December 2018, Japan attended the G20 Summit in Buenos Aires.⁴³⁵³ The theme of the summit was “Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development.”⁴³⁵⁴ One of the main development goals was the empowerment of women and “the elimination of gender

⁴³⁴⁵ Japan provides 510 million Yen to assist Pakistan’s efforts for Polio Eradication, Reliefweb (New York). 19 November 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/pakistan/japan-provides-510-million-yen-assist-pakistan-s-efforts-polio-eradication>.

⁴³⁴⁶ UNDP and Save the Children join hands to advance school safety and disaster preparedness in Cambodia, United Nations Development Program (New York). 22 November 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.adaptation-undp.org/undp-and-save-children-join-hands-advance-school-safety-and-disaster-preparedness-cambodia>.

⁴³⁴⁷ UNDP and Save the Children join hands to advance school safety and disaster preparedness in Cambodia, United Nations Development Program (New York). 22 November 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.adaptation-undp.org/undp-and-save-children-join-hands-advance-school-safety-and-disaster-preparedness-cambodia>.

⁴³⁴⁸ Japan supports WFP to scale up nutrition programme in Ghana, Reliefweb (New York). 22 November 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/ghana/japan-supports-wfp-scale-nutrition-programme-ghana>.

⁴³⁴⁹ Japan supports WFP to scale up nutrition programme in Ghana, Reliefweb (New York). 22 November 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/ghana/japan-supports-wfp-scale-nutrition-programme-ghana>.

⁴³⁵⁰ Japan Supports Gender Education in Bokeo Province, Embassy of Japan in the Lao PDR (Vientiane). 29 November 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. https://www.la.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_ja/00_000302.html.

⁴³⁵¹ Japan Supports Gender Education in Bokeo Province, Embassy of Japan in the Lao PDR (Vientiane). 29 November 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. https://www.la.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_ja/00_000302.html.

⁴³⁵² Japan Supports Gender Education in Bokeo Province, Embassy of Japan in the Lao PDR (Vientiane). 29 November 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. https://www.la.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_ja/00_000302.html.

⁴³⁵³ Overview of Argentina's G20 Presidency 2018: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Research Group (Toronto). 1 December 2017. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-Overview-en.html#top>.

⁴³⁵⁴ Overview of Argentina's G20 Presidency 2018: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Research Group (Toronto). 1 December 2017. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-Overview-en.html#top>.

disparities in employment, science, technology and education, and protection from all forms of gender-based violence.”⁴³⁵⁵

On 2 December 2018, Japan contributed USD9.1 million to the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund’s efforts to address urgent needs and rights of Afghanistan’s children and women.⁴³⁵⁶ These efforts will focus on vaccinating vulnerable women and children from preventable diseases.⁴³⁵⁷

On 10 December 2018, Japan and Bangladesh signed the “Japanese Grant Aid for The Fourth Primary Education Development Programme.”⁴³⁵⁸ This initiative will grant JPY500 million to distribute textbooks, improve teacher training, and strengthen school management in Bangladesh.⁴³⁵⁹

On 26 December 2018, the Japanese Education Ministry reported that “210 teachers at public schools in Japan were disciplined over sexual behavior in fiscal 2017.”⁴³⁶⁰ The ministry reported that 206 of the offenders were male, and four were female.⁴³⁶¹ The ministry’s report highlights the targeting of young girls in schools.⁴³⁶²

On 22 January 2019, the Japanese Education Ministry announced that it will end subsidies to Tokyo Medical University for this or the next fiscal year due to its discrimination against female

⁴³⁵⁵ Overview of Argentina's G20 Presidency 2018: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Research Group (Toronto). 1 December 2017. Access Date: 10 February 2019.
<http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-Overview-en.html#top>.

⁴³⁵⁶ Japan donates US\$9.1 million to support children and mother’s health in Afghanistan, Reliefweb (New York). 4 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/afghanistan/japan-donates-us91-million-support-children-and-mother-s-health-afghanistan>.

⁴³⁵⁷ Japan donates US\$9.1 million to support children and mother’s health in Afghanistan, Reliefweb (New York). 4 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/afghanistan/japan-donates-us91-million-support-children-and-mother-s-health-afghanistan>.

⁴³⁵⁸ Japanese Grant Aid for the Fourth Primary Education Development Programme, ReliefWeb (New York). 10 December 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/bangladesh/japanese-grant-aid-fourth-primary-education-development-programme>.

⁴³⁵⁹ Japanese Grant Aid for the Fourth Primary Education Development Programme, ReliefWeb (New York). 10 December 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/bangladesh/japanese-grant-aid-fourth-primary-education-development-programme>.

⁴³⁶⁰ 210 public school teachers disciplined over sexual behavior in fiscal 2017, Japan's education ministry reports, The Japan Times (Tokyo). 26 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019.

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/12/26/national/210-public-school-teachers-disciplined-sexual-behavior-fiscal-2017-japans-education-ministry-reports/#.XGDco1xKjIW>.

⁴³⁶¹ 210 public school teachers disciplined over sexual behavior in fiscal 2017, Japan's education ministry reports, The Japan Times (Tokyo). 26 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019.

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/12/26/national/210-public-school-teachers-disciplined-sexual-behavior-fiscal-2017-japans-education-ministry-reports/#.XGDco1xKjIW>.

⁴³⁶² 210 public school teachers disciplined over sexual behavior in fiscal 2017, Japan's education ministry reports, The Japan Times (Tokyo). 26 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019.

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/12/26/national/210-public-school-teachers-disciplined-sexual-behavior-fiscal-2017-japans-education-ministry-reports/#.XGDco1xKjIW>.

applicants.⁴³⁶³ In addition, seven other universities will receive lower subsidies as well due to misconduct.⁴³⁶⁴

On 22 January 2019, the Japanese government “signed two grant contracts amounting to USD16 million to purchase two school buses” for two schools in Jamaica.⁴³⁶⁵ These schools never had school buses and traveling to school in rural areas is dangerous for children.⁴³⁶⁶ This initiative is intended to “provide safe and reliable transportation to and from school for children.”⁴³⁶⁷

On 25 January 2019, Japan and other countries formed the “Group of Friends for Education and Lifelong Learning” at the UN.⁴³⁶⁸ The advocacy initiative will “provide equal educational opportunities for all boys and girls in Asian and African countries” and “address the shortage of teachers.”

On 25 January 2019, Japan granted USD12 million to the World Food Programme to alleviate the hunger crisis in Yemen.⁴³⁶⁹ This assistance is expected to address the food insecurity of 850,000 people and improve the nutritional status of 250,000 pregnant and lactating women.⁴³⁷⁰

On 31 January 2019, Japan contributed USD8 million to support the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations’ efforts to enhance the food security of Yemen’s most vulnerable communities.⁴³⁷¹ The initiative will focus on ensuring “that products, especially milk, are available to the most vulnerable members of the poor families - especially children, pregnant women and lactating mothers.”⁴³⁷²

⁴³⁶³ Government cuts off subsidies to Tokyo Medical University over entrance exam discrimination, The Japan Times (Tokyo). 22 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019.

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/01/22/national/government-cuts-off-subsidies-tokyo-medical-university-entrance-exam-discrimination/#.XGDZGFxKjlW>.

⁴³⁶⁴ Government cuts off subsidies to Tokyo Medical University over entrance exam discrimination, The Japan Times (Tokyo). 22 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019.

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/01/22/national/government-cuts-off-subsidies-tokyo-medical-university-entrance-exam-discrimination/#.XGDZGFxKjlW>.

⁴³⁶⁵ Two Schools Receive Buses From Japan, Ministry of Education, Youth and Information (Kingston). 22 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.moey.gov.jm/two-schools-receive-buses-japan>.

⁴³⁶⁶ Two Schools Receive Buses From Japan, Ministry of Education, Youth and Information (Kingston). 22 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.moey.gov.jm/two-schools-receive-buses-japan>.

⁴³⁶⁷ Two Schools Receive Buses From Japan, Ministry of Education, Youth and Information (Kingston). 22 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.moey.gov.jm/two-schools-receive-buses-japan>.

⁴³⁶⁸ UN members form group to promote quality education, NHK (Tokyo). 25 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. https://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/en/news/20190125_22/.

⁴³⁶⁹ Emergency Grant Aid in response to the deteriorating hunger crisis in Yemen, Reliefweb (New York). 25 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/yemen/emergency-grant-aid-response-deteriorating-hunger-crisis-yemen>.

⁴³⁷⁰ Emergency Grant Aid in response to the deteriorating hunger crisis in Yemen, Reliefweb (New York). 25 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/yemen/emergency-grant-aid-response-deteriorating-hunger-crisis-yemen>

⁴³⁷¹ FAO receives \$8 million from Japan to boost food security and nutrition in conflict-ridden Yemen, Reliefweb (New York). 31 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/yemen/fao-receives-8-million-japan-boost-food-security-and-nutrition-conflict-ridden-yemen>.

⁴³⁷² FAO receives \$8 million from Japan to boost food security and nutrition in conflict-ridden Yemen, Reliefweb (New York). 31 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/yemen/fao-receives-8-million-japan-boost-food-security-and-nutrition-conflict-ridden-yemen>.

On 7 February 2019, Japan granted Yemen a new humanitarian assistance package of USD32.8 million to alleviate the suffering caused by the Yemeni civil war.⁴³⁷³ The contribution will provide “income opportunities and vocational training to youth and women, and also capacity building of medical staffs.”⁴³⁷⁴

On 8 February 2019, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe held a meeting with ministers involved in child abuse issues following the death of a 10-year-old girl at the hands of her father.⁴³⁷⁵ The Prime Minister discussed the negligence of the school, Board of Education and Child Welfare Center who failed to protect the child. Prime Minister Abe announced, “efforts to eradicate child abuse to protect children’s lives as a top priority.”⁴³⁷⁶ Abe also proposed new rules that “ban the disclosure of information, including the identity of the party who reported the abuse.”⁴³⁷⁷ Abe also urged “child consultation centers nationwide and other institutions to ensure that the safety of all suspected victims is checked within a month.”⁴³⁷⁸

On 12 February 2019, Japan adopted bills to make preschool and tertiary education free of charge.⁴³⁷⁹ This initiative will guarantee all children have access to early education.⁴³⁸⁰

On 13 February 2019, the Japanese government granted USD529,068 to the Shanti Volunteer Association.⁴³⁸¹ The funds are intended to improve childhood education in Battambang, Cambodia.⁴³⁸² This initiative will focus on improving pre-school libraries and capacity building for teachers and librarians.⁴³⁸³

On 18 February 2019, Japan and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization signed an agreement in support of the project “Voices of the children of Old Mosul: the rehabilitation and management of primary schools in historic urban context emerging from

⁴³⁷³ Japan provides 32.8 million USD humanitarian assistance package to Yemen Including additional food grant aid with 18 million USD, Reliefweb (New York). 7 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019.

<https://reliefweb.int/report/yemen/japan-provides-328-million-usd-humanitarian-assistance-package-yemen-including>.

⁴³⁷⁴ Japan provides 32.8 million USD humanitarian assistance package to Yemen Including additional food grant aid with 18 million USD, Reliefweb (New York). 7 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019.

<https://reliefweb.int/report/yemen/japan-provides-328-million-usd-humanitarian-assistance-package-yemen-including>.

⁴³⁷⁵ Death of girl, 10, shines spotlight on child abuse in Japan, CNN (Atlanta). 8 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.cnn.com/2019/02/08/asia/japan-child-abuse-case-intl/index.html>.

⁴³⁷⁶ Death of girl, 10, shines spotlight on child abuse in Japan, CNN (Atlanta). 8 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.cnn.com/2019/02/08/asia/japan-child-abuse-case-intl/index.html>.

⁴³⁷⁷ Death of girl, 10, shines spotlight on child abuse in Japan, CNN (Atlanta). 8 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.cnn.com/2019/02/08/asia/japan-child-abuse-case-intl/index.html>.

⁴³⁷⁸ Govt draws up new measures against child abuse, The Japan News (Tokyo). 8 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <http://the-japan-news.com/news/article/0005532949>.

⁴³⁷⁹ Japan Govt Adopts Bills for Free Education Program, Nippon.com (Tokyo). 12 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.nippon.com/en/news/yjj2019021200609/japan-govt-adopts-bills-for-free-education-program.html>.

⁴³⁸⁰ Japan Govt Adopts Bills for Free Education Program, Nippon.com (Tokyo). 12 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.nippon.com/en/news/yjj2019021200609/japan-govt-adopts-bills-for-free-education-program.html>.

⁴³⁸¹ Japan donates \$500K for B’bang education, The Phnom Penh Post (Phnom Penh). 13 February 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/japan-donates-500k-bbang-education>.

⁴³⁸² Japan donates \$500K for B’bang education, The Phnom Penh Post (Phnom Penh). 13 February 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/japan-donates-500k-bbang-education>.

⁴³⁸³ Japan donates \$500K for B’bang education, The Phnom Penh Post (Phnom Penh). 13 February 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/japan-donates-500k-bbang-education>.

conflict.”⁴³⁸⁴ This initiative aims to prevent of violent extremism in Iraqi primary education by laying “the ground for participatory design principles in the creation of pupil-centred schools through the collaboration of pupils, teachers, parents, architects and designers.”⁴³⁸⁵

On 19 February 2019, Japan announced USD10.6 million in contributions to combat malnutrition and increase resilience to natural disasters in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh and Balochistan provinces of Pakistan.⁴³⁸⁶ USD3.5 million of the contribution will go to “early identification and treatment of 155,000 acutely malnourished mothers and children in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, including families who have been displaced from Afghanistan and vulnerable host populations.”⁴³⁸⁷

On 22 February 2019, Japan granted World Vision Japan USD400,384 to “complete its two-year project aimed at improving maternal and child health in Takeo province.”⁴³⁸⁸ This funding will support marginalized mothers and children gain access to clean water and health care.⁴³⁸⁹

On 26 February 2019, Japan signed an agreement with six United Nations Agencies valued at USD37 million to implement humanitarian and development projects in the Shan, Kachin and Rakhine States of Myanmar.⁴³⁹⁰ The agreement will deliver “life-saving assistance, protection, trust-building initiatives and early recovery support to women, men, girls and boys across the three states,” including efforts to support women leaders to become effective advocates for gender equality and women’s empowerment as well as “strengthening government capacities to ensure gender-responsive policies, programmes and service delivery.”⁴³⁹¹

On 26 February 2019, Japan signed an agreement with Sierra Leone to support the Food Aid Programme for Sierra Leone’s Free Quality Education and School Feeding Programmes.⁴³⁹² This agreement aims to increase national food security and ensure that children are well fed in schools.⁴³⁹³

⁴³⁸⁴ The Government of Japan and UNESCO sign agreement on 'Voices of the children of Old Mosul' primary school project, Reliefweb (New York). 18 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/iraq/government-japan-and-unesco-sign-agreement-voices-children-old-mosul-primary-school>.

⁴³⁸⁵ The Government of Japan and UNESCO sign agreement on 'Voices of the children of Old Mosul' primary school project, Reliefweb (New York). 18 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/iraq/government-japan-and-unesco-sign-agreement-voices-children-old-mosul-primary-school>.

⁴³⁸⁶ Japan supports vulnerable families in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh and Balochistan, Reliefweb (New York). 19 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/pakistan/japan-supports-vulnerable-families-khyber-pakhtunkhwa-sindh-and-balochistan>.

⁴³⁸⁷ Japan supports vulnerable families in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh and Balochistan, Reliefweb (New York). 19 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/pakistan/japan-supports-vulnerable-families-khyber-pakhtunkhwa-sindh-and-balochistan>.

⁴³⁸⁸ Japan rolls out aid for Takeo health project, The Phnom Penh Post (Phnom Penh). 22 February 2019. Access Date 3 March 2019. <https://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/japan-rolls-out-aid-takeo-health-project>.

⁴³⁸⁹ Japan rolls out aid for Takeo health project, The Phnom Penh Post (Phnom Penh). 22 February 2019. Access Date 3 March 2019. <https://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/japan-rolls-out-aid-takeo-health-project>.

⁴³⁹⁰ Ongoing UN and Japan Cooperation on Rakhine extended in 2019 to also support communities in Kachin and Shan, Reliefweb (New York). 26 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/myanmar/ongoing-un-and-japan-cooperation-rakhine-extended-2019-also-support-communities>.

⁴³⁹¹ Ongoing UN and Japan Cooperation on Rakhine extended in 2019 to also support communities in Kachin and Shan, Reliefweb (New York). 26 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/myanmar/ongoing-un-and-japan-cooperation-rakhine-extended-2019-also-support-communities>.

⁴³⁹² Sierra Leone signs food aid agreement with Japan, The Sierra Leone Telegraph (Freetown). 27 February 2019. Access Date 3 March 2019. <https://www.thesierraleonetelegraph.com/sierra-leone-signs-food-aid-agreement-with-japan/>.

On 28 February 2019, the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency helped Rwanda launch satellites into space.⁴³⁹⁴ These satellites will provide internet access to rural schools in Rwanda.⁴³⁹⁵

On 28 February 2019, Japan granted Haiti USD2 million to fund the distribution of school meals based on local products.⁴³⁹⁶ Japan aims to improve food security and increase access to education while supporting Haitian food producers, especially women.⁴³⁹⁷

On 3 March 2019, the Government of Japan introduced a plan to ban corporal punishment of children by parents, foster parents, welfare workers.⁴³⁹⁸ This plan aims to prevent child abuse and strengthen “the authority of child welfare centres to ensure prompt separation of children from abusive parents.”⁴³⁹⁹

On 3 March 2019, the Government of Japan contributed USD 1,339,285 to “increase access to reproductive health services and strengthen the response to gender-based violence across Iraq.”⁴⁴⁰⁰ The funding will provide “psychosocial support to gender-based violence survivors” and build capacity for service providers and communities to prevent gender-based violence.⁴⁴⁰¹

On 4 March 2019, the Government of Japan donated USD3.4 million to provide health and nutrition assistance for vulnerable children in conflict affected areas in Iraq.⁴⁴⁰² The donation will support vulnerable communities caught in cycles of violence by increasing the capacity of health care workers and providing nutrition and immunization services to displaced mothers and children.⁴⁴⁰³

On 6 March 2019, the Government of Japan granted USD1.47 million to “the Project for the Improvement of Access to Information and Services of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

⁴³⁹³ Sierra Leone signs food aid agreement with Japan, The Sierra Leone Telegraph (Freetown). 27 February 2019. Access Date 3 March 2019. <https://www.thesierraleonetelegraph.com/sierra-leone-signs-food-aid-agreement-with-japan/>.

⁴³⁹⁴ Rwanda collaborates with Japan to launch satellite, IT News Africa (Johannesburg). 28 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.itnewsafrika.com/2019/02/rwanda-collaborates-with-japan-to-launch-satellite/>.

⁴³⁹⁵ Rwanda collaborates with Japan to launch satellite, IT News Africa (Johannesburg). 28 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.itnewsafrika.com/2019/02/rwanda-collaborates-with-japan-to-launch-satellite/>.

⁴³⁹⁶ Haiti - Social: During 2 years, 16,000 schoolchildren will receive a school meal thanks to Japan, Haiti Libre (Port-au-Prince). 2 March 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.haitilibre.com/en/news-27079-haiti-social-during-2-years-16-000-schoolchildren-will-receive-a-school-meal-thanks-to-japan.html>.

⁴³⁹⁷ Haiti - Social: During 2 years, 16,000 schoolchildren will receive a school meal thanks to Japan, Haiti Libre (Port-au-Prince). 2 March 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.haitilibre.com/en/news-27079-haiti-social-during-2-years-16-000-schoolchildren-will-receive-a-school-meal-thanks-to-japan.html>

⁴³⁹⁸ Japan to ban physical punishment of children by parents, Japan Today (Tokyo). 3 March 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://japantoday.com/category/national/japan-to-ban-physical-punishment-of-children-by-parents-in-law>.

⁴³⁹⁹ Japan to ban physical punishment of children by parents, Japan Today (Tokyo). 3 March 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://japantoday.com/category/national/japan-to-ban-physical-punishment-of-children-by-parents-in-law>.

⁴⁴⁰⁰ The People of Japan Stand by Women in Iraq with a US\$ 1.3 Million Contribution to UNFPA, Reliefweb (New York). 3 March 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/iraq/people-japan-stand-women-iraq-us-13-million-contribution-unfpa-enar>.

⁴⁴⁰¹ The People of Japan Stand by Women in Iraq with a US\$ 1.3 Million Contribution to UNFPA, Reliefweb (New York). 3 March 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/iraq/people-japan-stand-women-iraq-us-13-million-contribution-unfpa-enar>.

⁴⁴⁰² Japan donates US\$ 3.4 million to support the health and nutrition needs of children in Iraq, Reliefweb (New York). 4 March 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/iraq/japan-donates-us-34-million-support-health-and-nutrition-needs-children-iraq-enar>.

⁴⁴⁰³ Japan donates US\$ 3.4 million to support the health and nutrition needs of children in Iraq, Reliefweb (New York). 4 March 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/iraq/japan-donates-us-34-million-support-health-and-nutrition-needs-children-iraq-enar>

and of Gender-based Violence for Women and Young People.”⁴⁴⁰⁴ This project aims to promote sexual and reproductive health and rights of young Sri Lankans, as well as support shelters for sexual and gender-based violence victims.⁴⁴⁰⁵

On 7 March 2019, the Government of Japan contributed USD500,000 to “Empowered Women, Peaceful Communities: Promoting Peace and Preventing Intolerance in Sri Lanka.”⁴⁴⁰⁶ This program is implemented by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and aims to promote gender equality in Sri Lanka.⁴⁴⁰⁷ The aid is part of Japan’s commitment to the G7 Women, Peace and Security Partnerships Initiative agreed at the G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting in April 2018.⁴⁴⁰⁸

On 7 March 2019, the Government of Japan granted USD205,035 to three Bangladeshi NGOs through its initiative to support Grass-roots Human Security Projects.⁴⁴⁰⁹ All three NGOs are working towards improving public health in Bangladesh.⁴⁴¹⁰

On 8 March 2019, the Government of Japan granted USD86,612 to the Idara Al- Khair Welfare Society for the construction of schools for girls at Wangi Goth Village in Karachi.⁴⁴¹¹

On 23 March 2019, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe announced that Japan will support developing countries in providing high quality education to 4 million women by 2020 at an International Women’s conference.⁴⁴¹²

On 31 March 2019, the Government of Japan allocated funding to the United Nations Children’s Fund to provide education and protection for Somalian children affected by recent droughts, floods,

⁴⁴⁰⁴ Japan provides USD 1.5 million grant aid for gender equality and empowerment though UNFPA, Reliefweb (New York). 6 March 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/sri-lanka/japan-provides-usd-15-million-grant-aid-gender-equality-and-empowerment-though>.

⁴⁴⁰⁵ Japan provides USD 1.5 million grant aid for gender equality and empowerment though UNFPA, Reliefweb (New York). 6 March 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/sri-lanka/japan-provides-usd-15-million-grant-aid-gender-equality-and-empowerment-though>.

⁴⁴⁰⁶ Japan provides USD 500,000 grant aid for Empowered Women, Peaceful Communities in Sri Lanka, Reliefweb (New York). 7 March 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/sri-lanka/japan-provides-usd-500000-grant-aid-empowered-women-peaceful-communities-sri-lanka>.

⁴⁴⁰⁷ Japan provides USD 500,000 grant aid for Empowered Women, Peaceful Communities in Sri Lanka, Reliefweb (New York). 7 March 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/sri-lanka/japan-provides-usd-500000-grant-aid-empowered-women-peaceful-communities-sri-lanka>.

⁴⁴⁰⁸ Japan provides USD 500,000 grant aid for Empowered Women, Peaceful Communities in Sri Lanka, Reliefweb (New York). 7 March 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/sri-lanka/japan-provides-usd-500000-grant-aid-empowered-women-peaceful-communities-sri-lanka>.

⁴⁴⁰⁹ Japan Supports \$205,035 to Three Grass-roots Human Security Projects, Reliefweb (New York). 7 March 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/bangladesh/japan-supports-205035-three-grass-roots-human-security-projects>.

⁴⁴¹⁰ Japan Supports \$205,035 to Three Grass-roots Human Security Projects, Reliefweb (New York). 7 March 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/bangladesh/japan-supports-205035-three-grass-roots-human-security-projects>.

⁴⁴¹¹ Japan provides grant of \$ 86,612 for construction of girls school in Karachi, The News International (Karachi). 8 March 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/441344-japan-provides-grant-86612-for-construction-of-girls-school-in-karachi>.

⁴⁴¹² Japan to support education for 4 mil. women in developing countries, Kyodo News (Tokyo). 23 March 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2019/03/70575fc9a9dd-japan-to-support-education-for-4-mil-women-in-developing-countries.html>.

and other disasters.⁴⁴¹³ Japan's support will help more than 8500 young girls and boys access safe learning environments.⁴⁴¹⁴

On 5 April 2019, the Japanese Ministry of Education announced that gender-discrimination in university entrance exams are inappropriate and committed to eradicating this inequality from the Japan's post-secondary system.⁴⁴¹⁵

On 7 April 2019, Japan announced USD3.57 million to support the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Jordan to assist Syrian refugees across that country.⁴⁴¹⁶ The funding will help the Government of Jordan provide key services such as healthcare and education.⁴⁴¹⁷

On 9 May 2019, Japan contributed USD6.9 million to the United Nations World Food Programme to provide food assistance to cyclone and flood affected people in Mozambique.⁴⁴¹⁸ The assistance will assist 350,000 people, including women and girls, to recover and will prevent malnutrition.⁴⁴¹⁹

On 28 May 2019, the Government of Japan and the World Health Organization donated six ambulances to the Ministry of Health of the Republic of South Sudan.⁴⁴²⁰ The donation aims to increase access of health care for the most vulnerable populations of the country, such as women and children.⁴⁴²¹

On 29 May 2019, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe ordered police and education officials to strengthen safety measures to protect schoolchildren across the country following an attack on children at a school bus stop.⁴⁴²²

⁴⁴¹³ Japan helps bring quality education and protection services to children affected by emergencies in Somalia, Reliefweb (New York). 31 March 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/japan-helps-bring-quality-education-and-protection-services-children-affected>.

⁴⁴¹⁴ Japan helps bring quality education and protection services to children affected by emergencies in Somalia, Reliefweb (New York). 31 March 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/japan-helps-bring-quality-education-and-protection-services-children-affected>.

⁴⁴¹⁵ Education ministry panel in Japan drafts rules clarifying that sex discrimination in university entrance exams is improper, The Japan Times (Tokyo). 5 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/04/05/national/education-ministry-panel-japan-drafts-rules-clarifying-sex-discrimination-university-entrance-exams-improper/#.XPgiLYhKjIV>.

⁴⁴¹⁶ Government of Japan announces new funding to support to Syrian refugees, Reliefweb (New York). 7 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/jordan/government-japan-announces-new-funding-support-syrian-refugees-enar>.

⁴⁴¹⁷ Government of Japan announces new funding to support to Syrian refugees, Reliefweb (New York). 7 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/jordan/government-japan-announces-new-funding-support-syrian-refugees-enar>.

⁴⁴¹⁸ WFP welcomes Japanese contribution for people affected by cyclone Idai in Mozambique, Reliefweb (New York). 9 May 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/mozambique/wfp-welcomes-japanese-contribution-people-affected-cyclone-idai-mozambique>.

⁴⁴¹⁹ WFP welcomes Japanese contribution for people affected by cyclone Idai in Mozambique, Reliefweb (New York). 9 May 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/mozambique/wfp-welcomes-japanese-contribution-people-affected-cyclone-idai-mozambique>.

⁴⁴²⁰ The Government of Japan and WHO donate six ambulances to boost health service delivery in South Sudan, Reliefweb (New York). 28 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/south-sudan/government-japan-and-who-donate-six-ambulances-boost-health-service-delivery>.

⁴⁴²¹ The Government of Japan and WHO donate six ambulances to boost health service delivery in South Sudan, Reliefweb (New York). 28 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/south-sudan/government-japan-and-who-donate-six-ambulances-boost-health-service-delivery>.

⁴⁴²² Deadly knife attack on schoolgirls startles Japan, ABC News (Tokyo). 29 May 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/deadly-knife-attack-tokyo-raises-alarm-child-safety-63337883>.

Japan has fully complied with prioritizing gender equality and improving access to quality education for women and girls in crisis situations by addressing widespread gender discrimination and child abuse. Japan has taken action domestically and internationally to intervene in early stages of humanitarian response and in peacebuilding efforts while ensuring spaces for girls in schools.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Collin Xia

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment to prioritize gender equality and improving access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.

On 1 July 2018, the United Kingdom’s Department for Education announced a new GBP6.5 million program aimed at supporting children with special educational needs and children from disadvantaged backgrounds who are at risk of falling behind in reading, writing, and language skills.⁴⁴²³

On 10 August 2018, UK’s International Development Secretary Penny Mordaunt announced that Tanzania’s education program will receive GBP41.6 million to improve “quality of education in every primary and lower secondary school in Tanzania.”⁴⁴²⁴ Young women will be empowered to take advantage of their educational opportunities to contribute to the economic growth of their communities.⁴⁴²⁵

On 30 August 2018, the Government of the United Kingdom announced funding for the “Leave No Girl Behind” initiative that aims to help Kenyan girls to go back to school.⁴⁴²⁶ This initiative will support up to 5,000 Kenyan girls in their educational endeavours.⁴⁴²⁷ It will tackle common barriers to girls’ education and give access to those who are impoverished and lack access to education.⁴⁴²⁸

⁴⁴²³ Multi-million pound fund to support disadvantaged children in the early years, GOV.UK (London). 1 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/multi-million-pound-fund-to-support-disadvantaged-children-in-the-early-years>.

⁴⁴²⁴ New UK aid package will improve the quality of education in every primary and lower secondary school in Tanzania, GOV.UK (London). 10 August 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-aid-package-will-improve-the-quality-of-education-in-every-primary-and-lower-secondary-school-in-tanzania>.

⁴⁴²⁵ New UK aid package will improve the quality of education in every primary and lower secondary school in Tanzania, GOV.UK (London). 10 August 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-aid-package-will-improve-the-quality-of-education-in-every-primary-and-lower-secondary-school-in-tanzania>.

⁴⁴²⁶ UK announces major investments in future of African youth through education and voluntary family planning, GOV.UK (London). 10 August 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-major-investments-in-future-of-african-youth-through-education-and-voluntary-family-planning>.

⁴⁴²⁷ UK announces major investments in future of African youth through education and voluntary family planning, GOV.UK (London). 10 August 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-major-investments-in-future-of-african-youth-through-education-and-voluntary-family-planning>.

⁴⁴²⁸ UK announces major investments in future of African youth through education and voluntary family planning, GOV.UK (London). 10 August 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-major-investments-in-future-of-african-youth-through-education-and-voluntary-family-planning>.

On 3 September 2018, the Government of the United Kingdom committed USD186 million for crisis response and development initiatives across four countries in Africa. The conference emphasized the need for enhanced protection against gender-based violence for women and girls.⁴⁴²⁹

On 4 September 2018, the Government of the United Kingdom announced an aid package for Palestinians through the United Nations Relief and Work Agency (UNRWA) to help improve access to health care and education.⁴⁴³⁰ GBP7 million will be added to the United Kingdom's contribution to UNRWA, which will now total GBP38.5 million for the establishment of "an essential humanitarian and stabilising force in the Middle East, educating hundreds of thousands of children every year."⁴⁴³¹

On 8 September 2018, the United Kingdom's Department of Education and Government Equalities Office allocated GBP4.4 million for an online application which allows for children to report instances of bullying or cyber-bullying in schools.⁴⁴³²

On 26 September 2018, the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Theresa May, announced 9 new projects to support access to quality education for up to 171,723 marginalized girls, including 13,146 girls with disabilities, in Ghana, Somalia, Nepal, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, and Malawi.⁴⁴³³ The projects constitute the second phase of the Department for International Development's Girls Education "Challenge" program.⁴⁴³⁴

On 26 September 2018, the United Kingdom's International Development Secretary, Penny Mordaunt, announced a GBP7.8 million investment to improve education data and analysis, to help better understand the UK's aid priorities and track its progress towards Sustainable Development Goals.⁴⁴³⁵

On 27 September 2018, the United Kingdom's Minister for Human Rights and the United Nations, Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon, co-chaired an event under the UN General Assembly with Afghanistan and Norway and called for an increase in the participation of women in peace building and conflict resolution.⁴⁴³⁶

⁴⁴²⁹ High-level Conference on the Lake Chad Region: Outcome Statement by the Co-hosts, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin). 4 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://lakechadberlin.de/wp-eb6f4-content/uploads/2018/09/ENG-001-CO-HOSTS-OUTCOME-STATEMENT-FINAL-2.pdf>.

⁴⁴³⁰ New UK aid package to meet immediate needs of Palestinians through UN Relief and Works Agency, GOV.UK (London). 4 September 2018. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-aid-package-to-meet-immediate-needs-of-palestinians-through-un-relief-and-works-agency>.

⁴⁴³¹ New UK aid package to meet immediate needs of Palestinians through UN Relief and Works Agency, GOV.UK (London). 4 September 2018. Access Date: 6 September 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-aid-package-to-meet-immediate-needs-of-palestinians-through-un-relief-and-works-agency>.

⁴⁴³² Thousands more children to benefit from anti-bullying app, GOV.UK (London). 8 September 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/thousands-more-children-to-benefit-from-anti-bullying-app>.

⁴⁴³³ UK leads calls to reach most marginalised girls with quality education, GOV.UK (London). 26 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leads-calls-to-reach-most-marginalised-girls-with-quality-education>.

⁴⁴³⁴ UK leads calls to reach most marginalised girls with quality education, GOV.UK (London), 26 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leads-calls-to-reach-most-marginalised-girls-with-quality-education>.

⁴⁴³⁵ UK leads calls to reach most marginalised girls with quality education, GOV.UK (London). 26 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leads-calls-to-reach-most-marginalised-girls-with-quality-education>.

⁴⁴³⁶ Minister calls for women to be included in peacebuilding process, GOV.UK (London). 27 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/minister-calls-for-women-to-be-included-in-peacebuilding-process>.

On 3 October 2018, the United Kingdom's Department for International Development allocated GBP10 million, in partnership with the United Nations' Children's Fund, to provide digital registration for up to 400,000 children in the Horn of Africa, to guard them against the risk of slavery, human trafficking, underage marriage, or military service.⁴⁴³⁷

On 3 October 2018, the United Kingdom's Department for International Development announced a GBP26 million initiative to combat child labour and child sex trafficking across six Asian countries, in partnership with the United Nations' Children's Fund, the International Labour Organization, and the Institute of Development Studies.⁴⁴³⁸

On 3 October 2018, the United Kingdom's Department for International Development announced a GBP12 million fund set to provide up to 400,000 vulnerable individuals in conflict-ridden parts of Africa with alternate income opportunities and skills training to recognize disguised risks of trafficking.⁴⁴³⁹

On 16 October 2018, the Government of the United Kingdom announced a three-year GBP96.5 million commitment to UNICEF to screen up to GBP2.2 million young children in Yemen for malnutrition, with urgent treatment provided for 70,000 of the most vulnerable.⁴⁴⁴⁰

On 20 October 2018, the United Kingdom's Communities Secretary, James Brokenshire, announced a GBP5 million fund to promote early intervention practices among teachers, community workers, and childcare professionals for youth or families at risk of the gang and knife violence.⁴⁴⁴¹

On 15 November 2018, the United Kingdom's Minister for Women and Equalities, Penny Mordaunt, announced that the Government Equalities Office will join the United Kingdom's Cabinet Office.⁴⁴⁴² This change ensures that gender equality is at the forefront of all the government's policymaking.

On 23 November 2018, the United Kingdom's Department for International Development Secretary, Penny Mordaunt, launched a GBP50 million initiative to combat female genital mutilation in Africa, which includes support for "women's organizations and girls' clubs in schools where [women and girls] can discuss the issue in safe spaces."⁴⁴⁴³

On 24 January 2019, the British Ambassador to Guatemala announced an initiative to tackle teen pregnancy in Solola by providing training in life skills and access to knowledge and mentoring from

⁴⁴³⁷ UK leads the charge in eradicating modern slavery, GOV.UK (London). 3 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leads-the-charge-in-eradicating-modern-slavery>.

⁴⁴³⁸ UK leads the charge in eradicating modern slavery, GOV.UK (London). 3 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leads-the-charge-in-eradicating-modern-slavery>.

⁴⁴³⁹ UK leads the charge in eradicating modern slavery, GOV.UK (London). 3 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leads-the-charge-in-eradicating-modern-slavery>.

⁴⁴⁴⁰ Minister for the Middle East, Alistair Burt, announces UK support to help screen, prevent and tackle malnutrition in Yemen, GOV.UK (London). 16 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-aid-package-to-provide-life-saving-help-to-millions-of-yemeni-children-at-growing-risk-of-famine>.

⁴⁴⁴¹ £5 million fund to deter young people from gang and knife crime, GOV.UK (London). 20 October 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/5-million-fund-to-deter-young-people-from-gang-and-knife-crime>.

⁴⁴⁴² Government Equalities Office to Join Cabinet Office, GOV.UK (London). 16 November 2018. Access Date: 19 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/government-equalities-office-to-join-cabinet-office>.

⁴⁴⁴³ UK aid makes largest ever investment to help end FGM worldwide by 2030, GOV.UK (London). 23 November 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-makes-largest-ever-investment-to-help-end-fgm-worldwide-by-2030>.

peers.⁴⁴⁴⁴ The objective of the UK-funded project is to provide basic tools for girls and boys to understand sexual and reproductive health issues, while the long-term goal is to reduce child marriage and teenage pregnancy in Guatemala.⁴⁴⁴⁵ The 5-month project is part of the UK's commitment to improve access to girls' education.⁴⁴⁴⁶

On 30 January 2019, Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon, the Duke of Sussex and Tijani Christian, Chair of the Commonwealth Youth Council, allocated over GBP200 million in nine Commonwealth countries to support the objective of ensuring 12 years of quality education for girls and boys.⁴⁴⁴⁷ The objective is to create 150 new Queen Elizabeth II's Commonwealth scholarships for students by 2025.⁴⁴⁴⁸

On 4 February 2019, the British Embassy in Cairo launched the initiative "She Leads" in partnership with the British embassies in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and Singapore.⁴⁴⁴⁹ The 10-month initiative, which is a Young Women Leadership Program, trains and mentors 26 Egyptian female students in their last two years at the Faculty of Economics and Political Science at Cairo University.⁴⁴⁵⁰ The objective is to build communication, critical thinking, self-awareness, peer mentoring, and leadership skills.⁴⁴⁵¹

On 7 February 2019, Minister of State for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Harriet Baldwin, announced that the UK will increase funding by GBP2.8 million for humanitarian support and will increase funding by GBP3.5 million for peacebuilding activities in Ukraine to address gender-based violence.⁴⁴⁵² The funding aims to deliver Mine Risk Education Sessions, while another objective is to increase the number of women in politics through gender-focused caucuses.⁴⁴⁵³

On 9 March 2019, the Government of the United Kingdom pledged GBP400 million life-saving aid to the 2019 Syria crisis response, which is an increase of GBP100 million from previous years.⁴⁴⁵⁴ Minister for the Middle East, Alistair Burt, announced this aid will provide vulnerable Syrians in

⁴⁴⁴⁴ British Embassy Tackles Teen Pregnancy in Solola through Education and Community Engagement, GOV.UK (London). 24 January 2019. Date Accessed: 7 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-embassy-tackles-teen-pregnancy-in-solola-through-education-and-community-engagement>.

⁴⁴⁴⁵ British Embassy Tackles Teen Pregnancy in Solola through Education and Community Engagement, GOV.UK (London). 24 January 2019. Date Accessed: 7 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-embassy-tackles-teen-pregnancy-in-solola-through-education-and-community-engagement>.

⁴⁴⁴⁶ British Embassy Tackles Teen Pregnancy in Solola through Education and Community Engagement, GOV.UK (London). 24 January 2019. Date Accessed: 7 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-embassy-tackles-teen-pregnancy-in-solola-through-education-and-community-engagement>.

⁴⁴⁴⁷ UK Pledges Continued Support to Commonwealth's Young People, GOV.UK (London). 30 January 2019. Date Accessed: 7 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-pledges-continued-support-to-commonwealths-young-people>.

⁴⁴⁴⁸ UK Pledges Continued Support to Commonwealth's Young People, GOV.UK (London). 30 January 2019. Date Accessed: 7 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-pledges-continued-support-to-commonwealths-young-people>.

⁴⁴⁴⁹ 'She Leads' in the British Embassy in Cairo, GOV.UK (Cairo). 4 February 2019. Date Accessed: 7 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/she-leads-in-the-british-embassy-in-cairo>.

⁴⁴⁵⁰ 'She Leads' in the British Embassy in Cairo, GOV.UK (Cairo). 4 February 2019. Date Accessed: 7 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/she-leads-in-the-british-embassy-in-cairo>.

⁴⁴⁵¹ 'She Leads' in the British Embassy in Cairo, GOV.UK (Cairo). 4 February 2019. Date Accessed: 7 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/she-leads-in-the-british-embassy-in-cairo>.

⁴⁴⁵² Minister Harriett Baldwin Visits Ukraine, GOV.UK (London). 7 February 2019. Date Accessed: 7 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/minister-harriett-baldwin-visits-ukraine>.

⁴⁴⁵³ Minister Harriett Baldwin Visits Ukraine, GOV.UK (London). 7 February 2019. Date Accessed: 7 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/minister-harriett-baldwin-visits-ukraine>.

⁴⁴⁵⁴ UK Aid Pledges Vital Lifeline for Syrians, GOV.UK (London). 9 March 2019. Date accessed: 8 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-pledges-vital-lifeline-for-syrians>.

Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey with access to drinking water, food, clothing, tents, hygiene kits, medical care, and education.⁴⁴⁵⁵

On 11 April 2019, International Development Secretary, Penny Mordaunt, pledged an additional GBP14 million in funding for the damage caused by Cyclone Idai. GBP10 million was allocated for humanitarian aid, while GBP4 million went towards ensuring emergency education for children affected by the disaster.⁴⁴⁵⁶

On 3 June 2019, International Development Minister, Baroness Sugg, announced a new GBP12.5 million program in Rwanda to support over 200,000 adolescent girls pursue formal education.⁴⁴⁵⁷ She also allocated GBP12 million to tackle gender-based violence in Zimbabwe and to help survivors.⁴⁴⁵⁸

On 10 June 2019, the Department for Education and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced a GBP18.5 million initiative to boost diversity in AI tech roles and innovation in online training for adults.⁴⁴⁵⁹ The initiative includes over 1000 scholarships for people from underrepresented groups and is part of the effort to increase gender diversity in the tech sector.⁴⁴⁶⁰ Of the GBP18.5 million, GBP13.5 million will be used to train 2,500 people in data science and artificial intelligence over the next three years through new degrees, Masters conversions courses, and scholarships.⁴⁴⁶¹ The objective is to increase representation minority groups in the tech sector, and in particular women.⁴⁴⁶²

The United Kingdom has fully complied with prioritizing gender equality and improving access to quality education for women and girls in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Spenser Borrie and Vanda Mayer

⁴⁴⁵⁵ UK Aid Pledges Vital Lifeline for Syrians, GOV.UK (London). 9 March 2019. Date accessed: 8 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-pledges-vital-lifeline-for-syrians>.

⁴⁴⁵⁶ Penny Mordaunt to pledge extra Cyclone Idai funding, as she issues stark climate warning, GOV.UK (London). 11 April 2019. Date accessed: 8 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/penny-mordaunt-to-pledge-extra-cyclone-idai-funding-as-she-issues-stark-climate-warning>.

⁴⁴⁵⁷ 'Her Potential, Our Future', Baroness Sugg speech at Women Deliver, GOV.UK (London). 3 June 2019. Date accessed: 9 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/her-potential-our-future-baroness-sugg-speech-at-women-deliver>.

⁴⁴⁵⁸ 'Her Potential, Our Future', Baroness Sugg speech at Women Deliver, GOV.UK (London). 3 June 2019. Date accessed: 9 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/her-potential-our-future-baroness-sugg-speech-at-women-deliver>.

⁴⁴⁵⁹ £18.5 million to boost diversity in AI tech roles and innovation in online training for adults, GOV.UK (London). 10 June 2019. Date accessed: 10 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/185-million-to-boost-diversity-in-ai-tech-roles-and-innovation-in-online-training-for-adults>.

⁴⁴⁶⁰ £18.5 million to boost diversity in AI tech roles and innovation in online training for adults, GOV.UK (London). 10 June 2019. Date accessed: 10 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/185-million-to-boost-diversity-in-ai-tech-roles-and-innovation-in-online-training-for-adults>.

⁴⁴⁶¹ £18.5 million to boost diversity in AI tech roles and innovation in online training for adults, GOV.UK (London). 10 June 2019. Date accessed: 10 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/185-million-to-boost-diversity-in-ai-tech-roles-and-innovation-in-online-training-for-adults>.

⁴⁴⁶² £18.5 million to boost diversity in AI tech roles and innovation in online training for adults, GOV.UK (London). 10 June 2019. Date accessed: 10 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/185-million-to-boost-diversity-in-ai-tech-roles-and-innovation-in-online-training-for-adults>.

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The United States has fully complied with the commitment to prioritize gender equality and improving access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.

On 11 June 2018, the United States Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights (OCR) announced an investigation of the University of South California’s “handling of reports of sexual harassment against former employee Dr. George Tyndall.”⁴⁴⁶³ The OCR will assess the university’s response to sexual harassment complaints from the 1990s that were not fully investigated until 2016 and review the university’s handling of civil rights issues.⁴⁴⁶⁴

On 18 July 2018, the National Threat Assessment Center published an operational guide for preventing targeted school violence, which details threat assessment models to identify potential student shooters, so schools may “develop comprehensive targeted violence prevention plans for conducting threat assessments in schools.”⁴⁴⁶⁵

On 3 August 2018, the United States Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos awarded USD138,213 to Marshall County School District in Kentucky to support recovery efforts following the 23 January 2018 shooting at Marshall County High School.⁴⁴⁶⁶ These funds will be used to hire and compensate staff.⁴⁴⁶⁷

On 14 August 2018, Secretary DeVos allocated USD359.8 million in new federal assistance to 20 states and the U.S. Virgin Islands under the Temporary Emergency Impact Aid for Displaced Students program.⁴⁴⁶⁸ This program is used by the Department of Education to help fund the education of students displaced by natural disasters such as Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Maria or the 2017 California wildfires.⁴⁴⁶⁹

⁴⁴⁶³ Office for Civil Rights Launches Investigation into University of Southern California’s Handling of Sexual Harassment Claims, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 11 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/office-civil-rights-launches-investigation-university-southern-californias-handling-sexual-harassment-claims>.

⁴⁴⁶⁴ Office for Civil Rights Launches Investigation into University of Southern California’s Handling of Sexual Harassment Claims, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 11 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/office-civil-rights-launches-investigation-university-southern-californias-handling-sexual-harassment-claims>.

⁴⁴⁶⁵ Enhancing School Safety Using a Threat Assessment Model: An Operational Guide for Preventing Targeted School Violence, National Threat Assessment Center (Washington D.C.). 18 July 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/18_0711_USSS_NTAC-Enhancing-School-Safety-Brief.pdf.

⁴⁴⁶⁶ Kentucky School District Awarded More Than \$138,000 for Recovery Efforts Following School Shooting, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 3 August 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/kentucky-school-district-awarded-more-138000-recovery-efforts-following-school-shooting>.

⁴⁴⁶⁷ Kentucky School District Awarded More Than \$138,000 for Recovery Efforts Following School Shooting, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 3 August 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/kentucky-school-district-awarded-more-138000-recovery-efforts-following-school-shooting>.

⁴⁴⁶⁸ Secretary DeVos Announces New Federal Assistance for the Education of Displaced Students, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 14 August 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/secretary-devos-announces-new-federal-assistance-education-displaced-students>.

⁴⁴⁶⁹ Secretary DeVos Announces New Federal Assistance for the Education of Displaced Students, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 14 August 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/secretary-devos-announces-new-federal-assistance-education-displaced-students>.

On 21 August 2018, Secretary DeVos hosted a meeting with the Federal Commission on School Safety to address the issue of cyberbullying on social media, and how it may promote violence and endanger student safety.⁴⁴⁷⁰

On 28 August 2018, Secretary DeVos announced USD63 million in new federal assistance for 47 institutions of higher education across America.⁴⁴⁷¹ The funding will go to institutions and students in areas directly affected by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, or Maria or the 2017 California wildfires.⁴⁴⁷²

On 28 September 2018, Secretary DeVos appointed five new members to the National Assessment Governing Board.⁴⁴⁷³ Three of the five new members are women leaders in education from across the United States.⁴⁴⁷⁴ These appointments increase female participation and leadership in the education system.⁴⁴⁷⁵

On 2 October 2018, Secretary DeVos announced USD1,983,597 in funding for low-income North Carolinian students who were impacted by Hurricane Florence.⁴⁴⁷⁶ More than USD800,000 was specifically allocated to South Carolinian students for similar relief.⁴⁴⁷⁷

On 9 October 2018, the House of Representatives introduced the Keeping Girls in School Act.⁴⁴⁷⁸ This bill will “review and update a United States global strategy to empower adolescent girls,” and direct U.S. foreign aid to promote the health, education, safety of girls around the world.⁴⁴⁷⁹

⁴⁴⁷⁰ Federal Commission on School Safety Meeting to Focus on the Effects of Entertainment, Media, Cyberbullying and Social Media on Violence and Student Safety, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 20 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/federal-commission-school-safety-meeting-focus-effects-entertainment-media-cyberbullying-and-social-media-violence-and-student-safety>.

⁴⁴⁷¹ Secretary DeVos Announces Emergency Assistance to Institutions of Higher Education, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 28 August 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/secretary-devos-announces-emergency-assistance-institutions-higher-education>.

⁴⁴⁷² Secretary DeVos Announces Emergency Assistance to Institutions of Higher Education, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 28 August 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/secretary-devos-announces-emergency-assistance-institutions-higher-education>.

⁴⁴⁷³ U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos Names New Members to National Assessment Governing Board, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 28 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-secretary-education-betsy-devos-names-new-members-national-assessment-governing-board-0>.

⁴⁴⁷⁴ U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos Names New Members to National Assessment Governing Board, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 28 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-secretary-education-betsy-devos-names-new-members-national-assessment-governing-board-0>.

⁴⁴⁷⁵ U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos Names New Members to National Assessment Governing Board, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 28 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-secretary-education-betsy-devos-names-new-members-national-assessment-governing-board-0>.

⁴⁴⁷⁶ North Carolina Institutions Awarded Nearly \$2 Million in Grants for Low-Income Students Impacted by Hurricane Florence, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 2 October 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/north-carolina-institutions-awarded-nearly-2-million-grants-low-income-students-impacted-hurricane-florence>.

⁴⁴⁷⁷ North Carolina Institutions Awarded Nearly \$2 Million in Grants for Low-Income Students Impacted by Hurricane Florence, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 2 October 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/north-carolina-institutions-awarded-nearly-2-million-grants-low-income-students-impacted-hurricane-florence>.

⁴⁴⁷⁸ H.R.7055 - Keeping Girls in School Act, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 9 October 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/7055/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22girls%22%5D%7D&r=20&s=8#toc-H600FD2C28B1A429B87C310A47FE06785>.

On 11 October 2018, the United States passed the Missing Children's Assistance Act of 2018.⁴⁴⁸⁰ This bill intends to improve support to missing or exploited children through developing and disseminating programs across the country to prevent child abduction and sexual exploitation.⁴⁴⁸¹ It also provides technical assistance and training to local schools and governments to assist in finding and helping such children.⁴⁴⁸²

On 26 October 2018, the House of Representatives introduced the Minority Women in STEM Inclusion Act.⁴⁴⁸³ This bill will “direct the Administrators of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Science Foundation to produce a report to Congress regarding the efforts to support minority women involvement in STEM fields.”⁴⁴⁸⁴ Both agencies will conduct a study on how to increase participation of minority women, and consider scholarship and internship programs to female students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).⁴⁴⁸⁵

On 8 November 2018, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Ethiopian Ministry of Education launched the new READ II project.⁴⁴⁸⁶ This project will allocate USD86 million to improve primary level reading skills amongst students and train teachers.⁴⁴⁸⁷

On 14 November 2018, the House of Representatives introduced the “Keeping All Students Safe Act” to prevent seclusion and physical restraint in schools.⁴⁴⁸⁸ This bill protects children by training

⁴⁴⁷⁹ H.R.7055 - Keeping Girls in School Act, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 9 October 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/7055/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22girls%22%5D%7D&r=20&s=8#toc-H600FD2C28B1A429B87C310A47FE06785>.

⁴⁴⁸⁰ S.3354 - Missing Children's Assistance Act of 2018, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 11 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3354/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22schools%22%5D%7D&r=17&s=9>.

⁴⁴⁸¹ S.3354 - Missing Children's Assistance Act of 2018, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 11 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3354/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22schools%22%5D%7D&r=17&s=9>.

⁴⁴⁸² S.3354 - Missing Children's Assistance Act of 2018, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 11 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3354/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22schools%22%5D%7D&r=17&s=9>.

⁴⁴⁸³ H.R.7092 - Minority Women in STEM Inclusion Act, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 26 October 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/7092/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22girls%22%5D%7D&r=18&s=8>.

⁴⁴⁸⁴ H.R.7092 - Minority Women in STEM Inclusion Act, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 26 October 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/7092/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22girls%22%5D%7D&r=18&s=8>.

⁴⁴⁸⁵ H.R.7092 - Minority Women in STEM Inclusion Act, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 26 October 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/7092/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22girls%22%5D%7D&r=18&s=8>.

⁴⁴⁸⁶ News: USAID, Ministry Of Education Launch \$86 M Project To Improve Reading, Writing Skills Benefiting 15 M Ethiopian Children, Addis Standard (Addis Ababa). 8 November 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <http://addisstandard.com/news-usaid-ministry-of-education-launch-86-m-project-to-improve-reading-writing-skills-benefiting-15-m-ethiopian-children/>.

⁴⁴⁸⁷ News: USAID, Ministry Of Education Launch \$86 M Project To Improve Reading, Writing Skills Benefiting 15 M Ethiopian Children, Addis Standard (Addis Ababa). 8 November 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <http://addisstandard.com/news-usaid-ministry-of-education-launch-86-m-project-to-improve-reading-writing-skills-benefiting-15-m-ethiopian-children/>.

⁴⁴⁸⁸ H.R.7124 - Keeping All Students Safe Act, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 14 November 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/7124/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22school%22%5D%7D&r=197&s=6>.

school personnel in appropriate and safe methods of discipline to prevent students from experiencing mental and physical abuse.⁴⁴⁸⁹

On 15 November 2018, USAID announced a new education policy to “guide the Agency’s investments in international education.”⁴⁴⁹⁰ The new policy includes increasing access to education, ensuring children acquire basic skills, and “fostering skills needed to lead productive lives.” The program seeks to engage with more partners to give educational opportunities to all children, including girls.

On 16 November 2018, USAID announced plans to fund private and religious schools in developing countries.⁴⁴⁹¹ This plan aims to help children who do not have access to public schools by expanding non-state educational institutions.⁴⁴⁹²

On 16 November 2018, the House of Representatives introduced a bill that would “replace drinking water fountains in playgrounds and parks.”⁴⁴⁹³ This bill addresses high lead levels in drinking water in playgrounds, schools, daycares, and parks to provide safe water consumption for children.⁴⁴⁹⁴

On 16 November 2018, the United States Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos released her “proposal on improving schools’ responses to sexual harassment and assault.”⁴⁴⁹⁵ The proposal “prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities that receive federal funding.”⁴⁴⁹⁶ Secretary DeVos stressed the importance of having “clear policies and fair processes that every student can rely on” to prevent sexual violence in schools.⁴⁴⁹⁷

⁴⁴⁸⁹ H.R.7124 - Keeping All Students Safe Act, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 14 November 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/7124/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22school%22%5D%7D&r=197&s=6>.

⁴⁴⁹⁰ USAID releases new education policy, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.). 15 November 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/nov-15-2018-usaid-releases-new-education-policy>.

⁴⁴⁹¹ USAID expands funding to private, religious schools under new global education policy, The Washington Times (Washington D.C.). 16 November 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2018/nov/16/usaid-expands-funding-private-religious-schools-un/>.

⁴⁴⁹² USAID expands funding to private, religious schools under new global education policy, The Washington Times (Washington D.C.). 16 November 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2018/nov/16/usaid-expands-funding-private-religious-schools-un/>.

⁴⁴⁹³ H.R.7154 - Safe Drinking Water in Playgrounds and Parks Act, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 16 November 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/7154/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22school%22%5D%7D&r=179&s=6>.

⁴⁴⁹⁴ H.R.7154 - Safe Drinking Water in Playgrounds and Parks Act, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 16 November 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/7154/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22school%22%5D%7D&r=179&s=6>.

⁴⁴⁹⁵ Secretary DeVos: Proposed Title IX Rule Provides Clarity for Schools, Support for Survivors, and Due Process Rights for All, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 16 November 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/secretary-devos-proposed-title-ix-rule-provides-clarity-schools-support-survivors-and-due-process-rights-all>.

⁴⁴⁹⁶ Secretary DeVos: Proposed Title IX Rule Provides Clarity for Schools, Support for Survivors, and Due Process Rights for All, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 16 November 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/secretary-devos-proposed-title-ix-rule-provides-clarity-schools-support-survivors-and-due-process-rights-all>.

⁴⁴⁹⁷ Secretary DeVos: Proposed Title IX Rule Provides Clarity for Schools, Support for Survivors, and Due Process Rights for All, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 16 November 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/secretary-devos-proposed-title-ix-rule-provides-clarity-schools-support-survivors-and-due-process-rights-all>.

From 30 November to 1 December 2018, the United States attended the G20 Summit in Buenos Aires.⁴⁴⁹⁸ The theme of the summit was “Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development.”⁴⁴⁹⁹ One of the main development goals was the empowerment of women and “the elimination of gender disparities in employment, science, technology and education, and protection from all forms of gender-based violence.”⁴⁵⁰⁰

On 11 December 2018, President Donald Trump signed the Women in Aerospace Education Act into law.⁴⁵⁰¹ This bill encourages the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to support female students with fellowships and internships to recruit “women or individuals who are underrepresented in the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and computer science.”⁴⁵⁰²

On 17 December 2018, the House of Representatives introduced the Trauma-Informed Schools Act of 2018.⁴⁵⁰³ The bill would “provide criteria for use of Federal funds to support trauma-informed practices in schools” by educating students and school personnel on the effects of childhood trauma, as well as “identifying students who exhibit symptoms commonly associated with trauma” to enhance the wellbeing and security of schools.⁴⁵⁰⁴

On 18 December 2018, the Federal Commission on School Safety released a “comprehensive resource guide for keeping students, teachers safe at school.”⁴⁵⁰⁵ This report includes “93 best practices and policy recommendations for improving safety at schools across the country.”⁴⁵⁰⁶ This

⁴⁴⁹⁸ Overview of Argentina's G20 Presidency 2018: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Research Group (Toronto). 1 December 2017. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-Overview-en.html#top>.

⁴⁴⁹⁹ Overview of Argentina's G20 Presidency 2018: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Research Group (Toronto). 1 December 2017. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-Overview-en.html#top>.

⁴⁵⁰⁰ Overview of Argentina's G20 Presidency 2018: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Research Group (Toronto). 1 December 2017. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-Overview-en.html#top>.

⁴⁵⁰¹ H.R.4254 - Women in Aerospace Education Act, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 11 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/4254?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22education%22%5D%7D&s=6&r=8>.

⁴⁵⁰² H.R.4254 - Women in Aerospace Education Act, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 11 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/4254?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22education%22%5D%7D&s=6&r=8>.

⁴⁵⁰³ H.R.7320 - Trauma-Informed Schools Act of 2018, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 17 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/7320/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22school%22%5D%7D&r=144&s=6>.

⁴⁵⁰⁴ H.R.7320 - Trauma-Informed Schools Act of 2018, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 17 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/7320/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22school%22%5D%7D&r=144&s=6>.

⁴⁵⁰⁵ Federal Commission on School Safety Releases Comprehensive Resource Guide for Keeping Students, Teachers Safe at School, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 18 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/federal-commission-school-safety-releases-comprehensive-resource-guide-keeping-students-teachers-safe-school>.

⁴⁵⁰⁶ Federal Commission on School Safety Releases Comprehensive Resource Guide for Keeping Students, Teachers Safe at School, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 18 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/federal-commission-school-safety-releases-comprehensive-resource-guide-keeping-students-teachers-safe-school>.

report recommends policies ranging from supporting student social and emotional wellbeing to enhancing the physical security of schools to reduce risks of violence in schools.⁴⁵⁰⁷

On 19 December 2018, the Trump Administration unveiled the Federal Lead Action Plan to Reduce Childhood Lead Exposures and Associated Health Impacts (Lead Action Plan).⁴⁵⁰⁸ The plan reduces children's exposure to lead and its associated harms by identifying lead sources, lead-exposed children, and communicating with key stakeholders.⁴⁵⁰⁹ This initiative will "reduce exposure to lead and improve children's health."⁴⁵¹⁰

On 9 January 2019, the United States passed the Women's Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act of 2018.⁴⁵¹¹ This bill seeks to "improve programs and activities relating to women's entrepreneurship and economic empowerment that are carried out by the United States Agency for International Development."⁴⁵¹² This bill requires the international development cooperation policy of the United States to increase women and girls' access to education, "particularly higher education opportunities in business, finance, and management, in order to enhance financial literacy and business development, management, and strategy skills."⁴⁵¹³

On 14 January 2019, the United States passed the Protecting Girls' Access to Education in Vulnerable Settings Act.⁴⁵¹⁴ The bill "urges the consideration of the educational needs of vulnerable

⁴⁵⁰⁷ Federal Commission on School Safety Releases Comprehensive Resource Guide for Keeping Students, Teachers Safe at School, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 18 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/federal-commission-school-safety-releases-comprehensive-resource-guide-keeping-students-teachers-safe-school>.

⁴⁵⁰⁸ Trump Administration Unveils Federal Action Plan to Reduce Childhood Lead Exposure, United States Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.). 19 October 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/trump-administration-unveils-federal-action-plan-reduce-childhood-lead-exposure-1>.

⁴⁵⁰⁹ Trump Administration Unveils Federal Action Plan to Reduce Childhood Lead Exposure, United States Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.). 19 October 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/trump-administration-unveils-federal-action-plan-reduce-childhood-lead-exposure-1>.

⁴⁵¹⁰ Trump Administration Unveils Federal Action Plan to Reduce Childhood Lead Exposure, United States Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.). 19 October 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/trump-administration-unveils-federal-action-plan-reduce-childhood-lead-exposure-1>.

⁴⁵¹¹ S.3247 - Women's Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act of 2018, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 9 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3247/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22girls%22%5D%7D&r=2&s=8>.

⁴⁵¹² S.3247 - Women's Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act of 2018, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 9 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3247/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22girls%22%5D%7D&r=2&s=8>.

⁴⁵¹³ S.3247 - Women's Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act of 2018, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 9 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3247/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22girls%22%5D%7D&r=2&s=8>.

⁴⁵¹⁴ S.1580 - Protecting Girls' Access to Education in Vulnerable Settings Act, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 14 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/1580?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22education%22%5D%7D&s=6&r=6>.

women and girls” in U.S. foreign aid programs.⁴⁵¹⁵ The bill encourages U.S. foreign aid to focus on increasing access to safe education to displaced children, especially girls.⁴⁵¹⁶

On 17 January 2019, Secretary DeVos announced “an initiative to address the possible inappropriate use of restraint and seclusion” in schools.⁴⁵¹⁷ The program will protect students with disabilities through providing technical support to schools and help school personnel understand how federal law applies to the use of restraint and seclusion.⁴⁵¹⁸

On 23 January 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the Ending Corporal Punishment in Schools Act of 2019.⁴⁵¹⁹ This bill prohibits corporal punishment in schools to “ensure the safety of all students and school personnel in schools and promote a positive school culture and climate.”⁴⁵²⁰ This bill would be enforced by withholding funds to State educational agencies that do not comply with the prohibition.⁴⁵²¹

On 30 January 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the Rebuild America’s Schools Act of 2019.⁴⁵²² This bill allocates funds to “provide for the long-term improvement of public school facilities.”⁴⁵²³ Allowable uses of the funds include constructing new buildings, repairing old buildings,

⁴⁵¹⁵ S.1580 - Protecting Girls' Access to Education in Vulnerable Settings Act, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 14 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/1580?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22education%22%5D%7D&s=6&r=6>.

⁴⁵¹⁶ S.1580 - Protecting Girls' Access to Education in Vulnerable Settings Act, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 14 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/1580?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22education%22%5D%7D&s=6&r=6>.

⁴⁵¹⁷ U.S. Department of Education Announces Initiative to Address the Inappropriate Use of Restraint and Seclusion to Protect Children with Disabilities, Ensure Compliance with Federal Laws, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 17 January 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-department-education-announces-initiative-address-inappropriate-use-restraint-and-seclusion-protect-children-disabilities-ensure-compliance-federal-laws>.

⁴⁵¹⁸ U.S. Department of Education Announces Initiative to Address the Inappropriate Use of Restraint and Seclusion to Protect Children with Disabilities, Ensure Compliance with Federal Laws, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 17 January 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-department-education-announces-initiative-address-inappropriate-use-restraint-and-seclusion-protect-children-disabilities-ensure-compliance-federal-laws>.

⁴⁵¹⁹ H.R.727 - Ending Corporal Punishment in Schools Act of 2019, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 23 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/727/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22school%22%5D%7D&r=47&s=5>.

⁴⁵²⁰ H.R.727 - Ending Corporal Punishment in Schools Act of 2019, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 23 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/727/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22school%22%5D%7D&r=47&s=5>.

⁴⁵²¹ H.R.727 - Ending Corporal Punishment in Schools Act of 2019, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 23 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/727/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22school%22%5D%7D&r=47&s=5>.

⁴⁵²² H.R.865 - Rebuild America's Schools Act of 2019, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 30 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/865/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22school%22%5D%7D&r=15&s=5#toc-HEE31C6B1A94D4D1F9509C3C98D7E5584>.

⁴⁵²³ H.R.865 - Rebuild America's Schools Act of 2019, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 30 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/865/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22school%22%5D%7D&r=15&s=5#toc-HEE31C6B1A94D4D1F9509C3C98D7E5584>.

improving air and drinking water quality of schools, and bring schools into compliance with “applicable fire, health, and safety codes.”⁴⁵²⁴

On 4 February 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the Empower Our Girls Act.⁴⁵²⁵ This bill allows grants to be used in assisting victims of female genital mutilation.⁴⁵²⁶

On 4 February 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the Protect Our Girls Act of 2019.⁴⁵²⁷ This bill prohibits travelling interstate to perform female genital mutilation on underage girls.⁴⁵²⁸

On 7 February 2019, President Donald Trump launched the Women’s Global Development and Prosperity Initiative.⁴⁵²⁹ This initiative has pledged USD50 million to help 50 million women in developing countries in education, job training, financial support, and legal or regulatory reforms.⁴⁵³⁰ The head of the initiative, Ivanka Trump, claims supporting women in developing countries is a national security priority of the United States.⁴⁵³¹

On 8 February 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the Department of Peacebuilding Act of 2019.⁴⁵³² This bill would establish a Department of Peacebuilding which would tackle

⁴⁵²⁴ H.R.865 - Rebuild America's Schools Act of 2019, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 30 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/865/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22school%22%5D%7D&r=15&s=5#toc-HEE31C6B1A94D4D1F9509C3C98D7E5584>.

⁴⁵²⁵ H.R.960 - Empower our Girls Act, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 4 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/960/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22girls%22%5D%7D&r=8&s=4>.

⁴⁵²⁶ H.R.960 - Empower our Girls Act, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 4 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/960/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22girls%22%5D%7D&r=8&s=4>.

⁴⁵²⁷ H.R.959 - Protect our Girls Act of 2019, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 4 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/959/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22girls%22%5D%7D&r=9&s=4>.

⁴⁵²⁸ H.R.959 - Protect our Girls Act of 2019, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 4 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/959/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22girls%22%5D%7D&r=9&s=4>.

⁴⁵²⁹ Ivanka Trump project seeks to help women in developing world, ABC News (Washington D.C.). 7 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/wireStory/project-helps-women-developing-nations-gain-economically-60902621>.

⁴⁵³⁰ Ivanka Trump project seeks to help women in developing world, ABC News (Washington D.C.). 7 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/wireStory/project-helps-women-developing-nations-gain-economically-60902621>.

⁴⁵³¹ Ivanka Trump project seeks to help women in developing world, ABC News (Washington D.C.). 7 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/wireStory/project-helps-women-developing-nations-gain-economically-60902621>.

⁴⁵³² H.R.1111 - Department of Peacebuilding Act of 2019, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 8 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1111/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22shooting%22%5D%7D&r=5&s=8#toc-H251E9EFCF0BF4940A7C4206069D2179B>.

peacebuilding efforts domestically and internationally.⁴⁵³³ The department would work on empowering women and girls, tackling societal violence, and support community building.⁴⁵³⁴

On 27 February 2019, the House of Representatives passed the Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2019, which will require a background check for every firearm sale.⁴⁵³⁵ This bill is a significant step towards prohibiting individuals unfit to carry guns from obtaining them and increasing school security around the country.⁴⁵³⁶

On 28 February 2019, the House of Representatives passed the Enhanced Background Checks Act of 2019.⁴⁵³⁷ This bill will help reduce gun violence in the United States as it “addresses a loophole in current law that enables some firearms to be transferred by licensed gun dealers before the required background checks have been completed.”⁴⁵³⁸

On 28 February 2019, Secretary DeVos unveiled Education Freedom Scholarships that will “expand and improve the education options available to students across the country.”⁴⁵³⁹ This program will give USD5 billion annually to locally controlled scholarship programs that increase the range of accessible educational opportunities.⁴⁵⁴⁰ The funds may be used to increase school services, course options, and access to transportation.⁴⁵⁴¹

On 28 February 2019, USAID announced USD15 million in funding to alleviate the critical food security situation in Zimbabwe.⁴⁵⁴² The contribution will go to provide food rations and cash transfers to maintain the nutritional status of vulnerable Zimbabweans.⁴⁵⁴³

⁴⁵³³ H.R.1111 - Department of Peacebuilding Act of 2019, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 8 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1111/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22shooting%22%5D%7D&r=5&s=8#toc-H251E9EFCF0BF4940A7C4206069D2179B>.

⁴⁵³⁴ H.R.1111 - Department of Peacebuilding Act of 2019, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 8 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1111/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22shooting%22%5D%7D&r=5&s=8#toc-H251E9EFCF0BF4940A7C4206069D2179B>.

⁴⁵³⁵ H.R.8 - Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2019, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 28 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/8/text>.

⁴⁵³⁶ H.R.8 - Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2019, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 28 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/8/text>.

⁴⁵³⁷ House passes 'Charleston loophole bill' on gun background checks, CNN (Atlanta). 28 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.cnn.com/2019/02/28/politics/house-passes-charleston-loophole-bill/index.html>.

⁴⁵³⁸ House passes 'Charleston loophole bill' on gun background checks, CNN (Atlanta). 28 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.cnn.com/2019/02/28/politics/house-passes-charleston-loophole-bill/index.html>.

⁴⁵³⁹ Trump Administration Unveils Plan for Historic Investment in America's Students through Education Freedom Scholarships, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 28 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/trump-administration-unveils-plan-historic-investment-americas-students-through-education-freedom-scholarships>.

⁴⁵⁴⁰ Trump Administration Unveils Plan for Historic Investment in America's Students through Education Freedom Scholarships, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 28 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/trump-administration-unveils-plan-historic-investment-americas-students-through-education-freedom-scholarships>.

⁴⁵⁴¹ Trump Administration Unveils Plan for Historic Investment in America's Students through Education Freedom Scholarships, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 28 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/trump-administration-unveils-plan-historic-investment-americas-students-through-education-freedom-scholarships>.

⁴⁵⁴² United States provides additional US\$15 million to respond to increased food insecurity, Reliefweb (New York). 28 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/zimbabwe/united-states-provides-additional-us15-million-respond-increased-food-insecurity>.

On 3 March 2019, the United States contributed USD45.5 million to the UN World Food Program in support of the Rohingya refugee crisis.⁴⁵⁴⁴ The contribution will help Rohingya refugees buy food, prepare for the monsoon season and provide “nutritional support for vulnerable children and pregnant and lactating women.”⁴⁵⁴⁵

On 11 March 2019, the Department of Education released the Trump Administration’s budget request for the 2020 fiscal year.⁴⁵⁴⁶ The budget includes funding to support vulnerable students and to increase school safety.⁴⁵⁴⁷

On 9 April 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the Keeping Girls in School Act.⁴⁵⁴⁸ This bill aims to support the economic security and educational opportunities for adolescent girls around the world by recognizing the barriers to education for girls and working globally to empower adolescent girls.⁴⁵⁴⁹

On 17 April 2019, Secretary of Education, Betsy DeVos, announced a grant of USD460,064 to Marshall County School District in Kentucky.⁴⁵⁵⁰ The grant is part of Project School Emergency Response to Violence, an initiative that supports schools following school shootings.⁴⁵⁵¹ The funds will increase staff and school resources to support students and staff members.⁴⁵⁵²

⁴⁵⁴³ United States provides additional US\$15 million to respond to increased food insecurity, Reliefweb (New York). 28 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/zimbabwe/united-states-provides-additional-us15-million-respond-increased-food-insecurity>.

⁴⁵⁴⁴ Rohingya Refugee Crisis: The United States Contributes Over \$105 Million to The 2019 UN Joint Response Plan, Reliefweb (New York). 3 March 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/bangladesh/rohingya-refugee-crisis-united-states-contributes-over-105-million-2019-un-joint>.

⁴⁵⁴⁵ Rohingya Refugee Crisis: The United States Contributes Over \$105 Million to The 2019 UN Joint Response Plan, Reliefweb (New York). 3 March 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/bangladesh/rohingya-refugee-crisis-united-states-contributes-over-105-million-2019-un-joint>.

⁴⁵⁴⁶ President’s Budget Expands Education Freedom, Supports Teachers, Protects Vulnerable Students, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 11 March 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/presidents-budget-expands-education-freedom-supports-teachers-protects-vulnerable-students>.

⁴⁵⁴⁷ President’s Budget Expands Education Freedom, Supports Teachers, Protects Vulnerable Students, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 11 March 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/presidents-budget-expands-education-freedom-supports-teachers-protects-vulnerable-students>.

⁴⁵⁴⁸ H.R.2153 - Keeping Girls in School Act, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 9 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2153/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22school%22%5D%7D&r=189&s=4#toc-HA0477C0219334B019FE8BB0A1318F532>.

⁴⁵⁴⁹ H.R.2153 - Keeping Girls in School Act, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 9 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2153/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22school%22%5D%7D&r=189&s=4#toc-HA0477C0219334B019FE8BB0A1318F532>.

⁴⁵⁵⁰ Kentucky School District Awarded Additional Funds to Support Recovery Efforts Following Tragic School Shooting Last Year, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 17 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/kentucky-school-district-awarded-additional-funds-support-recovery-efforts-following-tragic-school-shooting-last-year>.

⁴⁵⁵¹ Kentucky School District Awarded Additional Funds to Support Recovery Efforts Following Tragic School Shooting Last Year, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 17 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/kentucky-school-district-awarded-additional-funds-support-recovery-efforts-following-tragic-school-shooting-last-year>.

⁴⁵⁵² Kentucky School District Awarded Additional Funds to Support Recovery Efforts Following Tragic School Shooting Last Year, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.). 17 April 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/kentucky-school-district-awarded-additional-funds-support-recovery-efforts-following-tragic-school-shooting-last-year>.

On 2 May 2019, the Senate introduced the 21st Century STEM for Girls and Underrepresented Minorities Act.⁴⁵⁵³ The bill intends to provide grants to local educational agencies to help girls and underrepresented minorities pursue studies and careers in STEM fields.⁴⁵⁵⁴

On 3 May 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the Vaccinate All Children Act of 2019.⁴⁵⁵⁵ The bill aims to require states to enforce mandatory vaccinations for all students in public elementary and secondary schools to prevent the spread of infectious diseases.⁴⁵⁵⁶

On 5 June 2019, President Trump suspended educational, legal and recreational programs for migrant children in American custody.⁴⁵⁵⁷ The decision reduces the capacity of the Office of Refugee Resettlement and leaves many migrant children, separated from their parents and more vulnerable.⁴⁵⁵⁸

On 7 June 2019, the United States committed USD82 million to HIV programs in Namibia through the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief.⁴⁵⁵⁹ The funding aims to control the spread of HIV among the most vulnerable Namibians.⁴⁵⁶⁰

The United States has fully complied with the commitment to prioritize gender equality and improving access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children through extensive legislative and foreign aid initiatives.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Collin Xia

European Union: 0

The European Union has partially complied with the commitment to prioritize to prioritizing improved access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.

⁴⁵⁵³ S.1299 - 21st Century STEM for Girls and Underrepresented Minorities Act, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 2 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1299/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22girls%22%5D%7D&r=9&s=6>.

⁴⁵⁵⁴ S.1299 - 21st Century STEM for Girls and Underrepresented Minorities Act, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 2 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1299/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22girls%22%5D%7D&r=9&s=6>.

⁴⁵⁵⁵ H.R.2527 - Vaccinate All Children Act of 2019, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 3 May 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2527/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22school%22%5D%7D&r=94&s=3>.

⁴⁵⁵⁶ H.R.2527 - Vaccinate All Children Act of 2019, U.S. Federal Legislative Information (Washington D.C.). 3 May 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2527/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22school%22%5D%7D&r=94&s=3>.

⁴⁵⁵⁷ Trump administration suspends U.S. educational programs for migrant children, Reuters (New York). 5 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-immigration-children/trump-administration-suspends-u-s-educational-programs-for-migrant-children-idUSKCN1T62GB?feedType=RSS&feedName=domesticNews>.

⁴⁵⁵⁸ Trump administration suspends U.S. educational programs for migrant children, Reuters (New York). 5 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-immigration-children/trump-administration-suspends-u-s-educational-programs-for-migrant-children-idUSKCN1T62GB?feedType=RSS&feedName=domesticNews>.

⁴⁵⁵⁹ US avails N\$1.2b HIV war chest in Namibia, Reliefweb (New York). 7 Jun 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/namibia/us-avails-n12b-hiv-war-chest-namibia>.

⁴⁵⁶⁰ US avails N\$1.2b HIV war chest in Namibia, Reliefweb (New York). 7 Jun 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/namibia/us-avails-n12b-hiv-war-chest-namibia>.

On 9 June 2018, European Union, along with Canada, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the World Bank invested CAD3.8 billion to improving access and reducing barriers to quality education around the world.⁴⁵⁶¹The European Union will invest EUR72 million over three years.⁴⁵⁶² This is an investment in education for women and girls in crisis and conflict situations.⁴⁵⁶³

On 12 July 2018, the European Commission announced its Annual Action Programme for Myanmar and Burma for 2018.⁴⁵⁶⁴ The European Union will contribute EUR221 million to the programme.⁴⁵⁶⁵ The programme aimed to develop education in Myanmar through teacher training, education reform, and financial transparency.⁴⁵⁶⁶ The objective of this is to “equitably enhance the education and skills base among Myanmar/Burma youth.”⁴⁵⁶⁷

On 3 September 2018, the European Commission announced a EUR138 million aid package for humanitarian and development assistance in the Lake Chad region.⁴⁵⁶⁸ A portion of the development assistance funding will go towards advancing existing programs in North East Nigeria by strengthening girls’ education and reintegration efforts.⁴⁵⁶⁹

On 24 September 2018, the European Union was represented among a coalition of leaders launching “Generation Unlimited” at the United Nations General Assembly.⁴⁵⁷⁰ This partnership builds on

⁴⁵⁶¹ Canada and partners announce historic investment in education for women and girls in crisis and conflict situations, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/06/09/canada-and-partners-announce-historic-investment-education-women-and-girls-crisis>.

⁴⁵⁶² Canada and partners announce historic investment in education for women and girls in crisis and conflict situations, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/06/09/canada-and-partners-announce-historic-investment-education-women-and-girls-crisis>.

⁴⁵⁶³ Canada and partners announce historic investment in education for women and girls in crisis and conflict situations, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 4 September 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/06/09/canada-and-partners-announce-historic-investment-education-women-and-girls-crisis>.

⁴⁵⁶⁴ Annual Action Programme 2018 Part 1 in favour of Myanmar/Burma, EU International Cooperation and Development (Brussels) 12 July 2018. Access Date: 7 September 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/annual-action-programme-2018-part-1-favour-myanmarburma_en.

⁴⁵⁶⁵ Annual Action Programme 2018 Part 1 in favour of Myanmar/Burma, EU International Cooperation and Development (Brussels) 12 July 2018. Access Date: 7 September 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/annual-action-programme-2018-part-1-favour-myanmarburma_en.

⁴⁵⁶⁶ Annual Action Programme 2018 Part 1 in favour of Myanmar/Burma, EU International Cooperation and Development (Brussels) 12 July 2018. Access Date: 7 September 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/annual-action-programme-2018-part-1-favour-myanmarburma_en.

⁴⁵⁶⁷ Annual Action Programme 2018 Part 1 in favour of Myanmar/Burma, EU International Cooperation and Development (Brussels) 12 July 2018. Access Date: 7 September 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/annual-action-programme-2018-part-1-favour-myanmarburma_en.

⁴⁵⁶⁸ EU releases €138 million in humanitarian and development funding for Africa’s Lake Chad region, EU International Cooperation and Development (Brussels) 3 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-releases-eu138-million-humanitarian-and-development-funding-africas-lake-chad_en.

⁴⁵⁶⁹ EU releases €138 million in humanitarian and development funding for Africa’s Lake Chad region, EU International Cooperation and Development (Brussels) 3 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-releases-eu138-million-humanitarian-and-development-funding-africas-lake-chad_en.

⁴⁵⁷⁰ World leaders unite under new initiative to provide quality education and training for young people, European Union External Action (Brussels) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/50940/world-leaders-unite-under-new-initiative-provide-quality-education-and-training-young-people_en.

existing programmes with the goal of getting every young person into quality education, training or employment by 2030, but does not specifically target girls.⁴⁵⁷¹

On 27 September 2018, the European Union and the United Nations released a joint statement reaffirming a longstanding partnership supporting key development goals.⁴⁵⁷² The first priority area identified is promoting gender equality, including in the realm of quality education and training.⁴⁵⁷³

On 17 October 2018, the European Union expanded on the 2017 commitment to provide assistance to Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh with an additional EUR15 million.⁴⁵⁷⁴ This humanitarian assistance will go towards the provision of basic necessities for medium-term needs, including education.⁴⁵⁷⁵

On 13 November 2018, the European Parliament adopted a report on development assistance in the field of education.⁴⁵⁷⁶ This report affirmed a commitment to address improved education for girls and the specific barriers girls face in accessing education in conflict zones and outlined a policy framework to move forward.⁴⁵⁷⁷

On 19 November 2018, the European Commission released a statement in advance of the Universal Children's Day to reiterate commitment to protecting and promoting children's rights globally.⁴⁵⁷⁸ This commitment included the provision of access to safe and quality education for both boys and girls.

On 23 November 2018, the European Union allocated EUR36 million to education reform policies in Kyrgyzstan.⁴⁵⁷⁹ The funding will support Kyrgyzstan authorities in their efforts to promote equitable access to quality education, regardless of gender or ethnic background.⁴⁵⁸⁰

⁴⁵⁷¹ World leaders unite under new initiative to provide quality education and training for young people, European Union External Action (Brussels) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018.

https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/50940/world-leaders-unite-under-new-initiative-provide-quality-education-and-training-young-people_en.

⁴⁵⁷² Joint Communique between the European Union and the United Nations: a renewed partnership in development, European Commission (New York) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-5927_en.htm.

⁴⁵⁷³ Joint Communique between the European Union and the United Nations: a renewed partnership in development, European Commission (New York) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-5927_en.htm.

⁴⁵⁷⁴ Commission delivers on its pledge to support Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, EU International Cooperation and Development (Brussels) 17 October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/commission-delivers-its-pledge-support-rohingya-refugees-bangladesh_en.

⁴⁵⁷⁵ The EU pledges additional 30 million for the Rohingya crisis at Geneva donors' conference, EU International Cooperation and Development (Geneva) 23 October 2017. Access Date: 18 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-4086_en.html.

⁴⁵⁷⁶ European Parliament resolution of 13 November 2018 on EU development assistance in the field of education, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018.

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?type=TA&reference=P8-TA-2018-0441&format=XML&language=EN>.

⁴⁵⁷⁷ European Parliament resolution of 13 November 2018 on EU development assistance in the field of education, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018.

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?type=TA&reference=P8-TA-2018-0441&format=XML&language=EN>.

⁴⁵⁷⁸ Statement by the European Commission on the occasion of Universal Children's Day, European Commission 19 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/statement-european-commission-occasion-universal-childrens-day_en.

⁴⁵⁷⁹ EU boosts its support to education reforms in Kyrgyzstan, European Commission 23 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-boosts-its-support-education-reforms-kyrgyzstan_en.

On 26 November 2018, the European Commission announced an additional EUR5 million in funding to support projects of the Nobel Peace Prize laureates.⁴⁵⁸¹ Of this funding package, EUR4 million will support the Panzi Hospital in the Democratic Republic of Congo that serves victims of sexual violence, which includes providing access to education for girl victims of sexual abuse and forced labour.⁴⁵⁸²

On 26 November 2018, EU Member States endorsed the policy framework “Communication on education in emergencies and protracted crises” through its “Council Conclusions,” which welcomes the European Commission’s to reach 10 percent of the EU’s humanitarian budget for education in emergencies in 2019.⁴⁵⁸³ The Council Conclusions specifically takes note of the fact that “girls are notably more disadvantaged, being 2.5 times more likely to be out-of-school in affected countries,” and recognises that “emergencies and protracted crises have a disproportionate effect on the education of women and girls. The conclusions identify improved access, inclusion and equity as a key point of action, in order to “support the gender-specific needs of children and young people, especially with regard to education and protection, with special focus on the education of girls and young women, in line with the Gender Action Plan 2016-2020.⁴⁵⁸⁴ Additionally, education services need to respond to the needs of girls and boys through measures such as prioritising sex-segregated toilets in the rehabilitation of schools, to address the safety concerns of students and parents.

On 27 November 2018, the European Union committed to a EUR30 million programme to support displaced communities in Yemen.⁴⁵⁸⁵ The support will contribute to the development of Yemen and will help provide basic services, including education, to internally displaced populations.

On 6 December 2018, the European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development and Mali’s Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation announced an additional EUR50 million to support structural reforms in Mali.⁴⁵⁸⁶ These reforms include the improvement of governance and access to basic services and will contribute to improving access to elementary education, particularly for young girls.⁴⁵⁸⁷

⁴⁵⁸⁰ EU boosts its support to education reforms in Kyrgyzstan, European Commission 23 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-boosts-its-support-education-reforms-kyrgyzstan_en.

⁴⁵⁸¹ EU supports the 2018 Nobel Peace Prize laureates, Nadia Murad and Dr Denis Mukwege (Brussels) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6536_en.htm.

⁴⁵⁸² EU supports the 2018 Nobel Peace Prize laureates, Nadia Murad and Dr Denis Mukwege (Brussels) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 4 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6536_en.htm.

⁴⁵⁸³ Council Conclusions on Education in Emergencies and Protracted Crises (Brussels) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 14 February 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/echo/sites/.../20181126_-_council_conclusions_-_eie_final.pdf

⁴⁵⁸⁴ Council Conclusions on Education in Emergencies and Protracted Crises (Brussels) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 14 February 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/echo/sites/.../20181126_-_council_conclusions_-_eie_final.pdf

⁴⁵⁸⁵ EU steps up support to displaced and crisis-affected communities in Yemen, European Commission 27 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-steps-support-displaced-and-crisis-affected-communities-yemen_en.

⁴⁵⁸⁶ The European Union mobilises an extra 50 million for structural reforms in Mali, European Commission 6 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-mobilises-extra-eu50-million-structural-reforms-mali_en.

⁴⁵⁸⁷ The European Union mobilises an extra 50 million for structural reforms in Mali, European Commission 6 December 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-mobilises-extra-eu50-million-structural-reforms-mali_en.

On 10 December 2018, the Council of the European Union released conclusions on Women, Peace and Security as adopted at the meeting of the Council.⁴⁵⁸⁸ The conclusions include commitment of the European Union to continue to use data with gender balance and specific actions to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment in a number of policy frameworks, including education.⁴⁵⁸⁹ It also affirms the need to protect women in conflict situations, promote their participation in all aspects of peace, security and development and to support these actions through the promotion of access to education.⁴⁵⁹⁰

On 13 December 2018, the European Parliament adopted a resolution regarding the human rights situation in Tanzania.⁴⁵⁹¹ The resolution urged Tanzanian politicians to repeal any laws, policies or barriers to services and information needed by women, girls or young mothers.⁴⁵⁹² This includes President Magufuli's declaration that girls who give birth should not be allowed to return to school.⁴⁵⁹³

On 21 January 2019, the Foreign Ministers of Member States of the European Union and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the Commission and the Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations released a joint statement on shared values of the two regions.⁴⁵⁹⁴ The statement reaffirmed commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. However, it did not specifically refer to improved access to education for girls.⁴⁵⁹⁵

On 25 January 2019, the European Parliament's Committee for Women's Rights and Gender Equality adopted a resolution on women's rights in the Western Balkans as proposed by the EU's

⁴⁵⁸⁸ Outcome of Proceedings: Women, Peace and Security – Council conclusions, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/37412/st15086-en18.pdf>.

⁴⁵⁸⁹ Outcome of Proceedings: Women, Peace and Security – Council conclusions, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/37412/st15086-en18.pdf>.

⁴⁵⁹⁰ Outcome of Proceedings: Women, Peace and Security – Council conclusions, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/37412/st15086-en18.pdf>.

⁴⁵⁹¹ Human rights breaches in Iran, Egypt and Tanzania, European Parliament (Brussels) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20181205IPR20945/human-rights-breaches-in-iran-egypt-and-tanzania>.

⁴⁵⁹² Human rights breaches in Iran, Egypt and Tanzania, European Parliament (Brussels) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20181205IPR20945/human-rights-breaches-in-iran-egypt-and-tanzania>.

⁴⁵⁹³ Human rights breaches in Iran, Egypt and Tanzania, European Parliament (Brussels) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20181205IPR20945/human-rights-breaches-in-iran-egypt-and-tanzania>.

⁴⁵⁹⁴ Joint statement of the 22nd EU-ASEAN ministerial meeting, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/01/21/joint-statement-of-the-22nd-eu-asean-ministerial-meeting/>.

⁴⁵⁹⁵ Joint statement of the 22nd EU-ASEAN ministerial meeting, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/01/21/joint-statement-of-the-22nd-eu-asean-ministerial-meeting/>.

Rapporteur for Women's Rights Biljana Borzan.⁴⁵⁹⁶ The resolution addresses socioeconomic factors such as employment, political participation, violence against women, and quality of education.⁴⁵⁹⁷

On 15 February 2019, the European Commission announced an additional EUR24 million in humanitarian aid for Rohingya refugees and host communities in Bangladesh.⁴⁵⁹⁸ The funding will help provide refugee and host communities with protection, emergency health services, nutrition, water and food security and education.⁴⁵⁹⁹ However, improving access to education for girls and women specifically is not mentioned.

On 26 February 2019, the Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management, Christos Stylianides, announced the European Union's intention to provide EUR161.5 million to Yemen in humanitarian aid for 2019.⁴⁶⁰⁰ The additional funding will help with the provision of food, nutrition, health services, shelter and education programmes.⁴⁶⁰¹ However, assisting with girls' access to education is not explicitly mentioned.

Between 12 and 14 March 2019, the European Union and the United Nations allocated EU8.3 billion for humanitarian aid in Syria, of which EU 6.79 billion comes from the European Union.⁴⁶⁰² Johannes Hahn, the Commissioner for Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement, announced the support will build on current investments in health care, employment and education.⁴⁶⁰³

On 20 March 2019, the Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management, Christos Stylianides, announced EU27 million in humanitarian assistance for those in Afghanistan affected by floods.⁴⁶⁰⁴ The support will go towards the provision of food, shelter, water, protection, medical care and the EU will continue to provide education to children who were forced to leave their schools.⁴⁶⁰⁵

On 27 March 2019, the European Commission announced an additional EU50 million in emergency assistance to the most vulnerable in Venezuela.⁴⁶⁰⁶ This support will include healthcare, access to

⁴⁵⁹⁶ Women's rights in Western Balkans get European parliament support, Emerging Europe (Budapest) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://emerging-europe.com/news/womens-rights-in-western-balkans-get-european-parliament-support/>.

⁴⁵⁹⁷ Women's rights in Western Balkans get European parliament support, Emerging Europe (Budapest) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://emerging-europe.com/news/womens-rights-in-western-balkans-get-european-parliament-support/>.

⁴⁵⁹⁸ Rohingya Crisis: EU releases 24 million for Bangladesh, European Commission (Brussels) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1188_en.htm.

⁴⁵⁹⁹ Rohingya Crisis: EU releases 24 million for Bangladesh, European Commission (Brussels) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1188_en.htm.

⁴⁶⁰⁰ The EU announces over 161.5 million for Yemen crisis, European Commission (Geneva) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. https://ec2.europa.eu/echo/news/eu-announces-over-1615-million-yemen-crisis_en.

⁴⁶⁰¹ The EU announces over 161.5 million for Yemen crisis, European Commission (Geneva) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/echo/news/eu-announces-over-1615-million-yemen-crisis_en.

⁴⁶⁰² Syria crisis: EU mobilises renewed international support, record overall pledge of 8.3 billion for 2019 and beyond, European Commission (Brussels) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1628_en.htm.

⁴⁶⁰³ Syria crisis: EU mobilises renewed international support, record overall pledge of 8.3 billion for 2019 and beyond, European Commission (Brussels) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1628_en.htm.

⁴⁶⁰⁴ Afghanistan: EU releases 27 million in humanitarian assistance, European Commission (Brussels) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1733_en.htm.

⁴⁶⁰⁵ Afghanistan: EU releases 27 million in humanitarian assistance, European Commission (Brussels) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1733_en.htm.

⁴⁶⁰⁶ Venezuela: EU increases emergency assistance by 50 million, European Commission (Brussels) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1838_en.htm.

food and safe water, and children's education.⁴⁶⁰⁷ However, the announcement does not mention improved access to education for girls specifically.

On 3 April 2019, the European Commission announced EU6 million in humanitarian assistance to Libya to improve access to food, clean water, education and basic health care.⁴⁶⁰⁸ The total humanitarian assistance provided to Libya this year now totals EU 15 million.⁴⁶⁰⁹ That said, the support does not specifically target access to education for girls.

On 2 May 2019, Neven Mimica, the Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development announced EU7.9 million to support Mauritius' efforts to address unemployment.⁴⁶¹⁰ The investment will aim to improve employability and education and will aim to improve the relevance of post-secondary and vocational training education to allow more students from vulnerable groups to participate.

On 29 May 2019, Neven Mimica, the Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development announced funding for seven new programs and projects in the Horn of Africa.⁴⁶¹¹ The projects include an EU 15 million investment in increased access to primary and secondary education for children in remote areas in South Sudan.⁴⁶¹² However, improving access to quality education for girls in particular is not explicitly mentioned.

On 6 June 2019, the European Commission announced an aid package of EU6 million to assist those displaced or threatened by natural disasters in Colombia.⁴⁶¹³ The assistance includes protection, healthcare, food assistance, access to safe water and sanitation, and education in emergencies. The funding will support the most vulnerable groups, including but not limited to women and children.⁴⁶¹⁴

European Union has taken efforts to promote access for early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts in Myanmar/Burma, Yemen, Mali, and the Lake Chad region while promoting a safe space for youth. Yet, the EU does not do so for specifically women and girls. Additionally, resolutions and statements have been released which reaffirm commitment to gender equality in access to education broadly, and in Tanzania in particular.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Emily Burton-Brown

⁴⁶⁰⁷ Venezuela: EU increases emergency assistance by 50 million, European Commission (Brussels) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1838_en.htm.

⁴⁶⁰⁸ Libya: EU to provide 6 million in humanitarian assistance, European Commission (Brussels) 3 April 2019. Access date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1955_en.htm.

⁴⁶⁰⁹ Libya: EU to provide 6 million in humanitarian assistance, European Commission (Brussels) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1955_en.htm.

⁴⁶¹⁰ Africa-Europe Alliance: Commissioner Mimica on official visit to Mauritius, a development success story, European Commission (Brussels) 2 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2330_en.htm.

⁴⁶¹¹ Emergency Trust Fund for Africa: almost 100 million to support the most vulnerable in the Horn of Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 29 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2729_en.htm.

⁴⁶¹² Emergency Trust Fund for Africa: almost 100 million to support the most vulnerable in the Horn of Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 29 May 2019. Access date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2729_en.htm.

⁴⁶¹³ Humanitarian Aid: EU mobilises 6 million for people in need in Colombia, European Commission (Brussels) 6 June 2019. Access date: 9 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2819_en.htm.

⁴⁶¹⁴ Humanitarian Aid: EU mobilises 6 million for people in need in Colombia, European Commission (Brussels) 6 June 2019. Access date: 9 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2819_en.htm.

19. Gender: Equality in Labour Markets

“Support gender equality in labour market opportunities and in the distribution of unpaid care work, with measures such as paid maternity leave and parental leave, as well as initiatives to ensure women’s equal access to decent employment opportunities, leadership opportunities, resources and finance.”

G7 Charlevoix Commitment on Equality and Economic Growth

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+1.00	

Background

Gender equality is defined by the United Nations as “the equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of women and men and girls and boys.”⁴⁶¹⁵ The G7, supported by and supporting other international organizations, has long worked towards reducing gender inequalities, with positive results seen since the 1990s, as gender equality is steadily improving.⁴⁶¹⁶ The G7 recognizes, however, that gaps remain. In an International Monetary Fund paper on “Gender Budgeting in G7 Countries,” requested by Italy as host in 2017, significant gender gaps remain.⁴⁶¹⁷ The paper reported that there is a 14 percent gender wage gap, with men making more than women, that the women’s labour market participation rate continues to lag 17 percent behind that of men and that approximately 70 percent of unpaid work is performed by women.⁴⁶¹⁸

Women have historically been provided with fewer opportunities when compared to their male counterparts. Due to this, the G7 countries have led discussions of policies aimed towards gender equality. The G7 has recognized the need for policies and budgeting that supports gender equality. Many other institutions, such as the World Trade Organization, have also evaluated gender and poverty trends, coming to a similar conclusion that women are not as equally represented by domestic policies when compared to men.

⁴⁶¹⁵ Gender Equality Glossary, UN Women Training Center (New York, NY). Access Date: 7 September 2018. <https://trainingcentre.unwomen.org/mod/glossary/view.php?id=36&mode=letter&hook=g&sortkey>.

⁴⁶¹⁶ Gender Budgeting in G7 Countries, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C) May 2017. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/Policy-Papers/Issues/2017/05/12/pp041917gender-budgeting-in-g7-countries/>.

⁴⁶¹⁷ Every Women Counts: Gender Budgeting in G7 Countries, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C) May 2017. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <https://blogs.imf.org/2017/05/13/every-woman-counts-gender-budgeting-in-g7-countries/>.

⁴⁶¹⁸ Every Women Counts: Gender Budgeting in G7 Countries, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C) May 2017. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <https://blogs.imf.org/2017/05/13/every-woman-counts-gender-budgeting-in-g7-countries/>.

The G7 recognized the importance of women’s economic empowerment in 1990 at the Houston Summit.⁴⁶¹⁹ An emphasis on women’s health and education and was readdressed at the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit, which led to an unprecedented 29 commitments on gender-related issues.⁴⁶²⁰ A defining feature of the 2015 Schloss Elmau Declaration was its clear implementation of defined targets and timelines for achieving their goals.⁴⁶²¹ In 2016 at Ise Shima, G7 leaders released a 32-page declaration with two pages dedicated entirely to gender equality and women’s empowerment.⁴⁶²²

At Taormina in 2017 G7 members adopted the Roadmap for a Gender-Responsive Economic Environment, agreeing to work together to empower women through facilitating equal and fair opportunities.⁴⁶²³ They “put intersecting inequalities at the forefront of the discussions on the measures and solutions out of poverty” and in so doing pay particular attention to social factors that impact the social status of women, such as age, disability, race, ethnicity, religion and family composition.⁴⁶²⁴ Additionally, at Taormina it was recognized in the leaders’ declaration that women and girls are disproportionately affected by social inequalities: “women and girls face high rates of discrimination, harassment, and violence and other human rights violations and abuses.”⁴⁶²⁵ Moreover, citizens around the globe are demanding better and more equal access for all to quality education and economic opportunities, pushing G7 leaders to promote women participation in these key areas.⁴⁶²⁶

Leading up to the G7 Charlevoix Summit, the Canadian Presidency’s Gender Equality Advisory Council outlined the goal to “Make Gender Inequality History,” after leaders pledged to “Make Poverty History” 13 years ago.⁴⁶²⁷ With recent citizen-led feminist movements, including #MyDressMyCode, #metoo, the voices of women and girls are visible. In accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals, 193 have pledged to end gender equality by 2030. However, the measured progress for women and girls is slow. Women occupied only 4 percent of CEO and corporate leading posts, while they contribute to nearly 40 percent of the world’s gross domestic product (GDP). Increasing gender equality is claimed to increase global GDP by USD12 trillion in a decade.⁴⁶²⁸

The Gender Equality Advisory Council outlined the following goals:

- Safe, healthy, educated, heard and empowered girls and women, supported with the resources and opportunities they need to be agents of change in their own lives and for a better world;

⁴⁶¹⁹ The G7 and Gender Equality: Ise-Shima Edition, Nato Association of Canada (Toronto) June 2016. Access Date: 7 September 2018 <http://natoassociation.ca/the-g7-and-gender-equality-ise-shima-edition/>

⁴⁶²⁰ The G7 and Gender Equality: Ise-Shima Edition, Nato Association of Canada (Toronto) June 2016. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://natoassociation.ca/the-g7-and-gender-equality-ise-shima-edition/>

⁴⁶²¹ The G7 and Gender Equality: Ise-Shima Edition, Nato Association of Canada (Toronto) June 2016. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://natoassociation.ca/the-g7-and-gender-equality-ise-shima-edition/>

⁴⁶²² The G7 and Gender Equality: Ise-Shima Edition, Nato Association of Canada (Toronto) June 2016. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://natoassociation.ca/the-g7-and-gender-equality-ise-shima-edition/>

⁴⁶²³ Roadmap for a Gender-Responsive Economic Environment, G7 Information Center 27 May 2017. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/gender.html>.

⁴⁶²⁴ G7 Roadmap for a Gender-Responsive Economic Environment, G7 (Taormina) May 2017. Access Date: 7 September 2018 <http://www.g7italy.it/sites/default/files/documents/Gender%20Roadmap.pdf>

⁴⁶²⁵ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communique, G7 (Taormina) May 2017. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

⁴⁶²⁶ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communique, G7 (Taormina) May 2017. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

⁴⁶²⁷ Make Gender Inequality History, G7 Charlevoix 2018. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Recommendations-by-the-Gender-Equality-Advisory-Council.pdf>.

⁴⁶²⁸ Advancing Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment (Charlevoix). Access Date: 8 September 2018. https://g7.gc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/18-101-Gender_Equality_EN.pdf

- Societies in which girls and women are equally represented in decision-making bodies, and are free from harassment and violence;
- Economies that are prosperous, innovative, inclusive, and more equitable;
- A healthy and sustainable planet; and
- A world that is peaceful, just and secure.

Commitment Features

The G7 member agrees to “support gender equality in labour market opportunities and in the distribution of unpaid care work, with measures such as paid maternity leave and parental leave, as well as initiatives to ensure women’s equal access to decent employment opportunities, leadership opportunities, resources and finance.”

G7 members agreed to two welfare targets: 1) to support gender equality in labour market opportunities, and 2) to support gender equality in the distribution of unpaid care work. In order to achieve these two targets the G7 member identified the instruments of implementing measures such as paid maternity and paternity leave (which applies more closely to the second welfare target) and to implementing initiatives regarding women’s equal access to decent employment opportunities, equal access to leadership opportunities, equal access to resources, and equal access to finance.

The first aspect of the commitment is to support gender equality in labour market opportunities. Gender-inclusive labour market policies include incorporating gender-based analysis and recognize the policy’s outcome on different groups of people.⁴⁶²⁹ “Support” is defined as “the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity.”⁴⁶³⁰ “Gender Equality” is “achieved when women and men enjoy the same rights and opportunities across all sectors of society, including economic participation and decision-making, and when the different behaviours, aspirations and needs of women and men are equally valued and favoured.”⁴⁶³¹

The second instrument in the commitment refers to ensuring women’s equal access to decent employment opportunities. “Decent employment” is defined as “work that is productive and delivers a fair income, security in the workplace and social protection for families, better prospects for personal development and social integration, freedom for people to express their concerns, organize and participate in the decisions that affect their lives and equality of opportunity and treatment for all women and men.”⁴⁶³² This includes three pillars of social creation, social protection, rights at work and social dialogue.⁴⁶³³ Some examples include initiatives to ensure improved conditions in factories, investment in infrastructure development that help create safer and more efficient job locations, and social protection for employees.⁴⁶³⁴

⁴⁶²⁹ Advancing Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment (Charlevoix). Access Date: 8 September 2018. https://g7.gc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/18-101-Gender_Equality_EN.pdf

⁴⁶³⁰ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto). 2 May 2016. Access Date: 7 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-%202016.pdf>.

⁴⁶³¹ What is Gender Equality?, Gender Equality in Ireland. Access Date: 8 September 2018. <http://genderequality.ie/en/GE/Pages/WhatisGE>.

⁴⁶³² Decent Work, International Labour Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 8 September 2018. <https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/decent-work/lang-en/index.htm>.

⁴⁶³³ Decent Work, International Labour Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 8 September 2018. <https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/decent-work/lang-en/index.htm>.

⁴⁶³⁴ Decent Work, International Labour Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 8 September 2018. <https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/decent-work/lang-en/index.htm>.

The second instrument, also in relation to supporting gender equality in labour market opportunities, refers to ensuring women's equal access to leadership opportunities. Leadership opportunities are understood as: to "promote the increasing representation of women, and essentially gender balance, in local legislative bodies and corporate managing boards. Alternatively, relevant policies must show the progress of moving towards an organizational culture which directs away from traditional gender norms, gender relations, social roles, and stereotypes, which lead to gender discriminations."⁴⁶³⁵ Governments can create and deploy mechanisms, such as gender equality hiring protocols or annual company gender composition report, to promote women's access to and increase their representation at executive, managerial levels in the private sector and ensure women do not face discrimination on the subject of recruitment and job promotion.⁴⁶³⁶

The final aspect of the second instrument refers to ensuring women's equal access to resources and finance. "Resources" is defined as "a stock or supply of money, materials, staff, and other assets that can be drawn on by a person or organization in order to function effectively."⁴⁶³⁷ Education, utilities, and other gender-specific services can be considered effective resources. The government can also increase investments in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education (STEM) for women. With regards to financing, in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda, the G7 leaders included "women's economic empowerment" as well as "reinforcing gender equality" in their pledged support for innovative financing for international development.⁴⁶³⁸ G7 members should facilitate private and institutional partnerships, access to financial services and "foster new international development partnerships, and capacity to mobilize more private sector investments for sustainable international development, with particular attention to inclusive growth."⁴⁶³⁹

The second welfare target of the commitment is to support gender equality in the distribution of unpaid care work. The first instrument refers to this second welfare target. It identifies measures, such as paid maternity and parental leave, as one means by which to achieve gender equality in the distribution of unpaid care world. Other examples of measures to achieve this welfare target include: ... G7 members are recommended to set a goal of "men doing fifty per cent of unpaid domestic and care work within a generation and institute non-transferable parental leave and public education efforts."⁴⁶⁴⁰ Governments can invest in universal publicly financed early childhood education and care services — and "a minimum of 12 years of free, safe, quality gender-responsive education," and other skills development initiatives.⁴⁶⁴¹

G7 members agreed to two welfare targets: 1) to support gender equality in labour market opportunities, and 2) to support gender equality in the distribution of unpaid care work. In order to achieve these two targets the G7 member identified the instruments of implementing measures such

⁴⁶³⁵ Fourth World Conference on Women (UN Women). September 1995. Access Date: 8 September 2018. <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/platform/>

⁴⁶³⁶ Fourth World Conference on Women (UN Women). September 1995. Access Date: 8 September 2018. <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/platform/>

⁴⁶³⁷ Resource, Oxford Dictionaries. Access Date: 8 September 2018. <https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/resource>.

⁴⁶³⁸ Charlevoix Commitment on Innovative Financing for Development. Access Date: 8 September 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/official-documents/charlevoix-commitment-innovative-financing-development/>

⁴⁶³⁹ Charlevoix Commitment on Innovative Financing for Development. Access Date: 8 September 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/official-documents/charlevoix-commitment-innovative-financing-development/>

⁴⁶⁴⁰ Executive Summary: Recommendations from the Gender Equality Advisory Council for Canada's G7 Presidency (Charlevoix). Access Date: 8 September 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/g7-presidency/gender-equality-advisory-council/executive-summary/>

⁴⁶⁴¹ Achieving Growth That Works for Everyone (Charlevoix). Access Date: 8 September 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/official-documents/achieving-growth-works-everyone/>

as paid maternity and paternity leave (which applies more closely to the second welfare target) and to implementing initiatives regarding women’s equal access to decent employment opportunities, equal access to leadership opportunities, equal access to resources, and equal access to finance.

For full compliance, G7 member fully supports gender equality in labour market opportunities, including to implementing initiatives regarding women’s equal access to decent employment opportunities, equal access to leadership opportunities, equal access to resources, and equal access to finance AND in the distribution of unpaid care work, including paid maternity and paternity leave.

Partial compliance requires the G7 member to fulfil all initiatives and fully supports EITHER gender equality in labour market opportunities OR fully supports gender equality in the distribution of unpaid care work OR the G7 member partially supports BOTH areas. Partially supporting the first area would consist of TWO out of the FOUR: equal access to decent employment opportunities, equal access to leadership opportunities, equal access to resources, and equal access to finance. For the second part of the commitment, partially supporting is either implementing paid maternity or paternity leave. For a score of non-compliance, the G7 member has to have done one or none of the aforementioned criteria.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member does not support either area or partially supports only one area.
0	G7 member fully supports EITHER gender equality in labour market opportunities OR fully supports gender equality in the distribution of unpaid care work OR the G7 member partially supports BOTH areas.
+1	G7 member fully supports gender equality in labour market opportunities AND in the distribution of unpaid care work

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Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to support gender equality in labour market opportunities and in the distribution of unpaid care work, with measures such as paid maternity leave and parental leave, as well as initiatives to ensure women’s equal access to decent employment opportunities, leadership opportunities, resources and finance.

On 17 July 2018, the Government of Canada announced that the Information and Communication Technologies Association of Manitoba Inc. will receive federal funding totalling CAD328,750 for their project “Building Gender Parity in Manitoba’s ICT sector.”⁴⁶⁴² This project aims to support women as they seek careers and develop long-term commitments to Manitoba’s information and communication technologies (ICT) sector.⁴⁶⁴³ The main activities of this project include: “strengthening partnerships, creating a leadership council, developing and implementing a digital economy action plan, as well as marketing and communication outreach.”⁴⁶⁴⁴

⁴⁶⁴² New federal funding will help improve women’s economic security in Manitoba, Status of Women Canada (Winnipeg) 17 July 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/07/new-federal-funding-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-manitoba.html>.

⁴⁶⁴³ New federal funding will help improve women’s economic security in Manitoba, Status of Women Canada (Winnipeg) 17 July 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/07/new-federal-funding-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-manitoba.html>.

⁴⁶⁴⁴ New federal funding will help improve women’s economic security in Manitoba, Status of Women Canada (Winnipeg) 17 July 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/07/new-federal-funding-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-manitoba.html>.

On 25 July 2018, the Government of Canada announced that the Adventure Group of Prince Edward Island will receive federal funding totalling CAD305,750 for the “Working Together — Plants Seeds for Change” project.⁴⁶⁴⁵ The project will provide training sessions and create a support network for low-income women ages 30-54 in the Summerside area.⁴⁶⁴⁶

On 30 July 2018, the Government of Canada announced that over CAD4.3 million in federal funding would be given to 14 projects that advance the economic security and prosperity of Indigenous women across Canada.⁴⁶⁴⁷ These include the Aboriginal Friendship Centres of Saskatchewan, which will receive CAD304,950 for their project to develop an Indigenous Women’s Economic Framework and the Prince Albert Métis Women Association Inc., which will receive CAD255,844 for their project that aims to identify and take down barriers affecting the economic security of women in Central and Northern Saskatchewan.⁴⁶⁴⁸

On 10 August 2018, the Government of Canada announced that Camo-route would receive federal funding totalling CAD294,000 for their project “Women Truck Drivers: Target 10%.”⁴⁶⁴⁹ This project aims to change current recruitment, integration and training practices of businesses and training centres to ensure that more women are able to find jobs in Quebec’s trucking industry.⁴⁶⁵⁰

On 14 August 2018, the Government of Canada announced that PARO Centre for Women’s Enterprise would receive federal funding totalling CAD280,061 for their project “Collaborating for Transformation: Advancing Women’s Economic Security.”⁴⁶⁵¹ This project will span 36 months and it aims to understand the growth gaps experienced by women-led businesses in Northern Ontario.⁴⁶⁵²

On 23 August 2018, the Government of Canada announced that the Community Business Development Corporation in Restigouche, New Brunswick, would receive federal funding totalling CAD308,723 for their project “Increasing Private Sector Leadership and Investments in Women Experiencing Violence.”⁴⁶⁵³ This project will span 36 months and it aims to conduct a needs

⁴⁶⁴⁵ New federal funding will help improve women’s economic security in Prince Edward Island, Status of Women Canada (Charlottetown) 25 July 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018.

<http://www.gov.pe.ca/newsroom/index.php?number=news&newsnumber=8322&dept=&lang=E>.

⁴⁶⁴⁶ New federal funding will help improve women’s economic security in Prince Edward Island, Status of Women Canada (Charlottetown) 25 July 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018.

<http://www.gov.pe.ca/newsroom/index.php?number=news&newsnumber=8322&dept=&lang=E>.

⁴⁶⁴⁷ New federal funding strengthens the economic security and prosperity of Indigenous women, Status of Women Canada (Saskatoon) 30 July 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/new-federal-funding-strengthens-the-economic-security-and-prosperity-of-indigenous-women-689531171.html>.

⁴⁶⁴⁸ New federal funding strengthens the economic security and prosperity of Indigenous women, Status of Women Canada (Saskatoon) 30 July 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/new-federal-funding-strengthens-the-economic-security-and-prosperity-of-indigenous-women-689531171.html>.

⁴⁶⁴⁹ New federal funding will help improve women’s economic security in Québec, Status of Women Canada (Shawinigan) 9 October 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018.

⁴⁶⁵⁰ New federal funding will help improve women’s economic security in Québec, Status of Women Canada (Montréal) 10 August 2018. Access Date : 15 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/08/new-federal-funding-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-quebec.html>.

⁴⁶⁵¹ New federal funding will help improve women’s economic security in Northern Ontario, Status of Women Canada (Thunder Bay) 14 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/08/new-federal-funding-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-northern-ontario.html>.

⁴⁶⁵² New federal funding will help improve women’s economic security in Northern Ontario, Status of Women Canada (Thunder Bay) 14 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/08/new-federal-funding-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-northern-ontario.html>.

⁴⁶⁵³ New federal funding will help improve women’s economic security in New Brunswick, Status of Women Canada (Campbellton) 23 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/new-federal-funding-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-new-brunswick-691539471.html>.

assessment and to create an action plan to develop new business policies and procedures that include accommodation options for women fleeing the violence.⁴⁶⁵⁴

On 6 September 2018, the Government of Canada announced that the Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters would receive federal funding totalling CAD498,000 for their project “Untapped Potential: Attracting and Engaging Women in Canadian Manufacturing.”⁴⁶⁵⁵ This project aims to attract and inspire more women and youth to pursue a career in manufacturing by developing “a best practises toolkit for manufacturers to adopt and report on progress” and creating a more diverse workplace.⁴⁶⁵⁶

On 7 September 2018, the Government of Canada announced that the Solidarité des femmes et familles immigrantes francophones du Niagara would receive federal funding totalling CAD269,582 for their project “Sécuriser les femmes du Niagara.”⁴⁶⁵⁷ This project will span 36 months and it aims to develop practical and comprehensive child care and transportation model for low-income francophone immigrant women facing barriers to employment.⁴⁶⁵⁸

On 9 October 2018, the Government of Canada announced that the Société d’aide au développement des collectivités would receive federal funding totalling CAD306,947 for their project “Entreprendre au féminin autrement.”⁴⁶⁵⁹ This project aims to improve support services for part-time women entrepreneurs in Quebec.⁴⁶⁶⁰ The project will include a pilot in Shawinigan to test a number of services aimed at supporting part-time women entrepreneurs.⁴⁶⁶¹ Feedback from this pilot project will be used to improve similar programs and services already in place.⁴⁶⁶²

On 1 November 2018, the Government of Canada announced that YWCA Canada will receive CAD1.25 million for a project to “increase women’s financial security by improving access to

⁴⁶⁵⁴ New federal funding will help improve women’s economic security in New Brunswick, Status of Women Canada (Campbellton) 23 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/new-federal-funding-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-new-brunswick-691539471.html>.

⁴⁶⁵⁵ New federal funding will help more women enter the manufacturing sector, Status of Women Canada (Peterborough) 6 September 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/new-federal-funding-will-help-more-women-enter-the-manufacturing-sector-692603811.html>.

⁴⁶⁵⁶ New federal funding will help more women enter the manufacturing sector, Status of Women Canada (Peterborough) 6 September 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/new-federal-funding-will-help-more-women-enter-the-manufacturing-sector-692603811.html>.

⁴⁶⁵⁷ New federal funding will help improve women’s economic security in Ontario’s Niagara Region, Status of Women Canada (Welland) 7 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/new-federal-funding-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-ontarios-niagara-region-692693201.html>.

⁴⁶⁵⁸ New federal funding will help improve women’s economic security in Ontario’s Niagara Region, Status of Women Canada (Welland) 7 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/new-federal-funding-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-ontarios-niagara-region-692693201.html>.

⁴⁶⁵⁹ New federal funding will help improve women’s economic security in Québec, Status of Women Canada (Shawinigan) 9 October 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/10/new-federal-funding-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-quebec.html>.

⁴⁶⁶⁰ New federal funding will help improve women’s economic security in Québec, Status of Women Canada (Shawinigan) 9 October 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/10/new-federal-funding-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-quebec.html>.

⁴⁶⁶¹ New federal funding will help improve women’s economic security in Québec, Status of Women Canada (Shawinigan) 9 October 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/10/new-federal-funding-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-quebec.html>.

⁴⁶⁶² New federal funding will help improve women’s economic security in Québec, Status of Women Canada (Shawinigan) 9 October 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/10/new-federal-funding-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-quebec.html>.

employment and training.”⁴⁶⁶³ This project will span 36 months and is intended to research, test and implement solutions to the systemic barriers women face while looking for employment opportunities.⁴⁶⁶⁴ The project will identify and test the most successful job-accessing programs in Calgary, Halifax, Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver, and Yellowknife.⁴⁶⁶⁵ Selected initiatives will be implemented through 20 YMCA member associations across Canada.⁴⁶⁶⁶

On 13 November 2018, the Government of Canada announced that the New Brunswick Coalition for Pay Equity Inc. will receive CAD335,005 for their project “Valuing Private Care Work Offered in the Private Sector.”⁴⁶⁶⁷ This project will span 36 months and it aims to “address the low wages paid to women working as caregivers in private care facilities.”⁴⁶⁶⁸ The objective will review current wages in the private care sector and determine equitable pay levels for a range of caregiving services in New Brunswick.⁴⁶⁶⁹

On 14 November 2018, the Government of Canada announced that the Mokami Status of Women Council will receive federal funding totalling CAD236,880 for their project “Pathways to economic prosperity for women in transition.”⁴⁶⁷⁰ This project will span 36 months and it aims to “address the institutional barriers and other factors that limit local efforts to advance the economic security and prosperity of women who are fleeing domestic violence in rural remote regions of Labrador.”⁴⁶⁷¹ The objective of the program is to establish a series of recommendations and best practices to enhance support for women fleeing domestic violence that can be adapted and used by other community-serving organizations.⁴⁶⁷²

On 14 November 2018, the Government of Canada announced that the NunatuKavut Community Council Inc. will receive federal funding totalling CAD465,000 for their project “Pathways to

⁴⁶⁶³ New federal funding will help vulnerable and marginalized women access job market, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 1 November 2018. Access Date: 29 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-funding-will-help-vulnerable-and-marginalized-women-access-job-market.html>.

⁴⁶⁶⁴ New federal funding will help vulnerable and marginalized women access job market, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 1 November 2018. Access Date: 29 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-funding-will-help-vulnerable-and-marginalized-women-access-job-market.html>.

⁴⁶⁶⁵ New federal funding will help vulnerable and marginalized women access job market, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 1 November 2018. Access Date: 29 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-funding-will-help-vulnerable-and-marginalized-women-access-job-market.html>.

⁴⁶⁶⁶ New federal funding will help vulnerable and marginalized women access job market, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 1 November 2018. Access Date: 29 November 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-funding-will-help-vulnerable-and-marginalized-women-access-job-market.html>.

⁴⁶⁶⁷ New federal investment will help improve women’s economic security in Moncton, Status of Women Canada (Moncton) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-investment-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-moncton.html>.

⁴⁶⁶⁸ New federal investment will help improve women’s economic security in Moncton, Status of Women Canada (Moncton) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-investment-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-moncton.html>.

⁴⁶⁶⁹ New federal investment will help improve women’s economic security in Moncton, Status of Women Canada (Moncton) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-investment-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-moncton.html>.

⁴⁶⁷⁰ New federal investment will help improve women’s economic security in Labrador, Status of Women Canada (Happy Valley-Goose Bay) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-investment-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-labrador.html>.

⁴⁶⁷¹ New federal investment will help improve women’s economic security in Labrador, Status of Women Canada (Happy Valley-Goose Bay) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/new-federal-investment-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-labrador-700484121.html>.

⁴⁶⁷² New federal investment will help improve women’s economic security in Labrador, Status of Women Canada (Happy Valley-Goose Bay) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-investment-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-labrador.html>.

Economic Security for Indigenous Women in NunatuKavut and Northern Ontario.”⁴⁶⁷³ This project will span 36 months and it aims to “break down the systemic barriers that prevent Indigenous women from securing meaningful work in non-traditional sectors, specifically the mining sector of Labrador.”⁴⁶⁷⁴ The objective of this project is to bridge existing gaps in policy implementation of provincially-mandated women’s employment plans.⁴⁶⁷⁵ Additionally, the project will adapt the Aboriginal Women in Mining Program into an Inuit and Labrador-specific version in order to prepare Indigenous women for greater employment in the mining sector.⁴⁶⁷⁶

On 14 November 2018, the Government of Canada announced that Option Femmes Emploi will receive federal funding totalling CAD274,285 for their project “Women’s access to the automotive sector.”⁴⁶⁷⁷ This project will span 36 months and it aims to increase women’s economic security through increased participation and retention in the automotive industry by improving the sector’s work environment.⁴⁶⁷⁸ The objective of this project is to “identify barriers and gaps to women’s recruitment and retention in the sector.”⁴⁶⁷⁹ The project will create an advisory committee made up of local women, businesses, community organizations and unions and will develop a regional action plan to train businesses in the Outaouais region on best practices in order to create more inclusive workplaces in the automotive sector.⁴⁶⁸⁰

On 14 November 2018, the Government of Canada announced that the Infinity Women Secretariat Inc. (IWS) will receive federal funding totalling CAD283,800 for their project “Project through Innovation: Métis Women in Manitoba.”⁴⁶⁸¹ This project will span 36 months and it aims to address the barriers to economic security, including the lack of accessible childcare programs and early

⁴⁶⁷³ New federal investment will help improve women’s economic security in Labrador, Status of Women Canada (Happy Valley-Goose Bay) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-investment-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-labrador.html>.

⁴⁶⁷⁴ New federal investment will help improve women’s economic security in Labrador, Status of Women Canada (Happy Valley-Goose Bay) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/new-federal-investment-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-labrador-700484121.html>.

⁴⁶⁷⁵ New federal investment will help improve women’s economic security in Labrador, Status of Women Canada (Happy Valley-Goose Bay) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-investment-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-labrador.html>.

⁴⁶⁷⁶ New federal investment will help improve women’s economic security in Labrador, Status of Women Canada (Happy Valley-Goose Bay) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/new-federal-investment-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-labrador-700484121.html>.

⁴⁶⁷⁷ New federal investment will help improve women’s economic security in Québec’s Outaouais region, Status of Women Canada (Gatineau) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-investment-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-quebecs-outaouais-region.html>.

⁴⁶⁷⁸ New federal investment will help improve women’s economic security in Québec’s Outaouais region, Status of Women Canada (Gatineau) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-investment-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-quebecs-outaouais-region.html>.

⁴⁶⁷⁹ New federal investment will help improve women’s economic security in Québec’s Outaouais region, Status of Women Canada (Gatineau) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-investment-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-quebecs-outaouais-region.html>.

⁴⁶⁸⁰ New federal investment will help improve women’s economic security in Québec’s Outaouais region, Status of Women Canada (Gatineau) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-investment-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-quebecs-outaouais-region.html>.

⁴⁶⁸¹ New federal investment to strengthen the economic security and prosperity of Indigenous women in Manitoba, Status of Women Canada (Winnipeg) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-investment-to-strengthen-the-economic-security-and-prosperity-of-indigenous-women-in-manitoba.html>.

learning opportunities faced by Métis mothers and caregivers in the workplace.⁴⁶⁸² The IWS will partner with the Manitoba Métis Federation’s Métis Employment and Training Department and the Louis Riel Institute to “establish new relationships with the private sector to encourage a larger network of employers committed to inclusion in the workplace.”⁴⁶⁸³

On 29 November 2018, the Government of Canada announced that the Canadian Institute of Forestry will receive CAD467,000 for their project “Gender Equality in Forestry National Action Plan.”⁴⁶⁸⁴ This project will span 36 months and its aims to address barriers that prevent women from pursuing employment in the forest industry, such as pay equity issues, child care, unequal access to training and trades, lack of management opportunities and misconceptions about the sector.⁴⁶⁸⁵ The objective of this project is to “bring women already working in different areas of the forestry sector together with industry stakeholders, non-governmental organizations, Indigenous groups, professional associations and women who are interested in working in the sector, [and to] develop and implement a strategic national plan to promote more opportunities for women in forestry.”⁴⁶⁸⁶

On 30 November 2018, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau signed the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA) with the President of the United States Donald Trump and the President of Mexico Enrique Peña Nieto.⁴⁶⁸⁷ “The Government of Canada ensured that provisions are included in the CUSMA to advance gender equality and women’s economic empowerment,” such as enforceable labour obligations on the elimination of employment discrimination based on gender.⁴⁶⁸⁸ Additionally, gender-related provisions were also included related to corporate social responsibility and small and medium-sized enterprises.⁴⁶⁸⁹

On 14 February 2019, the Government of Canada announced that the Table de concertation de Laval en condition féminine will receive federal funding totalling CAD295,725 for their project “Laval mobilisé pour les femmes en situation de vulnérabilité: des partenaires unis dans l’action pour

⁴⁶⁸² New federal investment to strengthen the economic security and prosperity of Indigenous women in Manitoba, Status of Women Canada (Winnipeg) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-investment-to-strengthen-the-economic-security-and-prosperity-of-indigenous-women-in-manitoba.html>.

⁴⁶⁸³ New federal investment to strengthen the economic security and prosperity of Indigenous women in Manitoba, Status of Women Canada (Winnipeg) 14 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-investment-to-strengthen-the-economic-security-and-prosperity-of-indigenous-women-in-manitoba.html>.

⁴⁶⁸⁴ New federal investment will help boost number of women in Canada’s forestry sector, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-investment-will-help-boost-number-of-women-in-canadas-forestry-sector.html>.

⁴⁶⁸⁵ New federal investment will help boost number of women in Canada’s forestry sector, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-investment-will-help-boost-number-of-women-in-canadas-forestry-sector.html>.

⁴⁶⁸⁶ New federal investment will help boost number of women in Canada’s forestry sector, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/new-federal-investment-will-help-boost-number-of-women-in-canadas-forestry-sector.html>.

⁴⁶⁸⁷ USMCA deal signed by Trudeau, Trump and Peña Nieto — finalizing months of negotiations, Global News (Canada) 30 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://globalnews.ca/news/4714437/usmca-trade-deal-signed-canada-u-s-mexico/>.

⁴⁶⁸⁸ United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement supports jobs for the middle class and promotes gender equality, Status of Women Canada (Peterborough) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/united-states-mexico-canada-agreement-supports-jobs-for-the-middle-class-and-promotes-gender-equality.html>.

⁴⁶⁸⁹ United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement supports jobs for the middle class and promotes gender equality, Status of Women Canada (Peterborough) 16 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/11/united-states-mexico-canada-agreement-supports-jobs-for-the-middle-class-and-promotes-gender-equality.html>.

les changements structureaux.”⁴⁶⁹⁰ This project spans 36 months and aims to remove systemic barriers to employment for women in the Laval region, whose lived experience of employment barriers include domestic abuse, poverty, housing, mental and physical health issues, by collaborating with local partners in key employment sectors and service providers.⁴⁶⁹¹

On 21 February 2019, the Government of Canada announced that the Association Nikawi Inc. will receive federal funding totalling CAD290,000 for their project “Révalorisation et reconnaissance économique des activités des Femmes Premières Nations.”⁴⁶⁹² The project spans three years and aims to “empower the Indigenous women of Wemotaci to overcome the institutional, economic and social barriers to managing non-timber forest resources on their land.”⁴⁶⁹³ The project will unite women from the Wemotaci, Ekuanitshit, and Unamen Shipu communities in order to diversify resources and develop the necessary tools for a self-sustainable economy.⁴⁶⁹⁴

On 12 April 2019, the Government of Canada announced that the Working Skills Centre will receive federal funding totalling CAD200,000 for their project “Building Innovation and Growth - Women Empowerment.”⁴⁶⁹⁵ The project spans two years and aims to “help the Centre create social and systemic change to empower newcomer women.”⁴⁶⁹⁶ The Centre will help women gain skills, professional experience, and ultimately employment by building community partnerships between private and non-profit sectors.⁴⁶⁹⁷

⁴⁶⁹⁰ New federal investment will help improve women’s economic security in Laval, Status of Women Canada (Laval) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/02/new-federal-investment-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-laval.html>.

⁴⁶⁹¹ New federal investment will help improve women’s economic security in Laval, Status of Women Canada (Laval) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/02/new-federal-investment-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-laval.html>.

⁴⁶⁹² New federal investment to strengthen the economic security and prosperity of Indigenous women in Haute-Mauricie, Status of Women Canada (Wemotaci) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/02/new-federal-investment-to-strengthen-the-economic-security-and-prosperity-of-indigenous-women-in-haute-mauricie.html>.

⁴⁶⁹³ New federal investment to strengthen the economic security and prosperity of Indigenous women in Haute-Mauricie, Status of Women Canada (Wemotaci) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/02/new-federal-investment-to-strengthen-the-economic-security-and-prosperity-of-indigenous-women-in-haute-mauricie.html>.

⁴⁶⁹⁴ New federal investment to strengthen the economic security and prosperity of Indigenous women in Haute-Mauricie, Status of Women Canada (Wemotaci) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/02/new-federal-investment-to-strengthen-the-economic-security-and-prosperity-of-indigenous-women-in-haute-mauricie.html>.

⁴⁶⁹⁵ Government of Canada announces investment for women’s organization in Toronto, Status of Women Canada (Toronto) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-announces-investment-for-womens-organization-in-toronto.html>.

⁴⁶⁹⁶ Government of Canada announces investment for women’s organization in Toronto, Status of Women Canada (Toronto) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-announces-investment-for-womens-organization-in-toronto.html>.

⁴⁶⁹⁷ Government of Canada announces investment for women’s organization in Toronto, Status of Women Canada (Toronto) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-announces-investment-for-womens-organization-in-toronto.html>.

On 22 March 2019, the 63rd session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women finished in New York with Canada pledging to “safeguard and improve women’s access to social protection systems, public services and sustainable infrastructure” for women and girls.⁴⁶⁹⁸

On 25 March 2019, the Government of Canada established the Women Entrepreneurship Strategy Expert Panel to encourage women applicants to apply to Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada.⁴⁶⁹⁹ This is part of the government’s efforts to support women entrepreneurs in the country.⁴⁷⁰⁰

On 12 April 2019, the Minister for Women and Gender Equality Maryam Monsef announced CAD200,000 in funding for the “Building Innovation and Growth-Women Empowerment” project.⁴⁷⁰¹ This project aims to empower newcomer women by “building community partnerships with both the private and non-profit sectors” to help women gain skills and employment.⁴⁷⁰²

On 9 to 10 May 2019, the Honourable Maryam Monsef, Minister of International Development and Minister for Women and Gender Equality, attended the G7 Gender Equality Ministerial Meeting in Paris, France.⁴⁷⁰³ During the course of this meeting, Minister Monsef and other global leaders worked together to develop a strategy to address violence against women and to accelerate the economic empowerment of women and their access to entrepreneurship.⁴⁷⁰⁴

On 23 May 2019, the Government of Canada announced an investment of close to CAD1.7 million for nine women’s organizations and Indigenous organizations serving women in southwestern Ontario.⁴⁷⁰⁵ This investment is part of the Budget 2018 announcement of CAD100 million to support a viable and sustainable women’s movement across Canada.⁴⁷⁰⁶ This initiative aims to

⁴⁶⁹⁸ UN Commission on the Status of Women delivers roadmap on ensuring women’s social protection, mobility, safety, and access to economic opportunities, UN Women (New York) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/3/press-release-csw-63-delivers-roadmap-on-ensuring-womens-social-protection>.

⁴⁶⁹⁹ Departmental Appointment Opportunities, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.competitionbureau.gc.ca/eic/site/107.nsf/eng/00004.html>.

⁴⁷⁰⁰ Departmental Appointment Opportunities, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.competitionbureau.gc.ca/eic/site/107.nsf/eng/00004.html>.

⁴⁷⁰¹ Government of Canada announces investment for women’s organization in Toronto, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-announces-investment-for-womens-organization-in-toronto.html>.

⁴⁷⁰² Government of Canada announces investment for women’s organization in Toronto, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-announces-investment-for-womens-organization-in-toronto.html>.

⁴⁷⁰³ Minister Monsef to attend G7 Gender Equality Ministerial Meeting in Paris, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 8 May 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/05/minister-monsef-to-attend-g7-gender-equality-ministerial-meeting-in-paris.html>.

⁴⁷⁰⁴ Minister Monsef to attend G7 Gender Equality Ministerial Meeting in Paris, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 8 May 2019. Access Date: 5 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/05/minister-monsef-to-attend-g7-gender-equality-ministerial-meeting-in-paris.html>.

⁴⁷⁰⁵ Government of Canada invests in women’s organizations in Southeastern Ontario, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 23 May 2019. Access Date: 15 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-invests-in-womens-organizations-in-southwestern-ontario.html>.

⁴⁷⁰⁶ Government of Canada invests in women’s organizations in Southeastern Ontario, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 23 May 2019. Access Date: 15 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-invests-in-womens-organizations-in-southwestern-ontario.html>.

support “women and girls to be financially secure, free from violence, and able to fully participate in all aspects of our economy and society.”⁴⁷⁰⁷

On 24 May 2019, the Government of Canada announced an investment of close to CAD9.05 million for 18 women’s organizations and Indigenous organizations serving women in Toronto.⁴⁷⁰⁸ This initiative aims to support “women and girls to be financially secure, free from violence, and able to fully participate in all aspects of our economy and society.”⁴⁷⁰⁹

On 24 May 2019, the Government of Canada announced an investment of close to CAD9.05 million for 18 women’s organizations and Indigenous organizations serving women in Toronto.⁴⁷¹⁰ This initiative aims to support “women and girls to be financially secure, free from violence, and able to fully participate in all aspects of our economy and society.”⁴⁷¹¹

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to support gender equality in labour market opportunities, in the distribution of unpaid care work, as well as with initiatives to ensure women’s equal access to decent employment opportunities. Canada has provided funding for various programs that promote gender equality in sectors such as manufacturing and forestry.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Isabeau Morin

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to support gender equality in labour market opportunities and in the distribution of unpaid care work, with measures such as paid maternity leave and parental leave, as well as initiatives to ensure women’s equal access to decent employment opportunities, leadership opportunities, resources and finance.

On 5 September 2018, the Government of France enacted the “Choose One’s Professional Future” law.⁴⁷¹² According to the law, all companies with over 50 employees “must comply with the principle of equal pay for men and women no matter their size, and must pursue the objective of eliminating

⁴⁷⁰⁷ Government of Canada invests in women’s organizations in Southeastern Ontario, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 23 May 2019. Access Date: 15 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-invests-in-womens-organizations-in-southwestern-ontario.html>.

⁴⁷⁰⁸ Government of Canada announced major investment in Toronto women’s organizations, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 24 May 2019. Access Date: 15 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-announces-major-investment-in-toronto-womens-organizations.html>.

⁴⁷⁰⁹ Government of Canada announced major investment in Toronto women’s organizations, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 24 May 2019. Access Date: 15 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-announces-major-investment-in-toronto-womens-organizations.html>.

⁴⁷¹⁰ Government of Canada invests in women’s organizations in Southeastern Ontario, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 23 May 2019. Access Date: 15 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-invests-in-womens-organizations-in-southwestern-ontario.html>.

⁴⁷¹¹ Government of Canada invests in women’s organizations in Southeastern Ontario, Status of Women Canada (Ottawa) 23 May 2019. Access Date: 15 June 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-invests-in-womens-organizations-in-southwestern-ontario.html>.

⁴⁷¹² New French Rules on Gender Pay Equality Enacted, JD Supra (Sausalito) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/new-french-rules-on-gender-pay-equality-76948/>.

gender pay gaps.”⁴⁷¹³ Failure to do so can result in a financial penalty of up to one percent of the total payroll.⁴⁷¹⁴ The companies must also outline any actions taken to close the gender wage gap.⁴⁷¹⁵

On 21 September 2018, French Minister of Culture Françoise Nyssen announced the launch of gender parity production incentives during a conference titled “Les Aussies sur la parité.”⁴⁷¹⁶ Nyssen announced a point system where points would be awarded to productions for having female directors, crew members, and cinematographers.⁴⁷¹⁷ Once four points have been achieved, a production could “be eligible for a bonus of up to 15 per cent of its expected state funding allocation.”⁴⁷¹⁸

On 22 November 2018, the Government of France issued a decree to specify obligations surrounding the “Choose One’s Professional Future” Law.⁴⁷¹⁹ The company’s progress is based on a 100 point system out of which 40 points will be given for elimination of the wage gap, 20 points if the rate of salary increase for men is the same as women, 15 points if the rate of promotion is the same for both men and women, 15 points if women are granted an increase in remuneration upon return from maternity leave, and finally ten points are rewarded if four out of ten of the highest paid in the company are women.⁴⁷²⁰ A score of less than 75 will result in a 1 percent penalty of the total payroll after three years if the wage gap persists.⁴⁷²¹ The Minister of Gender Equality Marlène Schiappa also announced that the “number of audits carried out by labour inspectors in relation to gender equality will be multiplied fourfold as of 2019, rising from 1,700 to 7,000 audits carried out each year.”⁴⁷²²

On 9 January 2019, the Government of France issued a decree under the “For the Freedom to Choose One’s Professional Future Act.”⁴⁷²³ The decree “specifies the methods for calculating the indicators relating to the pay gap between women and men and the measures implemented to

⁴⁷¹³ New French Rules on Gender Pay Equality Enacted, JD Supra (Sausalito) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/new-french-rules-on-gender-pay-equality-76948/>.

⁴⁷¹⁴ New French Rules on Gender Pay Equality Enacted, JD Supra (Sausalito) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/new-french-rules-on-gender-pay-equality-76948/>.

⁴⁷¹⁵ New French Rules on Gender Pay Equality Enacted, JD Supra (Sausalito) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/new-french-rules-on-gender-pay-equality-76948/>.

⁴⁷¹⁶ France launches gender parity production incentives, Screendaily (London) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.screendaily.com/news/france-launches-gender-parity-production-incentives/5132855.article>.

⁴⁷¹⁷ France launches gender parity production incentives, Screendaily (London) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.screendaily.com/news/france-launches-gender-parity-production-incentives/5132855.article>.

⁴⁷¹⁸ France launches gender parity production incentives, Screendaily (London) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://www.screendaily.com/news/france-launches-gender-parity-production-incentives/5132855.article>.

⁴⁷¹⁹ France Presents Tool to Measure Gender Pay Gap in Companies, JD Supra (Sausalito) 27 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/france-presents-tool-to-measure-gender-41218/>.

⁴⁷²⁰ France Presents Tool to Measure Gender Pay Gap in Companies, JD Supra (Sausalito) 27 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/france-presents-tool-to-measure-gender-41218/>.

⁴⁷²¹ France Presents Tool to Measure Gender Pay Gap in Companies, JD Supra (Sausalito) 27 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/france-presents-tool-to-measure-gender-41218/>.

⁴⁷²² France’s New Gender Pay Law — What’s Changed, Two Birds (London) 22 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.twobirds.com/en/news/articles/2018/france/france-new-gender-pay-law-whats-changed>.

⁴⁷²³ Gender Equality: France Issues Decree on Application of New Legal Framework for Equal Pay, JD Supra (Sausalito) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/gender-equality-france-issues-decree-on-69966/>.

eliminate them... as well as their publication methods.”⁴⁷²⁴ The decree also sets a deadline for which the results obtained by companies must be published by: 1 March 2019 for companies with more than a 1,000 employees, 1 September 2019 for companies with 250 to 1,000 employees and 1 March 2020 for companies with 20 to 250 employees.⁴⁷²⁵

On 31 January 2019, the Minister of State for Gender Equality and the Fight against Discrimination Marlene Schiappa announced that as part of the G7 Presidency, the Government of France will pursue “feminist diplomacy.”⁴⁷²⁶ This would be carried out as part of the Government of France’s actions within “the UN Commission on the Status of Women, France’s Chairmanship of the Council of Europe and Presidency of the G7.”⁴⁷²⁷ Schiappa also announced that until 2022, France will set aside 50 percent of development aid towards gender policy measures.⁴⁷²⁸

On 19 February 2019, President Emmanuel Macron announced funding of EUR120 million for “NGOs and international projects that advance gender equality.”⁴⁷²⁹ This announcement was made following the first meeting of the Advisory Council for Equality between Women and Men.⁴⁷³⁰ The council’s mission is to identify laws that advance gender equality and then present the findings to G7 members and encourage them to implement one of the laws in their own country.⁴⁷³¹

On 11 to 22 March 2019, Minister of State for Gender Equality and the Fight against Discrimination Marlène Schiappa led a French delegation to CSW63 in New York.⁴⁷³² During CSW63 sessions, Minister Schiappa stressed the need for women’s ability to “access to public services, social protection in the context of sexual and reproductive health rights, and responses to the issue of unpaid work.”⁴⁷³³

⁴⁷²⁴ Gender Equality: France Issues Decree on Application of New Legal Framework for Equal Pay, JD Supra (Sausalito) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/gender-equality-france-issues-decree-on-69966/>.

⁴⁷²⁵ Gender Equality: France Issues Decree on Application of New Legal Framework for Equal Pay, JD Supra (Sausalito) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/gender-equality-france-issues-decree-on-69966/>.

⁴⁷²⁶ Gender equality a G7 priority, gouvernement.fr (Paris) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/gender-equality-a-g7-priority>.

⁴⁷²⁷ Gender equality a G7 priority, gouvernement.fr (Paris) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/gender-equality-a-g7-priority>.

⁴⁷²⁸ Gender equality a G7 priority, gouvernement.fr (Paris) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/gender-equality-a-g7-priority>.

⁴⁷²⁹ Equality between men and women: a fund of 120 million euros for NGOs, Tellerreport 20 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.tellerreport.com/news/--equality-between-men-and-women--a-fund-of-120-million-euros-for-ngos-.SjzoxhCH4.html>.

⁴⁷³⁰ Equality between men and women: a fund of 120 million euros for NGOs, Tellerreport 20 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.tellerreport.com/news/--equality-between-men-and-women--a-fund-of-120-million-euros-for-ngos-.SjzoxhCH4.html>.

⁴⁷³¹ Equality between men and women: a fund of 120 million euros for NGOs, Tellerreport 20 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.tellerreport.com/news/--equality-between-men-and-women--a-fund-of-120-million-euros-for-ngos-.SjzoxhCH4.html>.

⁴⁷³² United Nations – Opening of the 63rd session of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 11 March 2019), French Diplomatie (Paris) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/events/events-2019/article/united-nations-opening-of-the-63rd-session-of-the-commission-on-the-status-of>.

⁴⁷³³ United Nations – Opening of the 63rd session of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 11 March 2019), French Diplomatie (Paris) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/events/events-2019/article/united-nations-opening-of-the-63rd-session-of-the-commission-on-the-status-of>.

On 13 March 2019, Minister of State for Gender Equality and the Fight Against Discrimination Marlène Schiappa announced EUR120 million investment to support female entrepreneurship and women’s participation in security forces in Africa.⁴⁷³⁴

On 13 March 2019, Minister of State for Gender Equality and the Fight Against Discrimination Marlène Schiappa announced at the opening of the 63rd session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women that the Government of France will host a “Beijing +25” conference next year as part of the government’s commitment to a feminist foreign policy and global gender equality.⁴⁷³⁵

On 10 May 2019, the Government of France hosted a ministerial meeting centering on the theme of gender equality.⁴⁷³⁶ The goals of the gender-specific G7 presidency included Economic Empowerment of African Women, Combating Sexual and Gender-Based Violence with a focus on female genital mutilation and forced marriages, and Educating Women which includes both advocating for girls to attend schools and fostering lifelong learning.⁴⁷³⁷ At the end of the meeting, France’s Minister for Gender Equality Marlène Schiappa and “G7 counterparts... signed a joint declaration to make the issue a ‘global cause.’”⁴⁷³⁸ The declaration sets the stage for the G7 summit in Biarritz in August, where member states will be encouraged to implement at least one of the laws of the Biarritz Partnership, which is “a raft of laws identified worldwide which best advance women’s rights.”⁴⁷³⁹

France has fully complied with its commitment to support gender equality in the labour market and to support gender equality in the distribution of unpaid care work. France has enacted laws to close the gender parity gap and taken action to increase gender equality in the distribution of unpaid care work.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Shamal Haider

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to support gender equality in labour market opportunities and in the distribution of unpaid care work, with measures such as paid maternity leave and parental leave, as well as initiatives to ensure women’s equal access to decent employment opportunities, leadership opportunities, resources and finance.

From 15 to 17 October 2018, the German-Arab Women Business Leaders Summit was held in Munich, Germany under the patronage of German Federal Ministry of Economy Affairs and

⁴⁷³⁴ The full participation of women will help build a more just and equal society, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/The-full-participation-of-women-will-help-build-a-more-just-and-equal-society>.

⁴⁷³⁵ France will host conference “Beijing +25” in a year’s time, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/France-will-host-conference-Beijing-25-in-a-year-s-time>.

⁴⁷³⁶ Gender equality a G7 priority, gouvernement.fr (Paris) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/gender-equality-a-g7-priority>.

⁴⁷³⁷ Gender equality a G7 priority, gouvernement.fr (Paris) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/gender-equality-a-g7-priority>.

⁴⁷³⁸ G7 ministers pledge to make gender equality ‘global cause’, France24 (Paris) 10 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190510-g7-ministers-pledge-make-gender-equality-global-cause>.

⁴⁷³⁹ Making gender equality a major global cause, gouvernement.fr (Paris) 14 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/making-gender-equality-a-major-global-cause>.

Energy.⁴⁷⁴⁰ The Summit included six sessions, during which delegates from both Germany and the Arab world discussed topics like gender diversity in the economy, women's entrepreneurship, connecting women in computing and technology, and financing and capacity building for women.⁴⁷⁴¹ The summit also gave out the Ta'awun German-Arab Women Cooperation Excellence Award to recognize women who played distinctive roles in establishing business partnerships between Germany and the Arab countries.⁴⁷⁴²

On 19 December 2018, the Government of Germany's KfW Development Bank, on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development launched the "Gender Finance Collaborative."⁴⁷⁴³ This initiative aims to increase resources provided to female entrepreneurs and employees, while encouraging various finance institutions to promote greater gender equality and diversity in leadership positions.⁴⁷⁴⁴

On 6 February 2019, the Government of Germany agreed to a compatibility directive with European Union's Member States in order to improve childcare by emphasizing an equitable distribution of caregiving responsibilities between men and women and the promotion of women's participation in the labour force.⁴⁷⁴⁵ The directive includes: ten paid leave days for the second parent after the birth of a child, four months parental leave for each parent, five care days a year and flexible working arrangements for parents and caregivers.⁴⁷⁴⁶

On 4 March 2019, an agreement was signed between the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth and the Federal Employment Agency for 90 contact offices throughout the country to help women with migration backgrounds find jobs.⁴⁷⁴⁷ This program will include training, language support, child care, and help in finding compatible employment for women.⁴⁷⁴⁸

⁴⁷⁴⁰ Home Page, GAWBL Summit 2018 official website (Munich) 6 July 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. <http://www.gawbl-summit.com>.

⁴⁷⁴¹ Preliminary Program, GAWBL Summit 2018 official website (Munich) 6 July 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. <http://www.gawbl-summit.com/programme/>.

⁴⁷⁴² GAWBL-Award, GAWBL Summit 2018 official website (Munich) 6 July 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018. <http://www.gawbl-summit.com/gawbl-award/>.

⁴⁷⁴³ Women empowerment – development finance institutions launch Gender Finance Collaborative, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details_501248-2.html.

⁴⁷⁴⁴ Women empowerment – development finance institutions launch Gender Finance Collaborative, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details_501248-2.html.

⁴⁷⁴⁵ Milestone for reconciling family, care and work in the European Union, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/meilenstein-fuer-die-vereinbarkeit-von-familie--pflege-und-beruf-in-der-europaeischen-union/133648>.

⁴⁷⁴⁶ Milestone for reconciling family, care and work in the European Union, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/meilenstein-fuer-die-vereinbarkeit-von-familie--pflege-und-beruf-in-der-europaeischen-union/133648>.

⁴⁷⁴⁷ 90 contact points bring mothers with migration backgrounds into jobs, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/90-kontaktstellen-bringen-muetter-mit-migrationshintergrund-in-jobs/134132>.

⁴⁷⁴⁸ 90 contact points bring mothers with migration backgrounds into jobs, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/90-kontaktstellen-bringen-muetter-mit-migrationshintergrund-in-jobs/134132>.

The focus of the program is especially on new immigrant women with small children to help support as they settle in Germany.⁴⁷⁴⁹

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to support gender equality in labour market opportunities with measures to ensure women’s equal access to leadership opportunities, resources and finance, as well as actions to support gender equality in the distribution of unpaid care work.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Olivia Yidi Huang and Samantha Tozzi

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to support gender equality in labour market opportunities and in the distribution of unpaid care work, with measures such as paid maternity leave and parental leave, as well as initiatives to ensure women’s equal access to decent employment opportunities, leadership opportunities, resources and finance.

On 5 July 2018, the National Equality Councillor Francesca Bagni Cipriani chaired the National Conference on Councilors of Equality.⁴⁷⁵⁰ During the conference, councillors analyzed data related to the use of a new IT application that is intended to report on the situation of male and female employees by companies that employ over one hundred people.⁴⁷⁵¹ This is the first time this report is being transmitted using an electronic application, which looks at data such as “the state of recruitment, training and professional promotion.”⁴⁷⁵²

On 29 November 2018, the Senate of Italy discussed Notion 58 proposed by Senator Julia Unterberger which involves the proposal of parental leave with a high percentage of income.⁴⁷⁵³ The Italian Senate voted to approve simultaneous scrutiny on notion 58.⁴⁷⁵⁴

On 12 March 2019, the Government of Italy together with UNIDO, FAO and UN Women hosted the “How can digital technology support gender equality in the MENA region?” event at the UN Headquarters.⁴⁷⁵⁵ This event showcased how improving women’s access to ICTs can improve

⁴⁷⁴⁹ 90 contact points bring mothers with migration backgrounds into jobs, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019.

<http://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/90-kontaktstellen-bringen-muetter-mit-migrationshintergrund-in-jobs/134132>.

⁴⁷⁵⁰ Periodic report on the situation of male and female personnel, Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Rome) 5 July 2018. Access Date: 20 December 2018. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/strumenti-e-servizi/rapporto-periodico-situazione-personale/Pagine/default.aspx>.

⁴⁷⁵¹ Periodic report on the situation of male and female personnel, Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Rome) 5 July 2018. Access Date: 20 December 2018. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/strumenti-e-servizi/rapporto-periodico-situazione-personale/Pagine/default.aspx>.

⁴⁷⁵² Periodic report on the situation of male and female personnel, Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Rome) 5 July 2018. Access Date: 20 December 2018. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/strumenti-e-servizi/rapporto-periodico-situazione-personale/Pagine/default.aspx>.

⁴⁷⁵³ The stenographic report of the 65th Italian Senate session, Senato della Repubblica (Rome) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018.

<http://www.senato.it/japp/bgt/showdoc/frame.jsp?tipodoc=Resaula&leg=18&id=1083653>.

⁴⁷⁵⁴ The stenographic report of the 65th Italian Senate session, Senato della Repubblica (Rome) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2018.

<http://www.senato.it/japp/bgt/showdoc/frame.jsp?tipodoc=Resaula&leg=18&id=1083653>.

⁴⁷⁵⁵ How can digital technology support gender equality in the MENA region? United Nations Global Compact (New York) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.unglobalcompact.org/take-action/events/business-guide-to-csw63>.

entrepreneurship and job opportunities.⁴⁷⁵⁶ It also discussed the role of the private sector promoting the competitiveness of women entrepreneurs.⁴⁷⁵⁷

On 14 March 2019, the Permanent Mission of Italy to the UN and the Federazione Italiana Donne Arti Professionie Affari hosted the “Social Protection Systems, Access to Public Services and Sustainable Infrastructure for Gender Equality and The Empowerment Of Women And Girls” side event at the 63rd session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women.⁴⁷⁵⁸ The event focused on gender equality by discussing job creation, entrepreneurship, labour rights and policies.⁴⁷⁵⁹

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to support gender equality in the distribution of unpaid care work with measures such as parental leave and a review of labour market opportunities in the workplace for male and female employees.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Olivia Yidi Huang and Samantha Tozzi

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to support gender equality in labour market opportunities and in the distribution of unpaid care work, with measures such as paid maternity leave and parental leave, as well as initiatives to ensure women’s equal access to decent employment opportunities, leadership opportunities, resources and finance.

On 12 June 2018, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe held the seventh meeting of the “Headquarters for Creating a Society in which All Women Shine.”⁴⁷⁶⁰ During this meeting, the “Intensive Policy to Accelerate the Empowerment of Women 2018” and measures dealing with sexual harassment countermeasures were approved.⁴⁷⁶¹ Abe also pledged to support equal job opportunities in the private sector for women at the executive level by “actively seeking explanations from publicly listed companies through corporate governance reforms” and to introduce a system that increases childcare leave between both parents.⁴⁷⁶²

On 15 June 2018, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe held the fifth meeting of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Promotion Headquarters at the Prime Minister’s Office.⁴⁷⁶³ During this meeting, the “Expanded Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Action Plan 2018” was approved and Abe

⁴⁷⁵⁶ How can digital technology support gender equality in the MENA region? United Nations Global Compact (New York) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.unglobalcompact.org/take-action/events/business-guide-to-csw63>.

⁴⁷⁵⁷ How can digital technology support gender equality in the MENA region? United Nations Global Compact (New York) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.unglobalcompact.org/take-action/events/business-guide-to-csw63>.

⁴⁷⁵⁸ FIDAPA- BPW Italy - Side Event CSW 63, United Nations (New York) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://esango.un.org/SideEvents/documents/2983>.

⁴⁷⁵⁹ FIDAPA- BPW Italy - Side Event CSW 63, United Nations (New York) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://esango.un.org/SideEvents/documents/2983>.

⁴⁷⁶⁰ Headquarters for Creating a Society in which All Women Shine, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 12 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201806/_00032.html.

⁴⁷⁶¹ Headquarters for Creating a Society in which All Women Shine, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 12 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201806/_00032.html.

⁴⁷⁶² Headquarters for Creating a Society in which All Women Shine, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 12 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201806/_00032.html.

⁴⁷⁶³ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Promotion Headquarters, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201806/_00038.html.

stated that efforts to meet the plan will be doubled.⁴⁷⁶⁴ This act outlines the national strategy to empower women and meet the “Sustainable Development Goals” set by the United Nations.⁴⁷⁶⁵ Abe also stated that next spring, Japan “will hold a joint meeting of the World Assembly for Women (WAW!) and Women 20 (W20) in order to promote the active participation of women through joint efforts of the public and private sectors.”⁴⁷⁶⁶

On 25 June 2018, the Government of Japan held the seventh meeting of the Headquarters for Creating a Society in which All Women Shine, at the Prime Minister’s Office, during which Japan set a target to increase the proportion of women studying science, technologies, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and to increase training for women in STEM careers.⁴⁷⁶⁷ Japan also appointed a STEM Girls Ambassador in order to attract more young women to STEM careers.⁴⁷⁶⁸

On 29 June 2018, the Government of Japan passed the “Act on Promotion of Gender Equality in the Political Field.”⁴⁷⁶⁹ This non-binding law administers that political parties should work towards gender balance in national parliamentary elections.⁴⁷⁷⁰

On 28 November 2018, The Minister of Foreign Affairs Taro Kono announced during an interview with UN Women that the Government of Japan will contribute an additional USD8.7 million to promote women’s resilience including the Women’s Leadership, Empowerment, Access & Protection in Crisis Response (LEAP) programme in 2018.⁴⁷⁷¹ LEAP works to promote the economic empowerment of refugee and internally displaced women in the Arab States region to consolidate its ongoing initiatives including those related to women’s economic opportunities.⁴⁷⁷²

On 7 January 2019, the Government of Japan published a review outlining the goals and progress of “Abenomics,” Prime Minister Abe’s policy regarding economic reform and stimulus.⁴⁷⁷³ In this review, the Government of Japan reiterated its continuing commitment to achieving a gender-equal private market.⁴⁷⁷⁴ The components of such goals include providing female candidates with executive

⁴⁷⁶⁴ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Promotion Headquarters, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201806/_00038.html.

⁴⁷⁶⁵ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Promotion Headquarters, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201806/_00038.html.

⁴⁷⁶⁶ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Promotion Headquarters, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201806/_00038.html.

⁴⁷⁶⁷ STEM Girls Ambassadors, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan (Tokyo) 25 June 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. http://www.gender.go.jp/STEM_Girls_Ambassadors/event/20180625_01.html.

⁴⁷⁶⁸ STEM Girls Ambassadors, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan (Tokyo) 25 June 2018. Access Date: 17 October 2018. http://www.gender.go.jp/STEM_Girls_Ambassadors/event/20180625_01.html.

⁴⁷⁶⁹ Act on Promotion of Gender Equality in the Political Field, House of Representatives (Tokyo) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018.

<http://www.japaneselawtranslation.go.jp/law/detail/?printID=&re=02&id=3139&lv=02&vm=02>.

⁴⁷⁷⁰ Act of Promotion of Gender Equality in the Political Field, House of Representatives (Tokyo) 29 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018.

<http://www.japaneselawtranslation.go.jp/law/detail/?printID=&re=02&id=3139&lv=02&vm=02>.

⁴⁷⁷¹ Interview with Taro Kono, Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs, UNWomen, 28 November 2018. Access Date: 2 December 2018. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2018/11/partner-profile-interview-with-taro-kono-japan>.

⁴⁷⁷² Women’s Leadership, Empowerment, Access & Protection in Crisis Response, UNWomen (Jordan) n.d. Access Date: 1 December 2018. <http://jordan.unwomen.org/ja/what-we-do/past-initiatives/response-recovery-and-resilience/leap-initiative>.

⁴⁷⁷³ Abenomics, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. https://www.japan.go.jp/abenomics/_userdata/abenomics/pdf/1901_abenomics.pdf.

⁴⁷⁷⁴ Abenomics, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. https://www.japan.go.jp/abenomics/_userdata/abenomics/pdf/1901_abenomics.pdf.

leadership training programs, eliminating all forms of violence against women and promoting men taking child-care leave and being more involved with domestic tasks.⁴⁷⁷⁵

On 18 January 2019, the Government of Japan announced official side events to supplement fifth World Assembly for Women.⁴⁷⁷⁶ The official side events are symposiums, summits, exhibits revolving around gender equality in both Japan and around the world and also include the Exhibition of Women's Empowerment Policy of the Government of Japan, which aims to discuss Japan's policies to promote women empowerment.⁴⁷⁷⁷ The events also include the Women's Leadership Summit "This is Her Life," which is an event for female students that invites five career women who were active in various fields of private and public sectors as lecturers.⁴⁷⁷⁸

On 28 January 2019, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe gave a speech to the 198th Session of the Diet.⁴⁷⁷⁹ In his speech, he stated that the government will be revising the Act on Promotion of Women's Participation and Advancement in the Workplace and support the efforts of small and medium-sized enterprises to devise a supportive workplace environment for women.⁴⁷⁸⁰ Abe also affirmed the importance of eliminating sexual harassment in the workplace by declaring that the government will require all businesses to prevent power harassment.⁴⁷⁸¹

On 8 March 2019, Minister of Special Affairs in Gender Equality Katayama Satsuki delivered a speech outlining the Government of Japan's ongoing and future plans for gender equality.⁴⁷⁸² Minister Satsuki explained the government's continued commitment to increasing the employment of women in the private sector by revising the Act of the Promotion of Women.⁴⁷⁸³ The amendment of this law will increase the number of companies required to organize action plans that assist their employees with their work and child rearing responsibilities.⁴⁷⁸⁴

On 23 March 2019, the Government of Japan jointly hosted the fifth World Assembly for Women (WAW!) and Women 20 Japan 2019 (W20) in Tokyo.⁴⁷⁸⁵ WAW! is a government-led initiative that promotes female participation in society and its theme was "Diversity for Growth: Corporate

⁴⁷⁷⁵ Abenomics, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. https://www.japan.go.jp/abenomics/_userdata/abenomics/pdf/1901_abenomics.pdf.

⁴⁷⁷⁶ World Assembly for Women: 5th WAW! Official Side Events, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/hr_ha/page22e_000872.html

⁴⁷⁷⁷ World Assembly for Women: 5th WAW! Official Side Events, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/hr_ha/page22e_000872.html

⁴⁷⁷⁸ World Assembly for Women: 5th WAW! Official Side Events, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/hr_ha/page22e_000872.html

⁴⁷⁷⁹ Policy Speech by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to the 198th Session of the Diet, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/statement/201801/_00003.html.

⁴⁷⁸⁰ Policy Speech by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to the 198th Session of the Diet, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/statement/201801/_00003.html.

⁴⁷⁸¹ Policy Speech by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to the 198th Session of the Diet, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/statement/201801/_00003.html.

⁴⁷⁸² Message for International Women's Day 2019, Gender Equality Bureau Cabinet Office (Tokyo) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2019. http://www.gender.go.jp/international/int_un_kaigi/int_iwd/iwd_2019.html.

⁴⁷⁸³ Message for International Women's Day 2019, Gender Equality Bureau Cabinet Office (Tokyo) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2019. http://www.gender.go.jp/international/int_un_kaigi/int_iwd/iwd_2019.html.

⁴⁷⁸⁴ Message for International Women's Day 2019, Gender Equality Bureau Cabinet Office (Tokyo) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2019. http://www.gender.go.jp/international/int_un_kaigi/int_iwd/iwd_2019.html.

⁴⁷⁸⁵ Meetings aim to close gender gaps, promote diversity, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/03/22/national/meetings-aim-close-gender-gaps-promote-diversity/#.XLEfKpNKjOQ>.

Management and Working Environment.”⁴⁷⁸⁶ The assembly included panel discussions and meetings between government officials, business leaders, and academics from around the world.⁴⁷⁸⁷ The W20 promoted its theme for “Closing the Gender Gap for New Prosperity” by administering discussions on labor equity, financial equity, digital equity and governance.⁴⁷⁸⁸

On 23 March 2019, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe stated that the Government of Japan will be providing high-quality education to 4 million women by 2020 in developing countries as “improving access to education is important for sustainable economic development.”⁴⁷⁸⁹

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to support gender equality in the labour market as well as in the distribution of unpaid care work by hosting events such as WAW!, which promote discussion around women’s empowerment and by taking concrete steps to create greater opportunities for women in fields such as science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Jae Yoon Mary Noh

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to support gender equality in labour market opportunities and in the distribution of unpaid care work, with measures such as paid maternity leave and parental leave, as well as initiatives to ensure women’s equal access to decent employment opportunities, leadership opportunities, resources and finance.

On 27 June 2018, the UK government supported Hampton-Alexander Review urged Financial Times Stock Exchange 350 (FTSE 350) companies to hire more women onto board positions.⁴⁷⁹⁰ The UK government’s backed Hampton-Alexander Review set a target in 2016 of having 33 percent of all leadership and boardroom positions be held by women by 2020.⁴⁷⁹¹ The new study revealed that 29 percent of FTSE board positions are held by women and while some companies are on track to meet the goal by 2020, many are lagging behind.⁴⁷⁹²

On 1 August 2018, the Government Equalities Office has published a “What Works” guidance to assist companies in improving hiring policies for women with additional information on how to close

⁴⁷⁸⁶ Meetings aim to close gender gaps, promote diversity, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/03/22/national/meetings-aim-close-gender-gaps-promote-diversity/#.XLEfKpNKjOQ>.

⁴⁷⁸⁷ Meetings aim to close gender gaps, promote diversity, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/03/22/national/meetings-aim-close-gender-gaps-promote-diversity/#.XLEfKpNKjOQ>.

⁴⁷⁸⁸ Meetings aim to close gender gaps, promote diversity, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/03/22/national/meetings-aim-close-gender-gaps-promote-diversity/#.XLEfKpNKjOQ>.

⁴⁷⁸⁹ Japan to support education for 4 mil. women in developing countries, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2019/03/70575fc9a9dd-japan-to-support-education-for-4-mil-women-in-developing-countries.html>.

⁴⁷⁹⁰ FTSE 350 Urged to Step up to Meet 2020 Women on Boards Targets, GOV.UK (London) 27 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ftse-350-urged-to-step-up-to-meet-2020-women-on-boards-targets>.

⁴⁷⁹¹ FTSE 350 Urged to Step up to Meet 2020 Women on Boards Targets, GOV.UK (London) 27 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ftse-350-urged-to-step-up-to-meet-2020-women-on-boards-targets>.

⁴⁷⁹² FTSE 350 Urged to Step up to Meet 2020 Women on Boards Targets, GOV.UK (London) 27 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ftse-350-urged-to-step-up-to-meet-2020-women-on-boards-targets>.

the gender pay gap.⁴⁷⁹³ The report includes information on the following: how to “assess candidates based on actual tasks they would be expected to perform in their role, and make interviews more structured to avoid unfair bias creeping in, encourage salary negotiation by showing salary ranges, as women are currently less likely to negotiate their pay than men, introduce transparency to pay, promotion and reward processes.”⁴⁷⁹⁴

On 22 September 2018, the Minister for Women Victoria Atkins announced that five start-ups helping to alleviate causes of the gender pay gap will be awarded GBP489,050.⁴⁷⁹⁵ The funding aims to help people (nine out of ten of whom are women) to return back to work after taking time to care for others.⁴⁷⁹⁶ The goal is to provide these individuals with training and refreshing of skills needed to return back to the workforce and assist with finding work placements.⁴⁷⁹⁷

On 26 September 2018, the UK government and Bloomberg L.P. announced a partnership to promote and improve reporting on gender equality in the workplace.⁴⁷⁹⁸ The Right Honourable Minister for Women and Equalities Penny Mordaunt and Michael R. Bloomberg signed an agreement allowing six data points from the UK government gender pay gap metrics to be incorporated into the global reporting methodology of the Bloomberg Gender-Equality Index.⁴⁷⁹⁹

On 31 October 2018, Minister for Women and Equalities Penny Mordaunt presented a speech at the Telegraph’s Women Mean Business Event where she announced that Her Majesty Treasury’s decision to appoint Chief Executive of RBS Private Banking Alison Rose to “lead an independent review into the particular barriers faced by women entrepreneurs, and the keys to their success.”⁴⁸⁰⁰

On 16 November 2018, Minister for Women and Equalities Penny Mordaunt announced that the Government Equalities Office would join the Cabinet Office on 1 April 2019.⁴⁸⁰¹ The intention of this change is to ensure the Government Equalities Office is at heart of government in order to have

⁴⁷⁹³ 100% of UK Employers Publish Gender Pay Gap Data, GOV.UK (London) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/100-of-uk-employers-publish-gender-pay-gap-data>.

⁴⁷⁹⁴ 100% of UK Employers Publish Gender Pay Gap Data, GOV.UK (London) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/100-of-uk-employers-publish-gender-pay-gap-data>.

⁴⁷⁹⁵ £500,000 Awarded to Organisations Helping to Tackle Causes of the Gender Pay Gap, GOV.UK (London) 22 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/500000-awarded-to-organisations-helping-to-tackle-causes-of-the-gender-pay-gap>.

⁴⁷⁹⁶ £500,000 Awarded to Organisations Helping to Tackle Causes of the Gender Pay Gap, GOV.UK (London) 22 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/500000-awarded-to-organisations-helping-to-tackle-causes-of-the-gender-pay-gap>.

⁴⁷⁹⁷ £500,000 Awarded to Organisations Helping to Tackle Causes of the Gender Pay Gap, GOV.UK (London) 22 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/500000-awarded-to-organisations-helping-to-tackle-causes-of-the-gender-pay-gap>.

⁴⁷⁹⁸ UK Government and Bloomberg L.P. Announce Partnership to Promote and Improve Reporting on Gender Equality in the Workplace, GOV.UK (London) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-and-bloomberg-lp-announce-partnership-to-promote-and-improve-reporting-on-gender-equality-in-the-workplace>.

⁴⁷⁹⁹ UK Government and Bloomberg L.P. Announce Partnership to Promote and Improve Reporting on Gender Equality in the Workplace, GOV.UK (London) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2018.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-and-bloomberg-lp-announce-partnership-to-promote-and-improve-reporting-on-gender-equality-in-the-workplace>.

⁴⁸⁰⁰ Women Mean Business Speech, GOV.UK (London) 31 October 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/women-mean-business-speech>.

⁴⁸⁰¹ Government Equalities Office to Join Cabinet Office, GOV.UK (London), 16 November 16, 2018., Access Date: 8 December 08, 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/government-equalities-office-to-join-cabinet-office>.

“influence and leverage within government, working with the Race Disparity Unit, and the Office of Disability Issues, and others, to drive meaningful progress on equalities.”⁴⁸⁰²

On 21 November 2018, Minister for Women and Equalities Penny Mordaunt announced a shift in the priorities of Government Equalities Office, vowing to put more of a focus on marginalized and low-income women, following the transition of the Government Equalities Office to Cabinet Office.⁴⁸⁰³

On 21 January 2019, the Government of the United Kingdom has released research on the gender pay gap transparency regulations that have began in April 2017.⁴⁸⁰⁴ It provides a better understanding of how large corporations are understanding the gender pay gap and their response to the new regulations regarding transparency.

On 7 February 2019, the Minister for Women and Equalities Penny Mordaunt announced a 500,000 GBP fund to start a programme what will allow women who are victims of domestic abuse, homelessness and substance abuse. This will help the 1.8 women who are economically inactive due to circumstances at home, as the government estimates that 9 out of 10 people returning back to work are women.⁴⁸⁰⁵ The grant will help organizations that support employers who will support returners to the workplace.

On 8 February 2019, the UK government released new guidance on how to help corporations understand and solve the gender pay gap. The Government has provided guidelines for all businesses with over 250 employees to submit their reports.⁴⁸⁰⁶

On 26 February 2019, Elysia McCaffrey, Head of Women in Business Division at the Government Equalities Office made a speech at the CEDAW Committee to promote gender equality in the business sphere.⁴⁸⁰⁷

On 1 March 2019, the UK government released guidance for employers to make better policies for a family friendly office in efforts to close the gender pay gap.⁴⁸⁰⁸

On 5 March 2019, the UK government announced a pilot programme funded by the College of Policing and the Government Equalities Office, which will start advertising for full time investigative roles in nine force areas.⁴⁸⁰⁹ This initiative will target people who are looking to return back to work

⁴⁸⁰² Government Equalities Office to Join Cabinet Office, GOV.UK (London), 16 November 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/government-equalities-office-to-join-cabinet-office>.

⁴⁸⁰³ Penny Mordaunt's New Mission for Government Equalities Office, GOV.UK (London), 21 November 2018. Access Date: 8 December 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/penny-mordaunts-new-mission-for-government-equalities-office>.

⁴⁸⁰⁴ Gender pay gap: employers' action and understanding, GOV.UK (London), 21 February 2019, Access date: 2 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gender-pay-gap-employers-action-and-understanding>.

⁴⁸⁰⁵ Mordaunt launches fund to help isolated and marginalized women return to work, GOV.UK (London), 7 February 2019, Access Date: 2 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mordaunt-launches-fund-to-help-isolated-and-marginalised-women-return-to-work>.

⁴⁸⁰⁶ New guidance to help employers close the gender pay gap, GOV.UK (London), 8 February 2019, Access Date: 2 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-guidance-to-help-employers-close-gender-pay-gap>.

⁴⁸⁰⁷ Opening Statement to CEDAW Committee, GOV.UK (London), 27 February 2019, Access Date: 2 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/opening-statement-to-cedaw-committee>.

⁴⁸⁰⁸ Family Friendly Policies: actions for employers, GOV.UK (London), 1 March 2019, Access Date: 2 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/family-friendly-policies-actions-for-employers>.

⁴⁸⁰⁹ Government pilot to help parents and carers return to policing, GOV.UK (London) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 18 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-pilot-to-help-parents-and-carers-return-to-policing>.

after leaving the force to start a family, or care for a relative or a friend.⁴⁸¹⁰ The Minister for Women and Equalities Penny Mordaunt stated, “in the UK, nine out of ten potential returners to work are women.⁴⁸¹¹ By taking action we are supporting our police service while also achieving true gender equality in our workplaces.”⁴⁸¹² This initiative will equip all the returners with the necessary skills, training and confidence.⁴⁸¹³

On 8 March 2019, Employment Minister Alok Sharma announced the Future Skills project, which aims to “support women into work with skills-based training and work experience in its charity shops.”⁴⁸¹⁴ Minister Sharma stated that the partnership with Oxfam would “help women in or at risk of poverty into well paid, and secure work.”⁴⁸¹⁵

On 8 March 2019, Ministers across the Department for Transport wrote to industry leaders in the transportation sector calling on them to create more employment opportunities for women to join the sector.⁴⁸¹⁶ The Department of Transport also announced a round-table, which would look at barriers preventing women from joining the sector.⁴⁸¹⁷

On 8 March 2019, the British High Commission in Singapore committed to a new #GenderPledge “to raise awareness about the ways that organisations, businesses and even individuals can incorporate gender equality and women’s empowerment into the way that they operate.”⁴⁸¹⁸ The UK government committed to working alongside organizations to promote better workplace culture and hiring practices for women.⁴⁸¹⁹

⁴⁸¹⁰ Government pilot to help parents and carers return to policing, GOV.UK (London) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 18 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-pilot-to-help-parents-and-carers-return-to-policing>.

⁴⁸¹¹ Government pilot to help parents and carers return to policing, GOV.UK (London) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 18 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-pilot-to-help-parents-and-carers-return-to-policing>.

⁴⁸¹² Government pilot to help parents and carers return to policing, GOV.UK (London) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 18 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-pilot-to-help-parents-and-carers-return-to-policing>.

⁴⁸¹³ Government pilot to help parents and carers return to policing, GOV.UK (London) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-pilot-to-help-parents-and-carers-return-to-policing>.

⁴⁸¹⁴ Alok Sharma: 'There is still an urgency for us to act' on women’s economic independence, GOV.UK (London) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/alok-sharma-there-is-still-an-urgency-for-us-to-act-on-women-s-economic-independence>.

⁴⁸¹⁵ Alok Sharma: 'There is still an urgency for us to act' on women’s economic independence, GOV.UK (London) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/alok-sharma-there-is-still-an-urgency-for-us-to-act-on-women-s-economic-independence>.

⁴⁸¹⁶ Transport ministers call on industry to become leaders in gender equality, GOV.UK (London) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/transport-ministers-call-on-industry-to-become-leaders-in-gender-equality>.

⁴⁸¹⁷ Transport ministers call on industry to become leaders in gender equality, GOV.UK (London) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/transport-ministers-call-on-industry-to-become-leaders-in-gender-equality>.

⁴⁸¹⁸ Singapore: UK commits to a #GenderPledge on International Women's Day 2019, GOV.UK (London) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-british-high-commission-singapore-commits-to-a-genderpledge-on-international-womens-day-2019>.

⁴⁸¹⁹ Singapore: UK commits to a #GenderPledge on International Women's Day 2019, GOV.UK (London) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-british-high-commission-singapore-commits-to-a-genderpledge-on-international-womens-day-2019>.

On 8 March 2019, Business Secretary Greg Clark announced GBP50,000 in funding to nine women innovators for inventions with global potential.⁴⁸²⁰ This initiative aims to assist women in growing their business, while providing coaching and mentorship.⁴⁸²¹

On 8 March 2019, Maritime Minister Nusrat Ghani announced funding of GBP100,000 for 1851 Trust, which will support ten roadshows around the UK where girls can speak to women working in the maritime sector about this industry.⁴⁸²² This initiative aims to increase the number of women entering the field of STEM and to address gender imbalance in the maritime sector.⁴⁸²³

On 22 March 2019, the 63rd session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women finished in New York with the UK government pledging to “safeguard and improve women’s access to social protection systems, public services and sustainable infrastructure” for women and girls.⁴⁸²⁴

On 28 May 2019, on Menstrual Hygiene Day, Minister for Women and Equalities Penny Mordaunt announced a new Period Poverty task force that will be co-chaired by Plan International UK and Proctor and Gamble.⁴⁸²⁵ The taskforce will work alongside charities and businesses to fight period poverty in the UK.⁴⁸²⁶ The taskforce will continue the work of the government, who has made period products free in schools, hospitals and police custody.⁴⁸²⁷ This is part of the government’s commitment to ensure that no woman or girl misses school as a result of menstruation.⁴⁸²⁸

The UK has fully complied with its commitment to support gender equality in labour market opportunities and to support gender equality in the distribution of unpaid care work by developing different programs to ensure women can return to work, making multiple investments in women’s equality at home and internationally, and working to find gender parity in the boardrooms of the private sector.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Isha Chaudhuri

⁴⁸²⁰ 9 women innovators get government backing for inventions with global potential, GOV.UK (London) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/9-women-innovators-get-government-backing-for-inventions-with-global-potential>.

⁴⁸²¹ 9 women innovators get government backing for inventions with global potential, GOV.UK (London) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/9-women-innovators-get-government-backing-for-inventions-with-global-potential>.

⁴⁸²² New funding to support young women into maritime careers, GOV.UK (London) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funding-to-support-young-women-into-maritime-careers>.

⁴⁸²³ New funding to support young women into maritime careers, GOV.UK (London) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funding-to-support-young-women-into-maritime-careers>.

⁴⁸²⁴ UN Commission on the Status of Women delivers roadmap on ensuring women’s social protection, mobility, safety, and access to economic opportunities, UN Women (New York) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/3/press-release-csw-63-delivers-roadmap-on-ensuring-womens-social-protection>.

⁴⁸²⁵ Period Poverty Taskforce - Minister announces next steps on Menstrual Hygiene Day, GOV.UK (London) 28 May 2019. Access Date: 18 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/period-poverty-taskforce-minister-announces-next-steps-on-menstrual-hygiene-day>.

⁴⁸²⁶ Period Poverty Taskforce - Minister announces next steps on Menstrual Hygiene Day, GOV.UK (London) 28 May 2019. Access Date: 18 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/period-poverty-taskforce-minister-announces-next-steps-on-menstrual-hygiene-day>.

⁴⁸²⁷ Period Poverty Taskforce - Minister announces next steps on Menstrual Hygiene Day, GOV.UK (London) 28 May 2019. Access Date: 18 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/period-poverty-taskforce-minister-announces-next-steps-on-menstrual-hygiene-day>.

⁴⁸²⁸ Period Poverty Taskforce - Minister announces next steps on Menstrual Hygiene Day, GOV.UK (London) 28 May 2019. Access Date: 18 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/period-poverty-taskforce-minister-announces-next-steps-on-menstrual-hygiene-day>.

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to support gender equality in labour market opportunities and in the distribution of unpaid care work, with measures such as paid maternity leave and parental leave, as well as initiatives to ensure women's equal access to decent employment opportunities, leadership opportunities, resources and finance.

On 28 June 2018, the House of Representatives introduced the Better Pay and Lifetime Earnings for Teenage Girls through Adulthood Act, which proposed to direct the Secretary of Labor to report to Congress on the gender pay gap in the teenage labour force.⁴⁸²⁹ The act instructs to examine the teenage gender pay gap in informal work experience as well as formal.⁴⁸³⁰

On 19 July 2018, the Senate introduced the Women's Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act of 2018, later referred at the Committee on Foreign Relations, which proposed to improve activities and programs relating to women's entrepreneurship and economic empowerment carried out by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).⁴⁸³¹ The act, first introduced in April 2018, specifies measures to fund micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises owned by women and to promote the economic empowerment of women including but not limited to increased access to financial resources, improved property and inheritance rights, and other legal protections.⁴⁸³²

On 6 September 2018, the Senate introduced the Paid Family Leave Pilot Extension Act of 2018, which amends the Internal Revenue Code to extend the tax credit for employers who provide paid family and medical leave to their employees until 2022.⁴⁸³³ It also proposed a study to determine the effectiveness of the tax credit for paid family leave and provide suggestions for ways the federal and state governments could increase access to paid family leave.⁴⁸³⁴

On 26 September 2018, the Department of Labor awarded approximately USD1.5 million in Women in Apprenticeship and Nontraditional Occupations grants to help women enter apprenticeships and expand job opportunities in fields such as manufacturing, infrastructure, cybersecurity, and more.⁴⁸³⁵

On 2 October 2018, the House of Representatives introduced the Women's Pension Protection Act of 2018, later referred at the Committee on Education and the Workforce as well as the Committee

⁴⁸²⁹ H.R.6284: Better Pay and Lifetime Earnings for Teenage Girls through Adulthood Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 28 June 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/6284/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22women%22%5D%7D&r=41>.

⁴⁸³⁰ H.R.6284: Better Pay and Lifetime Earnings for Teenage Girls through Adulthood Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 28 June 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/6284/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22women%22%5D%7D&r=41>.

⁴⁸³¹ S.3247: Women's Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act of 2018, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 19 July 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3247/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22women%22%7D&r=33>.

⁴⁸³² S.3247: Women's Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act of 2018, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 19 July 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3247/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22women%22%7D&r=33>.

⁴⁸³³ S.3412: Paid Family Leave Pilot Extension Act of 2018, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 6 September 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3412/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22paid+family+leave%22%5D%7D&r=1>.

⁴⁸³⁴ S.3412: Paid Family Leave Pilot Extension Act of 2018, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 6 September 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3412/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22paid+family+leave%22%5D%7D&r=1>.

⁴⁸³⁵ News Release: U.S. Department of Labor Awards Nearly \$1.5 Million to Help American Women Enter Apprenticeships, Expand Job Opportunities, Women's Bureau (Washington D.C.) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/wb/wb20180926>.

on Financial Services.⁴⁸³⁶ The act proposed to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to provide for greater spousal protection.⁴⁸³⁷ The act intends to better protect women's retirement security and provide tools for women to prepare for retirement, and also motions to provide grants to promote financial literacy for women.⁴⁸³⁸

On 19 October 2018, House of Representatives referred the Family Leave Modernization Act to the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections.⁴⁸³⁹ The act, first introduced in June 2018, amends the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to expand the categories of permitted leave to care for someone who has a serious health condition, and to allow employees to take parental involvement to leave to attend or participate in their children's and grandchildren's educational and extracurricular activities.⁴⁸⁴⁰

On 26 October 2018, the House of Representatives introduced the Minority Women in STEM Inclusion Act, which proposed to direct the Administrators of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Science Foundation to produce a report on the efforts to support minority women involvement in fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).⁴⁸⁴¹ The act instructs to consider scholarship, internships, and other types of support for minority women as well as resources to ensure their participation in programs sponsored by both agencies.⁴⁸⁴²

On 31 October 2018, the Study of Underrepresented Classes Chasing Engineering and Science Success Act of 2018, also known as the SUCCESS Act came into effect.⁴⁸⁴³ The law provides recommendations on promoting participation in entrepreneurship activities and the patent system by women, minorities, and veterans.⁴⁸⁴⁴

On 13 November 2018, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure amended the Promoting Women in the Aviation Workforce Act, which proposed to create opportunities for

⁴⁸³⁶ S.3436: Women's Pension Protection Act of 2018, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 12 September 2018.

Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3436/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22women%22%5D%7D&r=20>.

⁴⁸³⁷ S.3436: Women's Pension Protection Act of 2018, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 12 September 2018.

Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3436/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22women%22%5D%7D&r=20>.

⁴⁸³⁸ Women's Pension Protection Act Summary, U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor & Pensions (Washington D.C.) 12 September 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018.

<https://www.help.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/WPPA%202018%20Summary%20final.pdf>.

⁴⁸³⁹ H.R.6098: Family Medical Leave Modernization Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/6098/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22paid+leave%22%5D%7D&r=10>.

⁴⁸⁴⁰ H.R.6098: Family Medical Leave Modernization Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 19 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/6098/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22paid+leave%22%5D%7D&r=10>.

⁴⁸⁴¹ H.R.7092: Minority Women in STEM Inclusion Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/7092/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22women%22%5D%7D&r=15>.

⁴⁸⁴² H.R.7092: Minority Women in STEM Inclusion Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/7092/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22women%22%5D%7D&r=15>

⁴⁸⁴³ H.R.6758: SUCCESS Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/6758/actions?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22women%22%5D%7D&r=21>.

⁴⁸⁴⁴ H.R.6758: SUCCESS Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/6758/actions?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22women%22%5D%7D&r=21>.

women in the aviation industry.⁴⁸⁴⁵ The act, first introduced in December 2017, directs the Federal Aviation Administration to create and facilitate an advisory board to promote programs and organizations that provide education, training, mentorship, outreach, and recruitment of women into the aviation industry.⁴⁸⁴⁶

On 11 December 2018, President Donald Trump signed the Women in Aerospace Education Act into law.⁴⁸⁴⁷ The act amends the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 to strengthen the aerospace workforce pipeline by permitting certain grants to be used to provide internships and fellowships to women in the fields of aeronautics and space.⁴⁸⁴⁸

On 13 December 2018, the House of Representatives introduced the Ronald V. Dellums Memorial Fellowship for Women of Color in STEAM and National Security Act, which proposed to direct the Secretary of Defense to create a scholarship and internship program with the intended purpose of supporting the academic careers of women of colour in science, technology, engineering and mathematics and creating a pipeline to careers in national security.⁴⁸⁴⁹

On 16 January 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the STEM Research and Education Effectiveness and Transparency Act, later referred to the Subcommittee on Research and Technology, which directs the National Science Foundation to report on the effectiveness of its programs to broaden the participation of women and other historically marginalized groups in careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.⁴⁸⁵⁰

On 25 January 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the Patriot Employer Act of 2019, which proposed to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a business-related tax credit to Patriot employers.⁴⁸⁵¹ Among other criteria, a Patriot employer would be required to provide employees with paid sick leave or paid family and medical leave.⁴⁸⁵²

On 7 February 2019, President Trump signed the National Security Presidential Memorandum, launching the Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative, which focuses on promoting

⁴⁸⁴⁵ H.R.4673: Promoting Women in the Aviation Workforce Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/4673?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22women%22%5D%7D&r=23>.

⁴⁸⁴⁶ H.R.4673: Promoting Women in the Aviation Workforce Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 13 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/4673?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22women%22%5D%7D&r=23>.

⁴⁸⁴⁷ H.R.4252: Women in Aerospace Education Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/4254/actions?r=1>.

⁴⁸⁴⁸ H.R.4252: Women in Aerospace Education Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/4254/actions?r=1>.

⁴⁸⁴⁹ H.R.7037: Ronald V. Dellums Fellowship for Women of Color in STEAM and National Security Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/7307/text?r=26&s=1>.

⁴⁸⁵⁰ H.R.627: STEM Research and Education Effectiveness and Transparency Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/627?s=1&r=510>.

⁴⁸⁵¹ H.R.802: Patriot Employer Act of 2019, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/802>.

⁴⁸⁵² H.R.802: Patriot Employer Act of 2019, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/802>.

efforts to support women entrepreneurs.⁴⁸⁵³ This initiative aims to provide educational opportunities, financial support and mentorship opportunities for 50 million women by 2025.⁴⁸⁵⁴

On 13 February 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the FAMILY Act or Family and Medical Insurance Leave Act, which proposed to provide paid family and medical leave benefits such as the establishment of the Federal Family and Medical Leave Insurance Trust Fund.⁴⁸⁵⁵ The act explicitly states it has a secondary purpose of addressing sex discrimination and promoting the goal of equal employment opportunities for women and men through this paid leave.⁴⁸⁵⁶

On 15 February 2019, President Trump signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2019 into law, which provides full-year funding for certain activities of federal government agencies throughout the 2019 fiscal year.⁴⁸⁵⁷ The act includes USD50 million in funding for foreign aid programs increasing leadership opportunities for women in public and private sectors at the local, provincial and national levels. It also allocated USD265 million to support the development of “micro- and small enterprises that benefit the poor, especially women.”⁴⁸⁵⁸

On 11 March 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the Building Blocks of STEM Act, which directs the National Science Foundation (NSF) to support STEM education research specifically focused on early childhood, with the additional purpose of improving participation of women in STEM fields.⁴⁸⁵⁹ The act allows for the NSF to conduct research towards supporting female students in pre-kindergarten through elementary school and directs funds towards computer science education for female students of the same age.⁴⁸⁶⁰

On 27 March 2019, the House of Representatives passed and the Senate received the Paycheck Fairness Act, first introduced in January 2019, which amends the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to those discriminated in the payment of wages on the basis of sex.⁴⁸⁶¹ The act provides measures for enhanced enforcement of equal pay requirements and establishes a grant program for negotiation skills training programs for women and girls.⁴⁸⁶²

On 10 April 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the Fair and Equal Treatment of Women in the Coast Guard Act, which proposed to direct the Coast Guard to report on efforts to

⁴⁸⁵³ Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative, The White House (Washington, DC) 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wgdp/>.

⁴⁸⁵⁴ Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative, The White House (Washington, DC) 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wgdp/>.

⁴⁸⁵⁵ H.R.1185: FAMILY Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1185>.

⁴⁸⁵⁶ H.R.1185: FAMILY Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1185>.

⁴⁸⁵⁷ President Donald J. Trump Signed H.J.Res. 31 into Law, White House (Washington D.C.) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/president-donald-j-trump-signed-h-j-res-31-law/>.

⁴⁸⁵⁸ H.J.Res.31, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-joint-resolution/31/text>.

⁴⁸⁵⁹ H.R.1665: Building Blocks of STEM Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1665>.

⁴⁸⁶⁰ H.R.1665: Building Blocks of STEM Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1665>.

⁴⁸⁶¹ H.R.7: Paycheck Fairness Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/7/text>.

⁴⁸⁶² H.R.7: Paycheck Fairness Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/7/text>.

increase gender diversity, including a discussion on parental leave during the period covered by the report.⁴⁸⁶³

On 7 May 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the STEM Opportunities Act of 2019, which proposed to direct the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to conduct programs to ensure that institutions of higher education receiving federal funding and federal science agencies are fully engaging their whole talent pool by promoting research on, raising awareness, implementing best practices, and providing grants for the purpose of increasing participation of women and minorities in the STEM fields.⁴⁸⁶⁴

On 14 May 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, which proposed to promote women's economic security and eliminate discrimination by ensuring reasonable accommodations for workers whose ability to perform is limited by pregnancy, childbirth, or any related medical condition.⁴⁸⁶⁵ The act outlines the definition of discrimination and proposes methods to enforce this based on amending the Civil Rights Act of 1964.⁴⁸⁶⁶

On 20 May 2019, the House of Representatives passed the Digital Global Access Policy Act of 2019, also known as the Digital GAP Act⁴⁸⁶⁷ which was later referred to the Senate's Committee on Foreign Relations.⁴⁸⁶⁷ The act directs the Department of State, USAID and the Peace Corps to promote internet access in developing countries and update foreign policy towards the internet, and specifies the promotion of "programs that address social norms and barriers to women's active participation in the digital economy."⁴⁸⁶⁸

On 20 May 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2020, which outlines the appropriations for the aforementioned programs in the 2020 fiscal year.⁴⁸⁶⁹ The act includes some of the same foreign aid funding commitments as the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2019, such as USD50 million for increasing leadership opportunities for women and USD265 million for small businesses that benefit women.⁴⁸⁷⁰

On 22 May 2019, the Senate introduced the Deborah Sampson Act, which directs the Department of Veterans Affairs to improve the benefits and services offered to women veterans, including the allocation of USD20 million towards organizations that provide assistance to women veterans and

⁴⁸⁶³ H.R.2276: Fair and Equal Treatment of Women in the Coast Guard Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2276>.

⁴⁸⁶⁴ H.R.2276: Fair and Equal Treatment of Women in the Coast Guard Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2276>.

⁴⁸⁶⁵ H.R.2694: Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 14 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2694>.

⁴⁸⁶⁶ H.R.2694: Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 14 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2694>.

⁴⁸⁶⁷ H.R.1359: Digital GAP Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 20 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1359>.

⁴⁸⁶⁸ H.R.1359: Digital GAP Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 20 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1359>.

⁴⁸⁶⁹ H.R.2839: Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2020, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 20 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2839>.

⁴⁸⁷⁰ H.R.2839: Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2020, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 20 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2839>.

the establishment of a partnership with a non-governmental organization to provide legal services for women veterans.⁴⁸⁷¹

The US has fully complied with its commitment to support gender equality in labour market opportunities and in the distribution of unpaid care work, as well as initiatives to ensure women's equal access to decent employment opportunities, leadership opportunities, resources and finance.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kiyala Amos-Flom

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to support gender equality in labour market opportunities and in the distribution of unpaid care work, with measures such as paid maternity leave and parental leave, as well as initiatives to ensure women's equal access to decent employment opportunities, leadership opportunities, resources and finance.

On 19 June 2018, the EU hosted the Digital4Her Conference.⁴⁸⁷² During the conference, an online database was launched titled "European Network for Women in Digital," which aims to bring together organizations to create a network that increases women's participation in the digital sector and digital studies.⁴⁸⁷³ In addition, "20 IT companies co-signed a declaration committing to provide an inclusive and gender-balanced work culture and environment."⁴⁸⁷⁴ The declaration states that signatories should be committed to making top-level positions open to women and to "promote a female-friendly corporate culture, to implement recruitment and human resources business policies fully aware of the importance to invest in women, make senior management and top positions ... concretely accessible to women and identify potential female leaders and train them to develop their strengths and play high-level roles in the company."⁴⁸⁷⁵

On 27 September 2018, the EU and the United Nations renewed their partnership to help them achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.⁴⁸⁷⁶ The partnership concerns five areas in particular, one of which includes "Promoting gender equality, including plans of action for women's and girls' empowerment at the country level."⁴⁸⁷⁷ The partnership emphasizes women's empowerment in economic participation.⁴⁸⁷⁸

⁴⁸⁷¹ S.514: Deborah Sampson Act, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 22 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/514>.

⁴⁸⁷² Women in Digital, European Commission (Brussels) 9 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/women-ict>.

⁴⁸⁷³ Women in Digital, European Commission (Brussels) 9 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/women-ict>.

⁴⁸⁷⁴ Women in Digital, European Commission (Brussels) 9 October 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/women-ict>.

⁴⁸⁷⁵ CEOs of tech companies sign declaration committing to gender balanced work culture, European Commission (Brussels) 26 June 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/ceos-tech-companies-sign-declaration-committing-gender-balanced-work-culture>.

⁴⁸⁷⁶ Joint Communiqué between the European Union and the United Nations: A renewed partnership in development, European Commission (New York) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-5927_en.htm.

⁴⁸⁷⁷ Joint Communiqué between the European Union and the United Nations: A renewed partnership in development, European Commission (New York) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-5927_en.htm.

⁴⁸⁷⁸ Joint Communiqué between the European Union and the United Nations: A renewed partnership in development, European Commission (New York) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-5927_en.htm.

On 26 October 2018, the First Vice-President Frans Timmermans, Commissioner Marianne Thyssen and Commissioner Věra Jourová released a statement that urged the European Parliament and the Member States in the Council to push forward proposals such as the work-life balance legislation that had previously been tabled.⁴⁸⁷⁹ This legislation intends to make paid parental leave a non-transferrable equal right and “increase the participation of women in the labour market.”⁴⁸⁸⁰

On 6 November 2018, the EU pledged EUR26 million at the Global Financing Facility replenishment event in Oslo, Norway.⁴⁸⁸¹ The Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven Mimica stated that the EUR26 million would help give “women, children and adolescents, especially the most vulnerable, better access to comprehensive maternal health services.”⁴⁸⁸²

On 10 December 2018, the EU Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society Mariya Gabriel launched an annual scoreboard called the Women in Digital scoreboard to “monitor women’s participation in the digital economy.”⁴⁸⁸³ The scoreboard will assess women’s inclusion in digital jobs, careers and entrepreneurship based on 13 indicators.⁴⁸⁸⁴

On 18 December 2018, the EU announced a new project under the Strategic Investment and Job, which is one of the four key focus areas of the Africa-Europe Alliance.⁴⁸⁸⁵ The project “will use worth [EUR]75 million of EU funds to leverage up to [EUR]750 million of investments for entrepreneurs in Sub-Saharan Africa and the EU’s southern neighbourhood.”⁴⁸⁸⁶ This project is expected to create 800,000 jobs for groups that generally struggle to access affordable loans including refugees, internally displaced people, returnees, young people and women.⁴⁸⁸⁷

On 24 January 2019, the European Parliament and the Council reached a provisional agreement on the European Commission’s proposal for a directive on work-life balance for parents and carers.⁴⁸⁸⁸ This directive is a “key deliverable” of the European Pillar of Social Rights and it is expected to help

⁴⁸⁷⁹ Equal Pay Day: Statement by First Vice-President Frans Timmermans and Commissioners Marianne Thyssen and Vera Jourová, European Commission (Brussels) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018.

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-6184_en.htm.

⁴⁸⁸⁰ Equal Pay Day: Statement by First Vice-President Frans Timmermans and Commissioners Marianne Thyssen and Vera Jourová, European Commission (Brussels) 26 October 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018.

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-6184_en.htm.

⁴⁸⁸¹ EU contributes €26 million to improve women, children and adolescents' health around the world, European Commission (Oslo) 6 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6288_en.htm.

⁴⁸⁸² EU contributes €26 million to improve women, children and adolescents' health around the world, European Commission (Oslo) 6 November 2018. Access Date: 7 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6288_en.htm.

⁴⁸⁸³ New scoreboard shows that participation of women in the EU digital economy still lags behind, European Commission (Osio) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 20 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6741_en.htm.

⁴⁸⁸⁴ New scoreboard shows that participation of women in the EU digital economy still lags behind, European Commission (Osio) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 20 December 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6741_en.htm.

⁴⁸⁸⁵ Africa-Europe Alliance: first projects kicked off just three months after launch, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6804_en.htm.

⁴⁸⁸⁶ Africa-Europe Alliance: first projects kicked off just three months after launch, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6804_en.htm.

⁴⁸⁸⁷ Africa-Europe Alliance: first projects kicked off just three months after launch, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6804_en.htm.

⁴⁸⁸⁸ Work-Life Balance: Commission welcomes the provisional agreement reached today, European Commission (Brussels) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-424_en.htm.

close the gender employment gap.⁴⁸⁸⁹ The agreement sets a minimum standard of ten days of paternity leave which is compensated at the level of a sick pay.⁴⁸⁹⁰ It also “strengthens the existing right to [four] months of parental leave, by making [two] months non-transferable between parents and introducing compensation for these [two] months at a level to be determined by the Member States.”⁴⁸⁹¹ The right of parents or carers to request flexible working arrangements has also been strengthened.⁴⁸⁹²

On 9 April 2019, European Commission Vice-President Andrus Ansip, Commissioners Tibor Navracsics, Phil Hogan and Mariya Gabriel welcomed the commitments from participating Ministers and representatives of the EU to cooperate on the digitalization of cultural heritage, digitalization of agricultural and rural areas, and promoting greater participation of women in digital.⁴⁸⁹³ The Declaration to increase women’s visibility and empowerment in the digital economy was signed by 26 European countries, “24 Member States pledged to pool efforts and resources for a smart and sustainable future for European agriculture and rural areas, and 24 European countries opted for closer cooperation in digitising cultural heritage.”⁴⁸⁹⁴

On 12 April 2019, the Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven Mimica signed an agreement that “makes available EUR4.2 million under the External Investment Plan to help banks in Africa and the European Neighbourhood to better assist underfinanced sectors such as small businesses, including young entrepreneurs and women.”⁴⁸⁹⁵ This assistance program will be implemented by the International Finance Corporation and is expected to support 50,000 small businesses and create up to 200,000 jobs.⁴⁸⁹⁶

On 17 April 2019, the European Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean set out a bi-regional partnership focused on trade, investment and sectoral cooperation in a joint commission.⁴⁸⁹⁷ This partnership is focused on four priorities, which are underpinned by EU engagement and initiatives with the region of Latin America and the Caribbean.⁴⁸⁹⁸ The priorities include reducing

⁴⁸⁸⁹ Work-Life Balance: Commission welcomes the provisional agreement reached today, European Commission (Brussels) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-424_en.htm.

⁴⁸⁹⁰ Work-Life Balance: Commission welcomes the provisional agreement reached today, European Commission (Brussels) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-424_en.htm.

⁴⁸⁹¹ Work-Life Balance: Commission welcomes the provisional agreement reached today, European Commission (Brussels) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-424_en.htm.

⁴⁸⁹² Work-Life Balance: Commission welcomes the provisional agreement reached today, European Commission (Brussels) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-424_en.htm.

⁴⁸⁹³ Joint Statement on Ensuring Europe’s Digital Future, European Commission (Brussels) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-2070_en.htm.

⁴⁸⁹⁴ Joint Statement on Ensuring Europe’s Digital Future, European Commission (Brussels) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-2070_en.htm.

⁴⁸⁹⁵ EU to facilitate financing for small businesses in Africa and the European Neighbourhood, European Commission (Brussels) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2112_en.htm.

⁴⁸⁹⁶ EU to facilitate financing for small businesses in Africa and the European Neighbourhood, European Commission (Brussels) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2112_en.htm.

⁴⁸⁹⁷ EU, Latin America and the Caribbean: Partnering for prosperity, democracy, resilience and global governance, European Commission (Brussels) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2137_en.htm.

⁴⁸⁹⁸ EU, Latin America and the Caribbean: Partnering for prosperity, democracy, resilience and global governance, European Commission (Brussels) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2137_en.htm.

socio-economic inequalities, partnering for democracy by strengthening gender equality and ensuring effective public institutions, improving biodiversity and climate resilience, and deepening cooperation on peace and security.⁴⁸⁹⁹

The EU has fully complied with its commitment to support gender equality in labour market opportunities and to support gender equality in the distribution of unpaid care work. The EU has taken steps to increase women's employment and educational participation in the digital sector, and to provide equal access to resources. The EU has also taken steps to increase gender equality in the distribution of unpaid care work.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Shamal Haider

⁴⁸⁹⁹ EU, Latin America and the Caribbean: Partnering for prosperity, democracy, resilience and global governance, European Commission (Brussels) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2137_en.htm.

20. Gender: Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Digital Contexts

“Mobilize the international community, including through working with] civil society [to develop strategies to improve prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based abuse, harassment and the threat of violence in digital contexts and learn lessons from current models of industry-government collaboration on emerging digital challenges.”

Charlevoix Commitment to End Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, Abuse and Harassment in Digital Contexts

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany	-1		
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
United Kingdom	-1		
United States	-1		
European Union		0	
Average		0	

Background

Looking at the inception of sexual and gender-based violence commitments, the G7 presidency in Japan began to highlight this issue. At the 2016 Ise Shima Summit, women’s economic empowerment was a priority, emphasizing the following three areas: empowering women and girls, including through capacity-building; promoting the active role of women in fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); and making concrete progress in the women, peace, and security agenda.⁴⁹⁰⁰

Occurring as part of Japan’s G7 summit cycle agenda, the G7 Forum for Dialogue with Women and the World Assembly for Women (WAW!), informed the leaders’ commitments to women’s equal rights, full and effective participation, equal pay for equal work, and equal opportunities for leadership, while calling for active engagement of the private sector, including through our efforts to promote the Women’s Empowerment Principles (WEPS) of UN Women.⁴⁹⁰¹ This summit also acknowledged the Sustainable Development Goals⁴⁹⁰² and called all states to support full implementation of the United Nations secretary general’s zero tolerance policy towards sexual exploitation and of the UN Security Council resolution 2272.⁴⁹⁰³

At the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, the G7 members pledged in the *Growth and Responsibility in the World Economy* document to “work to support additional concerted efforts to stop sexual exploitation

⁴⁹⁰⁰ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html#gender>.

⁴⁹⁰¹ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html#gender>.

⁴⁹⁰² About the Sustainable Development Goals, United Nations (New York) 1 January 2016. Access date: 3 September 2018. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/?auto=format>.

⁴⁹⁰³ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html#gender>.

and gender-based violence.”⁴⁹⁰⁴ This was the first mention in the G7 of sexual and gender-based violence specifically.

At the 2008 Hokkaido Toyako Summit, the G7 members in the *Leaders Declaration* agreed they “will promote gender equality and women’s empowerment as a principle in our development cooperation through mainstreaming and specific actions.”⁴⁹⁰⁵ This is a continuation of 2007 and notes how this cooperation is key for the industry.

At the 2009 L’Aquila Summit, the G7 members agreed in the *Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future* to “promote gender equality as a key issue for aid effectiveness and to reduce poverty.”⁴⁹⁰⁶ This again reaffirms the necessity for greater gender equality but is lacking the specificity of sexual and gender-based violence and its link to emerging economic challenges.

At the 2014 Brussels Summit, gender inequality was addressed at the end of the Leaders communique and still phrasing women’s issues as human rights, committing to the protection and promotion of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including religious freedom, for all persons.⁴⁹⁰⁷ While gender equality, the end to discrimination and violence against women and girls, forced marriage and their economic empowerment was mentioned, was promoted in the communique, no commitment was made by the Leaders to take action.⁴⁹⁰⁸

The 2015 Elmau Summit is where G7 members first linked gender-inequality to economic impact in their commitments to address women’s economic empowerment and the specific needs of female entrepreneurs.⁴⁹⁰⁹ At a time when technology affects every aspect of the economy, improving the prevention and response to sexual and gender-based abuse, harassment and the threat of violence has the potential to lower fear and allow more women and girls to feel comfortable enough to meaningfully participate in the global economy.

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, leaders adopted the *G7 Roadmap for a Gender-responsive Economic Environment*, committed to advancing gender equality under three main pillars: 1) Increasing women’s participation and leadership at all levels of decision-making; 2) Increasing women’s access to good quality jobs, and 3) Eliminating violence against women and girls.⁴⁹¹⁰ G7 members also produced the *Charlevoix Commitment to End Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, Abuse and Harassment in Digital Contexts*. Here G7 members reaffirmed their commitment to eliminating sexual and gender-based violence in all its forms with the intention of providing an environment that allows active participation in the economy and society.⁴⁹¹¹

⁴⁹⁰⁴ Heiligendamm Summit, G7 Information center 8 June 2007. Access Date: 2 October 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/index.html/>.

⁴⁹⁰⁵ Hokkaido Toyako Summit, G7 Information center 9 June 2008. Access Date: 2 October 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/index.html>.

⁴⁹⁰⁶ L’Aquila Summit, G7 Information center 10 July 2009. Access Date: 2 October 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/>.

⁴⁹⁰⁷ G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>.

⁴⁹⁰⁸ G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>.

⁴⁹⁰⁹ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

⁴⁹¹⁰ G7 Roadmap for a Gender-Responsive Economic Environment, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 27 May 2018. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/gender.html>.

⁴⁹¹¹ Charlevoix Commitment to End Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, Abuse and Harassment in Digital Contexts, G7 2018 Summit (Charlevoix) 13 June 2018. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <https://g7.gc.ca/en/official-documents/charlevoix-commitment-end-sexual-gender-based-violence-abuse-harassment-digital-contexts/>.

The *Charlevoix Commitment to End Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, Abuse and Harassment in Digital Contexts* is the first G7 document to address online gender-based violence. The document acknowledges the potential that technology has to eradicate gender inequality but is a response to the sexual and gender-based violence, abuse, cyber-bullying and harassment girls and women experience using it.⁴⁹¹²

Commitment Features

The G7 members committed to “mobilize the international community, including through working with] civil society [to develop strategies to improve prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based abuse, harassment and the threat of violence in digital contexts and learn lessons from current models of industry-government collaboration on emerging digital challenges.”

This commitment has one instrument and two welfare targets, which can be broken down further. The instrument is “to mobilize the international community, including through working with civil society to develop strategies” in order to achieve the welfare targets of 1) improving prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based abuse, harassment and the threat of violence in digital contexts; and 2) learning lessons from current models of industry-government collaboration on emerging digital challenges.

“Mobilize the international community” refers to actors outside of the G7 and specifically civil society. To mobilize means “to assemble or make ready.” Civil society includes nongovernmental organizations, academia, and religious communities but excludes the private sector.⁴⁹¹³ The international community is defined as “countries of the world considered or acting together as a group.

“To develop strategies” means to engage in a concerted effort through policy, summits, dialogues, bilateral meeting etc., for the G7 members to develop methods to improve prevention of and response to acts of sexual and gender-based abuse. These actions should not be solely limited to women and should be an act of equality that includes all gender-based violence.

In order to be found in full compliance, the welfare target must be fulfilled. The first welfare target states that the strategies should be developed “to improve the prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based abuse, harassment and the threat of violence in digital contexts.” To improve is defined as “to make or become better” or “produce something better than” (as improve upon).⁴⁹¹⁴ Prevention is defined as “the act of stopping something from happening or arising.” Response is “something constituting a reply or a reaction,” such as a reaction to sexual and gender violence through policy, programs, special action etc.

The actions of sexual and gender-based abuse, harassment and the threat of violence in digital contexts can be understood collectively, in the context of this commitment, through the definition of gender-based violence. Gender-based violence is defined as “violence perpetrated against someone based on their gender expression, gender identity or perceived gender.”⁴⁹¹⁵ This type of violence

⁴⁹¹² Charlevoix Commitment to End Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, Abuse and Harassment in Digital Contexts, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 3 September 2018.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/violence-commitment.html>.

⁴⁹¹³ Compliance Coding Manual, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 27 September 2017. Access Date: 3 September 2018. https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1wVDddUQmOQ9EwQ8STOn8xG20yj_X4RI2.

⁴⁹¹⁴ Compliance Coding Manual, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 27 September 2017. Access Date: 3 September 2018. https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1wVDddUQmOQ9EwQ8STOn8xG20yj_X4RI2.

⁴⁹¹⁵ Setting the Stage for a Federal Strategy Against Gender-Based Violence, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 4 November 2016. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <https://www.swc-cfc.gc.ca/violence/strategy-strategie/principe-principe-en.html?wbdisable=true>.

affects women and girls while most often impacting members of the LGBTQQI2S+ community.⁴⁹¹⁶ However, it is noted that the G7 refers to gender as a binary, male-female, concept, and has not acknowledged the LGBTQQI2S+ community.

In a digital context, technology-facilitated violence includes, but is not limited to: cyberstalking, non-consensual sharing or distribution of intimate photos and videos (“revenge porn”), harassment, hacking, denial-of-service attacks, the use of gender-based slurs, the publication of private and identifiable personal information (“doxing”), impersonation, extortion, rape and death threats, electronically enabled trafficking, and sexual exploitation or luring of minors.⁴⁹¹⁷

The second welfare target on “learn[ing] lessons from current models of industry-government collaboration on emerging digital challenges” can include meeting with the private sector, including those that own and operate the technologies facilitating violence against women and girls to determine solutions in the prevention and response to sexual and gender-based abuse and greater cyber-security.

Full compliance is achieved when a G7 member fully mobilized the international community, including civil society [so should mobilize civil society specifically for full compliance as its highlighted in the commitment] to develop strategies regarding gender-based violence online. The G7 member addressed all of one welfare target or most of both welfare targets.

Partial compliance is earned when the G7 members fulfill either fully mobilizing the international community, including the civil society to develop strategies OR the member addressed ALL of one welfare target OR most of both. Non-compliance occurs when the member did not mobilize the international community to develop strategies to improve prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based abuse, harassment and the threat of violence in digital contexts and learn lessons from current models of industry-government collaboration on emerging digital challenges.

Scoring Guidelines

Score	Description
-1	G7 member DID NOT fully mobilize the international community, including civil society to develop strategies regarding gender-based violence online NOR did the member address all of one welfare target or most of both welfare targets.
0	G7 member EITHER 1) fully mobilize the international community, including civil society to develop strategies regarding gender-based violence online OR 2) did the member address all of one welfare target OR 3) most of both welfare targets.
+1	G7 member fully mobilize the international community, including civil society to develop strategies regarding gender-based violence online AND address all of one welfare target or most of both welfare targets.

*Lead Analyst: Apanuba Mahmood
Compliance Director: Sarah Mariani*

⁴⁹¹⁶ Setting the Stage for a Federal Strategy Against Gender-Based Violence, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 4 November 2016. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <https://www.swc-cfc.gc.ca/violence/strategy-strategie/principe-principe-en.html?wbdisable=true>.

⁴⁹¹⁷ Submission of the Citizen Lab (Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto) to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, Ms. Dubravka Šimonović (Toronto) 2 November 2017. Access Date: 3 September 2018. <https://citizenlab.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Final-UNSRVAG-CitizenLab.pdf>.

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to mobilize the international community including through working with civil society to develop strategies to improve prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based abuse, harassment and the threat of violence in digital contexts and learn lessons from current models of industry-government collaboration on emerging digital challenges.

On 2 July 2018, Canada led the Human Rights Council into adopting the “Preventing and Responding to Violence Against Women and Girls in Digital Contexts” Resolution.⁴⁹¹⁸ The Canadian-led Resolution also condemned “the dissemination of content that promotes and reinforces violence against women and girls, which can result in the perpetual revictimization and re-traumatization of women and girls, given that a permanent digital record is created by content shared in digital contexts.”⁴⁹¹⁹ The resolution called on states to encourage digital technology companies to adopt policies “with a view to eliminating violence against women and girls, and to refrain from presenting women and girls as inferior beings and exploiting them as sexual objects and commodities, thereby empowering women and girls as key actors and contributors to and beneficiaries of sustainable development.”⁴⁹²⁰

On 3 July 2018, Canada introduced the Playbook for Gender Equality in the Digital Age. The playbook introduces a framework to counteract gender-based violence in a digital context through improving access and digital education. It also states the Canadian government’s objective of overcoming “sexist, patriarchal and discriminatory practices and deconstruct social and institutional barriers.”⁴⁹²¹ The playbook reflects discussions held at an online hate workshop in Ottawa, Canada and the Internet Governance Forum in Geneva.⁴⁹²²

On 25 November 2018, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau issued a statement on International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.⁴⁹²³ In it, Trudeau addressed the “need to change the culture that allows discrimination, harassment, and violence against women to continue in our communities,” referencing Canada’s actions at the United Nations and G7 summit to combat sexual and gender-based violence in digital contexts.⁴⁹²⁴

⁴⁹¹⁸ Human Rights Council Resolution 38, “Accelerating efforts to eliminate violence against women and girls: preventing and responding to violence against women and girls in digital contexts,” (Geneva) 2 July 2018. Access Date: 5 October 2018. ap.ohchr.org/documents/E/HRC/d_res_dec/A_HRC_38_L6.docx.

⁴⁹¹⁹ Human Rights Council Resolution 38, “Accelerating efforts to eliminate violence against women and girls: preventing and responding to violence against women and girls in digital contexts,” (Geneva) 2 July 2018. Access Date: 5 October 2018. ap.ohchr.org/documents/E/HRC/d_res_dec/A_HRC_38_L6.docx.

⁴⁹²⁰ Human Rights Council Resolution 38, “Accelerating efforts to eliminate violence against women and girls: preventing and responding to violence against women and girls in digital contexts,” (Geneva) 2 July 2018. Access Date: 5 October 2018. ap.ohchr.org/documents/E/HRC/d_res_dec/A_HRC_38_L6.docx.

⁴⁹²¹ Playbook for Gender Equality in the Digital Age (Ottawa) 11 July 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. http://international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/human_rights-droits_homme/playbook-manuel_instructions.aspx?lang=eng.

⁴⁹²² Playbook for Gender Equality in the Digital Age (Ottawa) 11 July 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2018. http://international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/human_rights-droits_homme/playbook-manuel_instructions.aspx?lang=eng.

⁴⁹²³ Statement by the Prime Minister on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (Ottawa) 25 November 2018. Access date: 23 December 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/11/25/statement-prime-minister-international-day-elimination-violence-against-women>.

⁴⁹²⁴ Statement by the Prime Minister on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (Ottawa) 25 November 2018. Access date: 23 December 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2018/11/25/statement-prime-minister-international-day-elimination-violence-against-women>.

On 3 December 2018, Canada announced up to CAD50 million in funding for programs to support survivors of gender-based violence, including those addressing violence in the digital context.⁴⁹²⁵

On 10 December 2018, the Ministry of Status of Women unveiled the Gender-Based Violence Knowledge Centre at an event held at Western University's Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women and Children.⁴⁹²⁶ The centre will coordinate federal actions under the three pillars of Canada's first-ever federal Strategy to Prevent and Address Gender-Based Violence: prevention, support for survivors and their families, and the promotion of responsive legal and justice systems.⁴⁹²⁷

Canada has fully mobilized the international community, including civil society to develop strategies regarding gender-based violence online in the creation of the Playbook, addressing most of both welfare targets.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Justin Douglas and Sarah Mariani

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to mobilize the international community including through working with civil society to develop strategies to improve prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based abuse, harassment and the threat of violence in digital contexts and learn lessons from current models of industry-government collaboration on emerging digital challenges.

On 5 July 2018, France voted for the Canada-led resolution on the “promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development.”⁴⁹²⁸ The resolution recognizes that violence against women and girls includes those which happen “in digital contexts.”⁴⁹²⁹ It also recognizes “the multi-jurisdictional and transnational nature of violence against women and girls in digital contexts”⁴⁹³⁰ and calls for “active cooperation among different actors, including States and their law enforcement and judicial authorities, and private actors with regards to detecting crimes, reporting them to competent authorities for

⁴⁹²⁵ Feds announce \$50M for programs across Canada to support survivors of gender-based violence (Halifax) 3 December 2018. Access date: 23 December 2018. <https://globalnews.ca/news/4723257/gender-based-violence-funding/>.

⁴⁹²⁶ Government of Canada launches Gender-Based Violence Knowledge Centre and announces critical research funding (Ottawa) 10 December 2018. Access date: 23 December 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-launches-gender-based-violence-knowledge-centre-and-announces-critical-research-funding-702350801.html>.

⁴⁹²⁷ Government of Canada launches Gender-Based Violence Knowledge Centre and announces critical research funding (Ottawa) 10 December 2018. Access date: 23 December 2018. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-launches-gender-based-violence-knowledge-centre-and-announces-critical-research-funding-702350801.html>.

⁴⁹²⁸ General Assembly resolution 38/5: Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development, UN Human Rights Council (Geneva) 5 July 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/38/L.6.

⁴⁹²⁹ General Assembly resolution 38/5: Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development, UN Human Rights Council (Geneva) 5 July 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/38/L.6.

⁴⁹³⁰ General Assembly resolution 38/5: Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development, UN Human Rights Council (Geneva) 5 July 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/38/L.6.

investigation, safeguarding electronic evidence of crimes and handing the evidence over to those authorities in a timely manner.”⁴⁹³¹

On 1 August 2018, France adopted new legislation regarding sexual violence, which “expands the criminal definition of child rape and outlaws sex harassment.”⁴⁹³² It classifies any sexual act by an adult with a child younger than 15 years of age as a sexual offence under the reason of “abuse of vulnerability.”⁴⁹³³ The bill newly outlaws cyberstalking and taking pictures or videos under someone’s clothes without consent, making it “punishable by up to one year in prison with a fine of EUR15,000 or USD17,533.”⁴⁹³⁴

On 13 September 2018, France launched the “Group of Friends” alongside Kenya and Israel to eliminate sexual harassment.⁴⁹³⁵ It is to serve as a platform for exchanges of ideas, initiatives, and best practices; these include “national frameworks, UN initiatives, and processes, but also about civil society initiatives and mechanisms created by private companies in particular who are also working as we speak on these issues.”⁴⁹³⁶

From 12 to 14 November 2018, France hosted “the Thirteenth Annual Meeting of the Internet Governance Forum”⁴⁹³⁷ alongside the Paris Peace Forum, which brought together “representatives from governments, the technical community, business, and civil society to discuss amplifying digital cooperation.”⁴⁹³⁸ The forum took the title “Internet of Trust.”⁴⁹³⁹ The forum called for a structured “public-private sector models”⁴⁹⁴⁰ and “multi-stakeholder cooperation”⁴⁹⁴¹ to address the issue of

⁴⁹³¹ General Assembly resolution 38/5: Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development, UN Human Rights Council (Geneva) 5 July 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/38/L.6.

⁴⁹³² French lawmakers approve fines for sex harassment on streets, ban on "upskirting," CBS News (New York) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/french-lawmakers-approve-fines-for-sex-harassment-on-streets-and-outlaw-upskirting-2018-08-01/>.

⁴⁹³³ French lawmakers approve fines for sex harassment on streets, ban on "upskirting," CBS News (New York) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/french-lawmakers-approve-fines-for-sex-harassment-on-streets-and-outlaw-upskirting-2018-08-01/>.

⁴⁹³⁴ French lawmakers approve fines for sex harassment on streets, ban on "upskirting," CBS News (New York) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/french-lawmakers-approve-fines-for-sex-harassment-on-streets-and-outlaw-upskirting-2018-08-01/>.

⁴⁹³⁵ Launch of the Group of Friends to Eliminate Sexual Harassment Introductory remarks by Mr. François Delattre, Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 13 September 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/Group-of-Friends-to-Eliminate-Sexual-Harassment>.

⁴⁹³⁶ Launch of the Group of Friends to Eliminate Sexual Harassment Introductory remarks by Mr. François Delattre, Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 13 September 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/Group-of-Friends-to-Eliminate-Sexual-Harassment>.

⁴⁹³⁷ IGF 2018, United Nations (Geneva). Access Date: 11 December 2018. <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/>.

⁴⁹³⁸ IGF 2018 Chair’s Summary, Thirteenth Meeting of Internet Governance Forum (Paris) 12-14 November 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018.

https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/index.php?q=filedepot_download/6212/1417.

⁴⁹³⁹ IGF 2018, United Nations (Geneva). Access Date: 11 December 2018. <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/>.

⁴⁹⁴⁰ IGF 2018 Messages — Human Rights, Gender, and Youth, Internet Governance Forum (Paris) 12-14 November 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018.

https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/index.php?q=filedepot_download/6037/1414.

⁴⁹⁴¹ IGF 2018 Messages — Human Rights, Gender, and Youth, Internet Governance Forum (Paris) 12-14 November 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018.

https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/index.php?q=filedepot_download/6037/1414.

“gender inequality”⁴⁹⁴² and “online risks.”⁴⁹⁴³ It also highlighted the need “to deepen understanding of emerging issues such as dataveillance, and algorithmic decision-making, and their influence in cyberspace through a gender and sexuality lens.”⁴⁹⁴⁴

On 20 November 2018, France and the Netherlands, mobilized the international community to produce “the first UN General Assembly resolution aimed at eliminating sexual harassment worldwide.”⁴⁹⁴⁵ The resolution “urges states to condemn violence against women and girls, and address structural and underlying causes of sexual harassment, notably by modifying social and cultural patterns.”⁴⁹⁴⁶

On 27 November 2018, French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe announced the launching of an online platform for reporting gender-based and sexual violence that allows “victims or witnesses of sexist violence to share information with authorities via their computers or mobile devices.”⁴⁹⁴⁷ This move allows better response and prevention of gender-based violence, including those within the digital context.

On 15 May 2019, France, alongside New Zealand, led a summit aimed at calling for countries and companies to pledge to clamp down on hateful content online.⁴⁹⁴⁸ The French President and New Zealand Prime Minister both advocated the need for tech companies to play a role in tackling the problem.⁴⁹⁴⁹ The attendees of the summit included Jack Dorsey, Brad Smith, representatives from Facebook, as well as Theresa May and Justin Trudeau. Although Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg was not present, it is worth noting he met with French President the previous week.⁴⁹⁵⁰

France has mobilized the international community, including through working with civil society to develop strategies to improve the prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based abuse, harassment and the threat of violence in digital contexts. It has learned lessons from current models

⁴⁹⁴² IGF 2018 Messages — Human Rights, Gender, and Youth, Internet Governance Forum (Paris) 12-14 November 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018.

https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/index.php?q=filedepot_download/6037/1414.

⁴⁹⁴³ IGF 2018 Messages — Human Rights, Gender, and Youth, Internet Governance Forum (Paris) 12-14 November 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018.

https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/index.php?q=filedepot_download/6037/1414.

⁴⁹⁴⁴ IGF 2018 Messages — Human Rights, Gender, and Youth, Internet Governance Forum (Paris) 12-14 November 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018.

https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/index.php?q=filedepot_download/6037/1414.

⁴⁹⁴⁵ United Nations — International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (25 November 2018), France Diplomatie (Paris) 25 November 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/events/events-2018/article/united-nations-international-day-for-the-elimination-of-violence-against-women>.

⁴⁹⁴⁶ Approving 9 Drafts, Third Committee Intensifies Fight against Fistula, Genital Mutilation, Sexual Harassment amid Debate over Peasants’ Rights, United Nations Meetings Coverage and Press Releases (New York). Access Date: 11 December 2018. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2018/gashc4255.doc.htm>.

⁴⁹⁴⁷ France Steps Up Fight Against Sexual Violence With Online Platform To Report Attacks, Le Huffington Post France (Paris) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018. https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/france-violence-against-women_us_5c0003f6e4b0864f4f6b17de.

⁴⁹⁴⁸ New Zealand and France unveil plans to tackle online extremism without the US on board, CNBC (Paris) 15 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.cnbcc.com/2019/05/15/new-zealand-france-unveil-plans-to-tackle-online-extremism-without-us.html>.

⁴⁹⁴⁹ New Zealand and France unveil plans to tackle online extremism without the US on board, CNBC (Paris) 15 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.cnbcc.com/2019/05/15/new-zealand-france-unveil-plans-to-tackle-online-extremism-without-us.html>.

⁴⁹⁵⁰ New Zealand and France unveil plans to tackle online extremism without the US on board, CNBC (Paris) 15 May 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.cnbcc.com/2019/05/15/new-zealand-france-unveil-plans-to-tackle-online-extremism-without-us.html>.

of industry-government collaboration on emerging digital challenges and supported internationally-led resolutions on the issue.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Priscilla Layarda

Germany: -1

Germany has failed to comply with its commitment to mobilize the international community including through working with civil society to develop strategies to improve prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based abuse, harassment and the threat of violence in digital contexts and learn lessons from current models of industry-government collaboration on emerging digital challenges.

On 5 July 2018, Germany voted for the Canada-led resolution on the “promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development.” The resolution recognizes that violence against women and girls includes those which happen “in digital contexts.”⁴⁹⁵¹ It also recognizes the multi-jurisdictional and transnational nature of violence against women and girls in digital contexts and calls for active cooperation among different actors.⁴⁹⁵² This includes states and their law enforcement or judicial authorities, private actors with regards to detecting crimes and reporting them to competent authorities for investigation, safeguarding electronic evidence of crimes and handing the evidence over to those authorities in a timely manner.⁴⁹⁵³

On 22 August 2018, the Digital Council, created by Chancellor Angela Merkel convened for the first time to “advise the German government on the important matter of digitalization.”⁴⁹⁵⁴ Members join together from the public sector, private sector, and academia as experts in a range of relevant disciplines physics, artificial intelligence, law, digital technologies, political sciences, public policy, and social data revolution.

On 6 June 2019, the Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA) in Germany launched multiple raids nationwide “as part of a crackdown on incitement crimes being spread on the internet.”⁴⁹⁵⁵ Most of the suspects are believed to have right-wing extremist agendas, while a handful are believed to have left-wing extremist and foreign religious agendas.⁴⁹⁵⁶

⁴⁹⁵¹ General Assembly resolution 38/5: Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development, UN Human Rights Council (Geneva) 5 July 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/38/L.6.

⁴⁹⁵² General Assembly resolution 38/5: Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development, UN Human Rights Council (Geneva) 5 July 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/38/L.6.

⁴⁹⁵³ General Assembly resolution 38/5: Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development, UN Human Rights Council (Geneva) 5 July 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/38/L.6.

⁴⁹⁵⁴ The Faces Behind the Digital Council, The Press and Information Office of the Federal Government (Berlin) 22 August 2018. Access Date: 21 October 2018. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-en/news/the-faces-behind-the-digital-council-1504894#Start>.

⁴⁹⁵⁵ Germany: Dozens of raids over online hate speech, DW (Berlin) 6 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-dozens-of-raids-over-online-hate-speech/a-49080109>.

⁴⁹⁵⁶ Germany: Dozens of raids over online hate speech, DW (Berlin) 6 June 2019. Access Date: 10 June 2019. <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-dozens-of-raids-over-online-hate-speech/a-49080109>.

Germany has taken some actions relevant to addressing the challenges of digitalization but has failed to improve the prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based abuse, harassment and threat of violence in the digital context.

Thus, Germany receives a score of -1.

Analyst: Priscilla Layarda

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to mobilize the international community including through working with civil society to develop strategies to improve prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based abuse, harassment and the threat of violence in digital contexts and learn lessons from current models of industry-government collaboration on emerging digital challenges.

On 25 July 2018, Italy took part in a project funded by the European Union titled “enhancing the quality and effectiveness of the Vocational Education and Training (VET) system” for the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Moldova.⁴⁹⁵⁷ The project sought to “contribute to the upgrade of the education system in Moldova in line with EU and Bologna process best practices and quality education principles.”⁴⁹⁵⁸ As such, the project’s intent to “advance gender equality,” as well as, “reduce discrimination and inequalities based on sex” were evaluated to maintain EU standards and the national legislation on Equal Opportunities between Women and Men.⁴⁹⁵⁹

On 26 September 2018, the Italian Development Cooperation Agency made a contribution of EUR1 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.⁴⁹⁶⁰ The contribution is intended to ensure Palestinian minors sheltered in Syria access to education through the provision of psycho-social support and the training of teachers and parents on issues of gender violence.⁴⁹⁶¹

On 25 November 2018, Italy, alongside other international actors including the United Nation and EU took on an active role in ending gender-based violence in Uganda by releasing a statement on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.⁴⁹⁶² Domenico Fornaro, the Ambassador of Italy to Uganda, was amongst speakers that recognized the need of a collective effort by “governments, civil society organizations, the private sector and the media”⁴⁹⁶³ in responding to

⁴⁹⁵⁷ Enhancing the quality and effectiveness of the Vocational Education and Training (VET) system, 25 July 2018. Access Date: 22 October 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/resource/.../2018/07/twinning_fiche.docx.

⁴⁹⁵⁸ Enhancing the quality and effectiveness of the Vocational Education and Training (VET) system, 25 July 2018. Access Date: 22 October 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/resource/.../2018/07/twinning_fiche.docx.

⁴⁹⁵⁹ Enhancing the quality and effectiveness of the Vocational Education and Training (VET) system, 25 July 2018. Access Date: 22 October 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/resource/.../2018/07/twinning_fiche.docx.

⁴⁹⁶⁰ Italy makes a contribution to support Palestinian refugees in Syria, (Rome) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 22 October 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2018/09/contributo-italiano-per-il-sostegno-ai-rifugiati-palestinesi-in-siria.html.

⁴⁹⁶¹ Italy makes a contribution to support Palestinian refugees in Syria, (Rome) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 22 October 2018. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2018/09/contributo-italiano-per-il-sostegno-ai-rifugiati-palestinesi-in-siria.html.

⁴⁹⁶² International Day for the elimination of violence against women, 25 November 2018. Access date: 12 December 2018. https://www.newvision.co.ug/new_vision/news/1490154/international-day-elimination-violence-women.

⁴⁹⁶³ International Day for the elimination of violence against women, 25 November 2018. Access date: 12 December 2018. https://www.newvision.co.ug/new_vision/news/1490154/international-day-elimination-violence-women.

gender-based violence. As such, Italy has implemented its commitment by “supporting programmes and campaigns to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls across Uganda.”⁴⁹⁶⁴

Italy has engaged with the international community to improve the prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based abuse, harassment and threat of violence through increased education. However, Italy has failed to seek out and learn lessons from current models of industry-government collaboration, including civil-society on emerging digital challenges.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Sakithyan Logabalandran

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to mobilize the international community including through working with civil society to develop strategies to improve prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based abuse, harassment and the threat of violence in digital contexts and learn lessons from current models of industry-government collaboration on emerging digital challenges.

On 19 June 2018, Japan, the European Union, and the United Nations Information Centre, organized a seminar on “eliminating violence against women and girls at home and abroad” in Minami-Azabu, Tokyo.⁴⁹⁶⁵ “Eliminating violence against women and girls, at home and abroad” was organized during the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.⁴⁹⁶⁶ Japanese government officials, including Minister of Justice for the Government of Japan Yoko Kamikawa, and Director of the Gender Mainstreaming Division, Foreign Policy Bureau within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Kyoko Hokugo, attended this seminar. The seminar took place on the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict and covered both international and domestic aspects of violence against women and girls from global, Japanese and European perspectives.⁴⁹⁶⁷

From 18 June 2018 to 6 July 2018, Japan attended the Human Rights Council’s 38th United Nations General Assembly as a member-state.⁴⁹⁶⁸ Japan commented in the panel discussion on violence against women and girls held during the full-day discussion on women’s human rights.⁴⁹⁶⁹ Japan confirmed the importance of a human rights perspective on the issue of digitally-mediated gender-

⁴⁹⁶⁴ International Day for the elimination of violence against women, 25 November 2018. Access date: 12 December 2018. https://www.newvision.co.ug/new_vision/news/1490154/international-day-elimination-violence-women.

⁴⁹⁶⁵ Seminar on "Eliminating violence against women and girls at home and abroad," Delegation of the European Union to Japan (Tokyo) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/japan/45471/seminar-eliminating-violence-against-women-and-girls-home-and-abroad_en.

⁴⁹⁶⁶ Seminar on "Eliminating violence against women and girls at home and abroad," Delegation of the European Union to Japan (Tokyo) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/japan/45471/seminar-eliminating-violence-against-women-and-girls-home-and-abroad_en.

⁴⁹⁶⁷ Seminar on "Eliminating violence against women and girls at home and abroad," Delegation of the European Union to Japan (Tokyo) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/japan/45471/seminar-eliminating-violence-against-women-and-girls-home-and-abroad_en.

⁴⁹⁶⁸ 38 Accelerating efforts to eliminate violence against women and girls: preventing and responding to violence against women and girls in digital contexts, United Nations General Assembly (Geneva) 2 July 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. <http://undocs.org/A/HRC/38/L.6>.

⁴⁹⁶⁹ Human Rights Council adopts 10 texts, requests a meeting on female genital mutilation and decides to hold a panel discussion on women and climate change, United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner (Geneva) 5 July 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018.

<https://www.ohchr.org/SP/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=23338&LangID=E>.

based violence noted in the draft resolution by the Human Rights Council.⁴⁹⁷⁰ During this panel discussion, Japan acknowledged the potential for digital technologies to empower women and girls to exercise their human rights, but also the risk of digital technologies serving as a platform for women and girls to experience violence and abuse.⁴⁹⁷¹

On 5 July 2018, Japan commented on the Accelerating Efforts to Eliminate Violence against Women and Girls: Preventing and Responding to Violence against Women and Girls in Digital Contexts resolution.⁴⁹⁷² Japan reaffirmed its strong commitment to eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls, including digitally-mediated forms of gender-based violence.⁴⁹⁷³ At this panel discussion, Japan also called on businesses to utilize the power of digital platforms to advance human rights, including preventing gender-based violence through digital technologies.⁴⁹⁷⁴ Japan also mobilized the international community to take action on the prevention of digitally-mediated gender-based violence by inviting all countries to support this draft resolution.⁴⁹⁷⁵

On 12 July 2018, Senior Advisor and Director of Center for Science Information Analysis, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Yuichiro Anzai attended the High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation, established by United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.⁴⁹⁷⁶ The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science is an administrative institution subsidized by the Government of Japan. The purpose of this panel is to advance proposals that account for relevant human rights norms and contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals by ensuring a safe and inclusive digital future for all individuals, especially the most vulnerable members of society, including women and girls. A report on digital cooperation was generated by the end of the panel.⁴⁹⁷⁷

⁴⁹⁷⁰ Human Rights Council adopts 10 texts, requests a meeting on female genital mutilation and decides to hold a panel discussion on women and climate change, United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner (Geneva) 5 July 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018.

<https://www.ohchr.org/SP/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=23338&LangID=E>.

⁴⁹⁷¹ Human Rights Council adopts 10 texts, requests a meeting on female genital mutilation and decides to hold a panel discussion on women and climate change, United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner (Geneva) 5 July 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018.

<https://www.ohchr.org/SP/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=23338&LangID=E>.

⁴⁹⁷² Human Rights Council adopts 10 texts, requests a meeting on female genital mutilation and decides to hold a panel discussion on women and climate change, United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner (Geneva) 5 July 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018.

<https://www.ohchr.org/SP/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=23338&LangID=E>.

⁴⁹⁷³ Human Rights Council adopts 10 texts, requests a meeting on female genital mutilation and decides to hold a panel discussion on women and climate change, United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner (Geneva) 5 July 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018.

<https://www.ohchr.org/SP/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=23338&LangID=E>.

⁴⁹⁷⁴ Human Rights Council adopts 10 texts, requests a meeting on female genital mutilation and decides to hold a panel discussion on women and climate change, United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner (Geneva) 5 July 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018.

<https://www.ohchr.org/SP/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=23338&LangID=E>.

⁴⁹⁷⁵ Human Rights Council adopts 10 texts, requests a meeting on female genital mutilation and decides to hold a panel discussion on women and climate change, United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner (Geneva) 5 July 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018.

<https://www.ohchr.org/SP/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=23338&LangID=E>.

⁴⁹⁷⁶ Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation, United Nations. Access Date: 7 December 2018.

<http://www.un.org/en/digital-cooperation-panel/>.

⁴⁹⁷⁷ Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation, United Nations. Access Date: 7 December 2018.

<http://www.un.org/en/digital-cooperation-panel/>.

On 17 July 2018, Japanese government lawmakers revised the Anti-Stalking Act, 2000.⁴⁹⁷⁸ This revision focused on the prevention of online stalking through social media networks, increasingly affecting teenagers, especially girls.⁴⁹⁷⁹ This act now prohibits repeatedly sending unwanted messages on social media or relentlessly posting comments on another user's blog.⁴⁹⁸⁰ This amendment allows public prosecutors to charge a suspect even if the victim does not proceed with the filing of a complaint.⁴⁹⁸¹ The amended Anti-Stalking Act increased the maximum term of imprisonment for online stalking from six months to one year.⁴⁹⁸²

On 1 September 2018, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and his government published an update on “Abenomics,” a comprehensive policy package to improve and benefit all aspects of the Japanese economy, including people, companies, investors, and the country as a whole.⁴⁹⁸³ The first key solution stated in the Abenomics policy is “Productive Individuals and Society.”⁴⁹⁸⁴ As part of this solution, the Abenomics policy stated that the elimination of all forms of violence against women, including cyberstalking, sexual harassment and electronically enabled human trafficking, as well as spousal violence, sex crimes, and prostitution, were made key priorities for the Japanese government.⁴⁹⁸⁵

On 18 September 2018, Japan participated in the general debate on human rights situations that required the Human Rights Council's attention.⁴⁹⁸⁶ During this debate, concerns about the abuse of social media, including its' potential to fuel violence against women were discussed.⁴⁹⁸⁷

On 18 September 2018, the Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development-Forum Asia, an organization that Japan is an active member of, also attended and actively spoke during the debate on

⁴⁹⁷⁸ Online stalking on social media becomes illegal in Japan, South China Morning Post (Causeway Bay) 20 July 2018. Access Date: 27 February 2018. <https://www.scmp.com/news/asia/east-asia/article/2058852/online-stalking-social-media-becomes-illegal-japan>.

⁴⁹⁷⁹ Online stalking on social media becomes illegal in Japan, South China Morning Post 20 July 2018. Access Date: 27 February 2018. <https://www.scmp.com/news/asia/east-asia/article/2058852/online-stalking-social-media-becomes-illegal-japan>.

⁴⁹⁸⁰ Online stalking on social media becomes illegal in Japan, South China Morning Post 20 July 2018. Access Date: 27 February 2018. <https://www.scmp.com/news/asia/east-asia/article/2058852/online-stalking-social-media-becomes-illegal-japan>.

⁴⁹⁸¹ Online stalking on social media becomes illegal in Japan, South China Morning Post 20 July 2018. Access Date: 27 February 2018. <https://www.scmp.com/news/asia/east-asia/article/2058852/online-stalking-social-media-becomes-illegal-japan>.

⁴⁹⁸² Online stalking on social media becomes illegal in Japan, South China Morning Post 20 July 2018. Access Date: 27 February 2018. <https://www.scmp.com/news/asia/east-asia/article/2058852/online-stalking-social-media-becomes-illegal-japan>.

⁴⁹⁸³ Abenomics, The Government of Japan (Tokyo) 1 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://www.japan.go.jp/abenomics/_userdata/abenomics/pdf/1809_abenomics.pdf.

⁴⁹⁸⁴ Abenomics, The Government of Japan (Tokyo) 1 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://www.japan.go.jp/abenomics/_userdata/abenomics/pdf/1809_abenomics.pdf.

⁴⁹⁸⁵ Abenomics, The Government of Japan (Tokyo) 1 September 2018. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://www.japan.go.jp/abenomics/_userdata/abenomics/pdf/1809_abenomics.pdf.

⁴⁹⁸⁶ Human Rights Council holds a general debate on human rights situations that require the Council's attention (18 September 2018), United Nations Human Rights Council (Geneva) 18 September 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/human-rights-council-holds-general-debate-human-rights-situations-require-councils-0>.

⁴⁹⁸⁷ Human Rights Council holds a general debate on human rights situations that require the Council's attention (18 September 2018), United Nations Human Rights Council (Geneva) 18 September 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/human-rights-council-holds-general-debate-human-rights-situations-require-councils-0>.

human rights situations that required the Human Rights Council's attention.⁴⁹⁸⁸ The Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development-Forum Asia holds the East-Asia and programme for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, which actively supports member organizations' national governments by regularly holding national and regional consultations between civil society organizations and its representatives on promoting and protecting women's rights.⁴⁹⁸⁹

On 8 November 2018, Japan's branch of the Messaging, Malware and Mobile Anti-Abuse Working Group (M³AAWG) hosted the First General Meeting of the Japan Anti-Abuse Working Group (JPAAWG) in Tokyo, Japan.⁴⁹⁹⁰ The M³AAWG works to tackle online abuse on existing and emerging networks, while providing technical and operational expertise on eliminating online abuse to the Japanese government.⁴⁹⁹¹ This meeting brought together the perspectives of local security and operational professionals in cyber technology, including messaging service providers, cloud hosting services, and other infrastructure organizations.⁴⁹⁹² JPAAWG Secretariat Shuji Sakuraba and application service department general manager of Internet Initiative Japan (IIJ) mobilized the international community by encouraging other Asian countries to engage with the global anti-abuse community through the JPAAWG.⁴⁹⁹³

On 12 December 2018, Japan's Parliament passed a bill to amend the 2014 Basic Act on Cybersecurity.⁴⁹⁹⁴ This amendment will allow the Cybersecurity Strategic Headquarters to delegate the coordination with relevant persons and corporations to Cabinet when cyber security threats or breaches, including cyber-harassment of women and girls arise.⁴⁹⁹⁵ This amendment also specifies that the Japanese government will arrange a council to discuss the promotion of cyber security measures, including the prevention of violence against women in cyber contexts.⁴⁹⁹⁶ This council fosters collaboration between the Japanese government and the technological industry by including

⁴⁹⁸⁸ Human Rights Council holds a general debate on human rights situations that require the Council's attention (18 September 2018), United Nations Human Rights Council (Geneva) 18 September 2018. Access Date: 5 December 2018. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/human-rights-council-holds-general-debate-human-rights-situations-require-councils-0>.

⁴⁹⁸⁹ East Asia and ASEAN Programme, Asia Forum for Human Rights and Development. Access Date: 19 October 2018. https://www.forum-asia.org/?page_id=21484.

⁴⁹⁹⁰ First Japan Anti-Abuse Working Group General Meeting Shares M3AAWG Work with Emphasis on Regional Issues, Messaging Malware Mobile Anti-Abuse Working Group (San Francisco) 01 November 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://globenewswire.com/news-release/2018/11/01/1641318/0/en/First-Japan-Anti-Abuse-Working-Group-General-Meeting-Shares-M3AAWG-Work-with-Emphasis-on-Regional-Issues.html>.

⁴⁹⁹¹ Because Effective Anti-Abuse Collaboration Requires a Trusted Global Forum, Messaging Malware Mobile Anti-Abuse Working Group (San Francisco). Access Date: 01 March 2019. <https://www.m3aawg.org/about-m3aawg>.

⁴⁹⁹² First Japan Anti-Abuse Working Group General Meeting Shares M3AAWG Work with Emphasis on Regional Issues, Messaging Malware Mobile Anti-Abuse Working Group (San Francisco) 01 November 2018. Access Date: 01 March 2019. <https://globenewswire.com/news-release/2018/11/01/1641318/0/en/First-Japan-Anti-Abuse-Working-Group-General-Meeting-Shares-M3AAWG-Work-with-Emphasis-on-Regional-Issues.html>.

⁴⁹⁹³ First Japan Anti-Abuse Working Group General Meeting Shares M3AAWG Work with Emphasis on Regional Issues, Messaging Malware Mobile Anti-Abuse Working Group (San Francisco) 01 November 2018. Access Date: 01 March 2019. <https://globenewswire.com/news-release/2018/11/01/1641318/0/en/First-Japan-Anti-Abuse-Working-Group-General-Meeting-Shares-M3AAWG-Work-with-Emphasis-on-Regional-Issues.html>.

⁴⁹⁹⁴ Japan: Basic Act on Cybersecurity Amended, The Law Library of Congress (Washington) 26 December 2018. Access Date: 01 March 2019. <http://www.loc.gov/law/foreign-news/article/japan-basic-act-on-cybersecurity-amended/>.

⁴⁹⁹⁵ Japan: Basic Act on Cybersecurity Amended, The Law Library of Congress (Washington) 26 December 2018. Access Date: 01 March 2019. <http://www.loc.gov/law/foreign-news/article/japan-basic-act-on-cybersecurity-amended/>.

⁴⁹⁹⁶ Japan: Basic Act on Cybersecurity Amended, The Law Library of Congress (Washington) 26 December 2018. Access Date: 01 March 2019. <http://www.loc.gov/law/foreign-news/article/japan-basic-act-on-cybersecurity-amended/>.

council members from national and local government agencies, critical information infrastructure operators, cyberspace-related corporations, academic and research institutions.⁴⁹⁹⁷

On 23 and 24 March 2019, the Japanese government jointly hosted the fifth annual World Assembly for Women (WAW!) and Women 20 (W20) in Tokyo.⁴⁹⁹⁸ The WAW!/W20 Summit is part of Abe's policy to advance women's active participation in society by eliminating barriers to women's participation, including violence against women in digital contexts, one of the priorities of the Abe administration.⁴⁹⁹⁹ One of the four pillars focused on during the 2019 WAW!/W20 Summit was digital equity.⁵⁰⁰⁰

Japan has made significant progress in mobilizing the international community, including civil society, by developing policies, organizing and attending seminars on eliminating gender-based violence, as well as learning from industry-government collaborations with anti-abuse working groups and the technological sector for technical and operational guidance on public policy solutions to violence against women in digital contexts.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Vicky Vuong

United Kingdom: -1

The United Kingdom has failed to comply with its commitment to mobilize the international community including through working with civil society to develop strategies to improve prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based abuse, harassment and the threat of violence in digital contexts and learn lessons from current models of industry-government collaboration on emerging digital challenges.

On 5 July 2018, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland voted for Canadian-led Resolution 38/5 on violence against women and girls in digital contexts at the United Nations Human Rights Council 38th session.⁵⁰⁰¹

On 21 June 2018, the Equality and Human Rights Commission of Great Britain participated in the United Nations Human Rights Council Panel Discussion on online violence against women.⁵⁰⁰² The commission called on the Government of the United Kingdom to conduct a full-scale review of hate

⁴⁹⁹⁷ Japan: Basic Act on Cybersecurity Amended, The Law Library of Congress (Washington) 26 December 2018. Access Date: 01 March 2019. <http://www.loc.gov/law/foreign-news/article/japan-basic-act-on-cybersecurity-amended/>.

⁴⁹⁹⁸ Meetings aim to close gender gaps, promote diversity, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 07 June 2019. https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/03/22/national/meetings-aim-close-gender-gaps-promote-diversity/#.XP2uQ_IKjcd.

⁴⁹⁹⁹ Meetings aim to close gender gaps, promote diversity, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 07 June 2019. https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/03/22/national/meetings-aim-close-gender-gaps-promote-diversity/#.XP2uQ_IKjcd.

⁵⁰⁰⁰ Meetings aim to close gender gaps, promote diversity, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 07 June 2019. https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/03/22/national/meetings-aim-close-gender-gaps-promote-diversity/#.XP2uQ_IKjcd.

⁵⁰⁰¹ Accelerating efforts to eliminate violence against women and girls: preventing and responding to violence against women and girls in digital contexts, United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner (Geneva, Switzerland) 02 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/38/L.6.

⁵⁰⁰² Accelerating efforts to eliminate violence against women and girls: preventing and responding to violence against women and girls in digital contexts, United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner (Geneva, Switzerland) 02 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/38/L.6.

crime offenses and to criminalize digital abuse and harassment, which often targets women.⁵⁰⁰³ The commission, along with other civil society organizations, called for gender-responsive digital literacy to be incorporated into the UK's education curriculum.⁵⁰⁰⁴

On 16 July 2018, the Gender Action for Peace and Security (GAPS) civil society network, composed of 17 non-governmental organizations and experts in the fields of development, human rights and peacebuilding, undertook a six-month check-in review of the UK Government's fourth National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, 2018-2022 — released in January 2018.⁵⁰⁰⁵ GAPS noted the encouraging cross-government and consultative approach of the National Action Plan.⁵⁰⁰⁶ They also noted that they will continue to work with the UK Government to strengthen its focus on the prevention of gender-based violence by adopting more comprehensive approaches to violence prevention.⁵⁰⁰⁷

On 26 July 2018, the Government of the United Kingdom established a UK Council for Internet Safety (UKCIS), to improve the online safety of UK citizens, particularly in reference to groups who are often targets of online harassment and violence.⁵⁰⁰⁸ The UKCIS is an expansion of the current UK Council for Child Internet Safety. The government opened the application for UKCIS Executive Board Appointment on this date, noting that they hope to bring in the experienced and committed industry and non-profit organizations and/or individuals to help with digital safety; the closing date for Executive Board Appointments was 3 September 2018.⁵⁰⁰⁹ The government noted that UKCIS will bring together a partnership of more than 2000 organisations representing government, regulators, industry, law enforcement, academia, and charities.⁵⁰¹⁰ Priority areas of focus include cyberbullying and sexual exploitation; violence against women and girls; hate crime and hate speech; forms of discrimination against groups protected under the Equality Act.⁵⁰¹¹

On 9 August 2018, the UK released its Civil Society Strategy, which outlines how the government can collaborate with civil society partners in order to build a sustainable society — socially, economically and environmentally.⁵⁰¹² The government called on organizational and business

⁵⁰⁰³ Accelerating efforts to eliminate violence against women and girls: preventing and responding to violence against women and girls in digital contexts, United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner (Geneva, Switzerland) 02 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/38/L.6.

⁵⁰⁰⁴ Accelerating efforts to eliminate violence against women and girls: preventing and responding to violence against women and girls in digital contexts, United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner (Geneva, Switzerland) 02 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/38/L.6.

⁵⁰⁰⁵ UK National Action Plan: GAPS Six Month Check-In, Gender Action for Peace and Security (London, England) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <http://gaps-uk.org/uk-national-action-plan-gaps-six-month-check-in/>.

⁵⁰⁰⁶ UK National Action Plan: GAPS Six Month Check-In, Gender Action for Peace and Security (London, England) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <http://gaps-uk.org/uk-national-action-plan-gaps-six-month-check-in/>.

⁵⁰⁰⁷ UK National Action Plan: GAPS Six Month Check-In, Gender Action for Peace and Security (London, England) 16 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <http://gaps-uk.org/uk-national-action-plan-gaps-six-month-check-in/>.

⁵⁰⁰⁸ New Council for Internet Safety in UK, Government of UK (London, England) 26 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-council-for-internet-safety-in-the-uk>.

⁵⁰⁰⁹ New Council for Internet Safety in UK, Government of UK (London, England) 26 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-council-for-internet-safety-in-the-uk>.

⁵⁰¹⁰ New Council for Internet Safety in UK, Government of UK (London, England) 26 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-council-for-internet-safety-in-the-uk>.

⁵⁰¹¹ New Council for Internet Safety in UK, Government of UK (London, England) 26 July 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-council-for-internet-safety-in-the-uk>.

⁵⁰¹² Civil Society Strategy: Building a Future that Works for Everyone, Government of UK (London, England) 9 August 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/civil-society-strategy-building-a-future-that-works-for-everyone>.

partners to develop innovative approaches to ensuring online safety and digital inclusion of its citizens.⁵⁰¹³

On 29 August 2018, the UK government's Home Secretary, Sajid Javid, attended the two-day Five Country Ministerial meeting with counterparts from Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the United States. At this meeting, the five nations jointly released a statement outlining the expectations of the digital industry in identifying, countering and removing illicit and illegal content related to child abuse and terrorism.⁵⁰¹⁴

On 30 August 2018, the UK government announced a new UK-Kenya Security Compact to reduce online child exploitation. The UK government has committed funding to build a new cyber centre in Nairobi to enable Kenyan authorities to access data on abuse provided by U.S. tech companies. The centre will allow Kenyan police to identify victims, investigate abuse and prosecute perpetrators.⁵⁰¹⁵

On 17 September 2018, UK Home Secretary, Sajid Javid, announced the Government's commitment to ensuring the safety of children online. Javid called on a collaborative approach with tech companies to address child exploitation online. He noted that the Government plans to establish a working group with tech businesses and the advertising industry as the first step to responding and preventing further online child exploitation. He stated that the Government has already established a partnership with Microsoft and that they will jointly be holding a forum with U.S. industry experts in November to develop tools to address online child grooming. These tools will then be offered to other companies for free. Home Secretary Javid also announced that the Government will be investing an extra GBP21 million over the next 18 months towards law enforcement agencies to address child exploitation and violence online.⁵⁰¹⁶ He also announced the Government's commitment to providing a further GBP2.6 million to collaborate with child protection organizations in order to better understand offender behaviour as a means of prevention.⁵⁰¹⁷

On 11 October 2018, the Women and Equalities Committee in the House of Commons released the report "Sexual Harassment of Women and Girls in Public Places."⁵⁰¹⁸ The report called on the UK government to acknowledge online spaces as being public places where women and girls experience sexual harassment.⁵⁰¹⁹ The report stated that the UK government should include actionable

⁵⁰¹³ Civil Society Strategy: Building a Future that Works for Everyone, Government of UK (London, England) 9 August 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/civil-society-strategy-building-a-future-that-works-for-everyone>.

⁵⁰¹⁴ Home Secretary attends Five Country Ministerial, Government of UK (London, England), 29 August 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-secretary-attends-five-country-ministerial>.

⁵⁰¹⁵ New cyber unit to tackle child sex abuse in Kenya, Government of UK (London, England), 20 August 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-cyber-unit-to-tackle-child-sex-abuse-in-kenya>.

⁵⁰¹⁶ Keeping our children safe, Government of UK (London, England) 3 September 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-cyber-unit-to-tackle-child-sex-abuse-in-kenya>.

⁵⁰¹⁷ Keeping our children safe, Government of UK (London, England) 3 September 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-cyber-unit-to-tackle-child-sex-abuse-in-kenya>.

⁵⁰¹⁸ Sexual Harassment of Women and Girls in Public Places, Women and Equalities Committee-House of Commons (London, England) 23 October 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018.

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmwomeq/701/701.pdf>.

⁵⁰¹⁹ Sexual Harassment of Women and Girls in Public Places, Women and Equalities Committee-House of Commons (London, England) 23 October 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018.

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmwomeq/701/701.pdf>.

approaches to mitigate online sexual harassment of women and girls in its forthcoming Internet Safety Strategy, which is set to be finalized by the end of 2018.⁵⁰²⁰

On 6 March 2019, the Home Office of the UK Government published its refreshed strategy on “Ending Violence Against Women and Girls, 2016-20.” The report outlines three measures to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based abuse, harassment and the threat of violence in digital contexts. First, the Home Office, in partnership with the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) will develop a White Paper that provides recommendations for implementing legislation to mitigate online violence against women and girls (VAWG) to potentially generate a social-media specific code of conduct. Secondly, the UK Council for Internet Safety will work with online dating websites to raise awareness of violence against women and girls and to mitigate issues of ‘online flashing,’ as identified by the Women and Equalities Select Committee report on sexual harassment. Finally, the Home Office will undertake research to better understand the relationship between consuming pornography and attitudes to women and girls more broadly – both online and offline.

The United Kingdom has demonstrated a commitment to fostering awareness of violence in digital contexts, particularly in relation to children and youth. The government also appears eager to work with both domestic and international civil society organizations to address and prevent online violence. The UK has not, however, mobilized the international community to develop strategies to improve the prevention of and response to gender-based abuse, harassment and the threat of violence in digital contexts. It has yet to apply lessons learned from engaging with industry-government partnerships on emerging digital challenges.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of –1.

Analyst: Nicole Winger

United States: –1

The United States has failed to comply with its commitment to mobilize the international community including through working with civil society to develop strategies to improve prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based abuse, harassment and the threat of violence in digital contexts and learn lessons from current models of industry-government collaboration on emerging digital challenges.

On 19 June 2018, United States Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley announced that the United States is pulling out of the Human Rights Council due to anti-Israeli bias and lack of punishment for human rights abusers.⁵⁰²¹ The global body addresses numerous human rights violations including violence against women.⁵⁰²²

On 26 July 2018, Bill H.R. 6545, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 1994 was introduced to Congress.⁵⁰²³ The proposed bill revises previous iterations of the 1994 bill to include definitions of technological abuse and digital services, to expand the definition of domestic violence to consider technological abuse, and to generally incorporate the concept of sexual violence in digital

⁵⁰²⁰ Sexual Harassment of Women and Girls in Public Places, Women and Equalities Committee-House of Commons (London, England) 23 October 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018.

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmwomeq/701/701.pdf>.

⁵⁰²¹ US leaving UN Human Rights Council -- ‘a cesspool of political bias’, CNN 20 June 2018. Access date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.cnn.com/2018/06/19/politics/haley-pompeo-human-rights-bias/index.html>.

⁵⁰²² US leaving UN Human Rights Council -- ‘a cesspool of political bias’, CNN 20 June 2018. Access date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.cnn.com/2018/06/19/politics/haley-pompeo-human-rights-bias/index.html>.

⁵⁰²³ S.1 — Violence Against Women Act of 1993, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 10 September 1993. Access date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/103rd-congress/senate-bill/11/text/rs>

contexts.⁵⁰²⁴ Additionally, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 1994 Amends Section 304 of the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 to extend the use of grant funds to combat violent crimes on campuses to include prevention and education programming regarding technological abuse. The Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2018 is currently under review by Congress.⁵⁰²⁵ The new bill would increase the Violence Against Women Act appropriations by approximately 50 percent.⁵⁰²⁶ President Trump has extended the reauthorization deadline of the Violence Against Women Act under the stopgap spending bill to 7 December 2018.⁵⁰²⁷

The United States did not mobilize the international community or develop strategies to improve prevention of and response to gender-based abuse, harassment and the threat of violence in digital contexts and learn lessons from current models of industry-government collaboration on emerging digital challenges.

Thus, the United States receives a score of -1.

Analyst: Alexandra Harvey

European Union: 0

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to mobilize the international community including through working with civil society to develop strategies to improve prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based abuse, harassment and the threat of violence in digital contexts and learn lessons from current models of industry-government collaboration on emerging digital challenges.

On 19 June 2018, the European Commission organized the Digital4Her conference, where measures were launched to make the digital sector more accessible to women.⁵⁰²⁸ One of such measures was the strategy for “Women in Digital.” This strategy includes a declaration that encourages companies to adopt a hands-on approach in closing the digital gender divide in skills, inception of technologies and access to career opportunities. Twenty information technology companies co-signed the declaration, committing to provide an inclusive and gender-balanced work culture and environment. The declaration is open to CEOs of interested companies for online signature at any time.⁵⁰²⁹

On 16 August 2018, the European Parliament published a study on cyber violence and online hate speech against women. This study assesses the root causes and impact of online violence on women

⁵⁰²⁴S .1 — Violence Against Women Act of 1993, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 10 September 1993. Access date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/103rd-congress/senate-bill/11/text/rs>

⁵⁰²⁵S .1 — Violence Against Women Act of 1993, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 10 September 1993. Access date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/103rd-congress/senate-bill/11/text/rs>

⁵⁰²⁶S .1 — Violence Against Women Act of 1993, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 10 September 1993. Access date: 18 October 2018. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/103rd-congress/senate-bill/11/text/rs>

⁵⁰²⁷ [Correction] Violence Against Women Act Extension Included in Latest Spending Proposal, Roll Call (Washington, DC) 3 December 2018. Access Date 3 December 2018. <https://www.rollcall.com/news/politics/violence-women-act-lapse-latest-spending-proposal>.

⁵⁰²⁸ Digital4Her, European Commission (Brussels) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 9 February 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/digital4her>.

⁵⁰²⁹ Digital4Her, European Commission (Brussels) 19 June 2018. Access Date: 9 February 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/digital4her>.

by analysing and mapping the prevalence of victims and perpetrators. The document ends with an outline of the existing legal framework and recommendations for action within the EU remit.⁵⁰³⁰

On 6 September 2018, Digital Economy and Society Commissioner, Mariya Gabriel, announced the “Back2School” campaign, under the umbrella of the “#SaferInternet4EU campaign.”⁵⁰³¹ The “Back2School” campaign aims to make children, parents, and teachers more aware of opportunities and potential risks of the digital landscape by fostering awareness of online safety, media literacy and cyber hygiene.⁵⁰³² Topics of focus include cyberbullying, sexting, exposure to harmful or disturbing content, grooming, fake news and disinformation and privacy concerns in connected toys.⁵⁰³³ This program operates through the EU’s Safer Internet Centres and under the Safer Internet Programme, both of which work in tandem to develop and disseminate preventive educational programming on the potential risks young people may encounter online.⁵⁰³⁴

On 11 October 2018, the European Institute for Gender Equality, an autonomous research body of the EU, released a report titled “Gender Equality and Youth: The Opportunities and Risks of Digitalisation.”⁵⁰³⁵ The report was produced at the request of the Austrian Presidency.⁵⁰³⁶ The report highlighted a number of policy recommendations including incorporating a gender perspective in the EU’s digital policies; collecting data in order to design gendered, digital policy measures and evaluate their effectiveness; and the legal recognition of cyberviolence as a form of gender-based violence and cybercrime by the EU.⁵⁰³⁷ The report also called for supporting preventive efforts through law enforcement and awareness-raising campaigns.⁵⁰³⁸

On November 2018, the European Security and Defence College published a “Handbook on Cybersecurity,” where one chapter entitled “gender and cyberspace” addresses gender-related aspects, including sexual and gender-based violence in the digital domain. The handbook is distributed, read, and used both within and outside of the trainings in the European Security and Defence College.

⁵⁰³⁰ Cyber Violence and Hate Speech Online Against Women, European Parliament (Brussels) 16 August 2018. Access Date: 9 February 2019.

[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2018/604979/IPOL_STU\(2018\)604979_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2018/604979/IPOL_STU(2018)604979_EN.pdf).

⁵⁰³¹ Back2School with the #SaferInternet4EU Campaign, Government of the U.K (London, England), 6 September 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/back2school-saferinternet4eu-campaign>.

⁵⁰³² Back2School with the #SaferInternet4EU Campaign, Government of the U.K (London, England), 6 September 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/back2school-saferinternet4eu-campaign>.

⁵⁰³³ Back2School with the #SaferInternet4EU Campaign, Government of the U.K (London, England), 6 September 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/back2school-saferinternet4eu-campaign>.

⁵⁰³⁴ Back2School with the #SaferInternet4EU Campaign, Government of the U.K (London, England), 6 September 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/back2school-saferinternet4eu-campaign>.

⁵⁰³⁵ Gender Equality and Youth-The Opportunities and Risks of Digitalisation, European Institute for Gender Equality (Vilnius, Lithuania), 11 October 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://eige.europa.eu/rdc/eige-publications/gender-equality-and-youth-opportunities-and-risks-digitalisation>.

⁵⁰³⁶ Gender Equality and Youth-The Opportunities and Risks of Digitalisation, European Institute for Gender Equality (Vilnius, Lithuania), 11 October 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://eige.europa.eu/rdc/eige-publications/gender-equality-and-youth-opportunities-and-risks-digitalisation>.

⁵⁰³⁷ Gender Equality and Youth-The Opportunities and Risks of Digitalisation, European Institute for Gender Equality (Vilnius, Lithuania), 11 October 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://eige.europa.eu/rdc/eige-publications/gender-equality-and-youth-opportunities-and-risks-digitalisation>.

⁵⁰³⁸ Gender Equality and Youth-The Opportunities and Risks of Digitalisation, European Institute for Gender Equality (Vilnius, Lithuania), 11 October 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2018. <https://eige.europa.eu/rdc/eige-publications/gender-equality-and-youth-opportunities-and-risks-digitalisation>.

On 25 November 2018, the Commission marked the “International day to end violence against women” and the United Nations’ “16 days of activism” through a dedicated statement and social media distribution of communication materials. The Commission also organized an event on 4 December 2018 to take stock of EU actions on violence against women and bring together relevant stakeholders.⁵⁰³⁹

On 6 March 2019, Thomas Greminger, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Secretary General European Union External Action Service’s Principal Advisor on Gender, released a report on the physical, sexual and psychological violence faced by women and girls – both online and off – in South-Eastern and Eastern Europe.⁵⁰⁴⁰ The report is based on a survey undertaken in 2018 in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Moldova and Ukraine.⁵⁰⁴¹ The survey aims to provide high-quality data to increase awareness and understanding on types of violence faced by women.⁵⁰⁴² The report calls on the governments of Member States to implement national legal frameworks that cover all forms of violence against women and girls, such as online violence, sexual harassment and psychological violence.⁵⁰⁴³

On 27 March 2019, the Committee of Ministers to EU Member States released a report outlining recommendations for preventing and combating sexism.⁵⁰⁴⁴ The recommendations call on the governments of Member States to implement legislative measures that define and criminalize incidents of sexist hate speech on all forms of media — online and offline.⁵⁰⁴⁵ The recommendations also call on Member States to develop preventative programs for children, young people, parents and educators on the sexist misuse of social media, and also generally on the safe and critical use of digital media. Lastly, the report calls on the governments of States to undertake ongoing studies to gather sex-and-age-disaggregated data on cybersexism and cyberviolence online.⁵⁰⁴⁶

The EU is addressing one of the two welfare targets through improving the prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based abuse, harassment and the threat of violence in digital contexts.

⁵⁰³⁹ International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women: “Violence must stop now”, European Commission (Brussels) 25 November 2018. Access Date: 9 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/echo/news/international-day-elimination-violence-against-women-violence-must-stop-now_en.

⁵⁰⁴⁰ New Survey Reveals Violence Against Women in South-Eastern and Eastern Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 05 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/fpi/news/new-survey-reveals-violence-against-women_en.

⁵⁰⁴¹ New Survey Reveals Violence Against Women in South-Eastern and Eastern Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 05 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/fpi/news/new-survey-reveals-violence-against-women_en.

⁵⁰⁴² New Survey Reveals Violence Against Women in South-Eastern and Eastern Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 05 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/fpi/news/new-survey-reveals-violence-against-women_en.

⁵⁰⁴³ New Survey Reveals Violence Against Women in South-Eastern and Eastern Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 05 June 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/fpi/news/new-survey-reveals-violence-against-women_en.

⁵⁰⁴⁴ Recommendation CM/REC(2019)1 of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on Preventing and Combating Sexism, Council of Europe (Brussels) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 05 June 2019. <https://rm.coe.int/CoERMPublicCommonSearchServices/DisplayDCTMContent?documentId=090000168093b26a>.

⁵⁰⁴⁵ Recommendation CM/REC(2019)1 of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on Preventing and Combating Sexism, Council of Europe (Brussels) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 05 June 2019. <https://rm.coe.int/CoERMPublicCommonSearchServices/DisplayDCTMContent?documentId=090000168093b26a>.

⁵⁰⁴⁶ Recommendation CM/REC(2019)1 of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on Preventing and Combating Sexism, Council of Europe (Brussels) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 05 June 2019. <https://rm.coe.int/CoERMPublicCommonSearchServices/DisplayDCTMContent?documentId=090000168093b26a>.

However, the EU has not yet fully mobilized the international community, including through working with civil society, to build such strategies.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of 0.

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