



The G7 Research Group presents the

## 2021 G7 Cornwall Summit Interim Compliance Report

14 June 2021 to 1 February 2022

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20 March 2022

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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*

## Contents

Introduction .....	3
Research Team .....	4
Compliance Directors .....	4
Lead Analysts .....	4
Compliance Analysts .....	4
Summary .....	6
The Interim Compliance Score .....	6
Compliance by Member .....	6
Compliance by Commitment .....	6
The Compliance Gap Between Members .....	6
Future Research and Reports .....	6
Table A: 2021 Priority Commitments Selected for Assessment .....	7
Table B: 2020 G7 Cornwall Interim Compliance Scores .....	9
Table C: 2020 G7 Cornwall Interim Compliance Scores by Member .....	10
Table D: 2020 G7 Cornwall Interim Compliance Scores by Commitment .....	11
1. Health: Vaccines .....	12
2. Health: Vaccine Equity .....	44
3. Health: Disease Prevention .....	55
4. Health: Indirect Impacts of COVID-19 .....	78
5. Climate Change: Zero Emission Vehicles .....	111
6. Agriculture, Forestry and Land Use .....	131
7. Crime and Corruption: Environmental Crime .....	163
8. Environment: Halting and Reversing Biodiversity Loss .....	176
9. Environment: Marine Health and Litter .....	201
10. Energy: Renewables .....	226
11. Energy: Coal .....	249
12. Trade: Free Trade .....	276
13. Gender: Education Equality .....	298
14. Democracy: China .....	315
15. Regional Security: Addressing Instability .....	333
16. Development: Sustainable Growth in Africa .....	368
17. Infrastructure: Build Back Better .....	386
18. Human Rights: Forced Labour .....	407
19. Digital Economy: Open Internet .....	427
20. Macroeconomics: Strong, Resilient, Sustainable, Balanced and Inclusive Growth .....	446
21. International Cooperation: Research Transparency .....	509
22. International Cooperation: Research and Knowledge Sharing .....	530

## Introduction

This compliance report begins with the 2021 Cornwall Summit hosted by the United Kingdom on 11-13 June 2021, which was the first in-person summit with a full-strength agenda since the G7 leaders met in Biarritz in August 2019. It assesses actions taken by the G7 members to fulfil 22 priority commitments of the 429 commitments made at Cornwall during the period of 14 June 2021 to 1 February 2022.

To conduct these assessments, researchers rely on publicly available information, documentation and media reports of actions taken beginning the day after the summit.

The G7 Research Group has been producing annual compliance reports since 1996. It began publishing interim reports in 2002 to assess progress at the time of the transition from the outgoing G7 presidency to the incoming presidency each 1 January. These reports 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 the impact of this unique informal international institution.

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.

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

To ensure the accuracy, comprehensiveness and integrity of these reports, comments and suggestions are always welcome. 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.

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 Matthew Kieffer and Gabrielle Regimbal, co-chairs of summit studies, Brandon Yih, editor, and their team of compliance directors, lead analysts and analysts. It would also not be possible without the efforts of Professor John Kirton, director of the G7 Research Group, Brittaney Warren, director of compliance studies, Dr. Ella Kokotsis, director of accountability, and Madeline Koch, executive director. We are also indebted to the many people who provide feedback on our drafts, whose comments are always carefully considered in the published report.

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## Summary

The G7 Research Group's Interim Compliance Report on the 2021 Cornwall Summit assesses the compliance of the G7 members with 22 priority commitments selected from the total of 429 they made on 13 June 2021, based on members' implementing actions taken between 14 June 2021 and 1 February 2022 (see Table A). This selection reflects the breadth and focus of the summit's agenda, focusing on three main pillars for a holistic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic including health, climate change and trade. It is also notable that this was the first in-person G7 summit since the US-hosted virtual summit on 16 March 2020.

The 2021 Cornwall Summit agenda marked a return to coverage of the usual issues addressed by the G7. This again signifies a return of normalcy from the unusual circumstances of the 2020 US Virtual Summit, which addressed the unusual challenges of the global pandemic.

The previous compliance reports are available for review at <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance>.

## The Interim Compliance Score

Compliance is measured on a three-point scientific scale. A score of +1 (100%) indicates full compliance with a commitment, a score of 0 (50%) indicates partial compliance or a work in progress, and a score of -1 (0%) indicates non-compliance or a failure to comply or action taken that is counter to the commitment. Table B contains the compliance scores.

For the period of 14 June 2021 to 1 February 2022, average compliance for the 22 commitments assessed is +0.69 (85%). This is a decrease from the interim score of the 2020 Virtual Summit with +0.86 (93%) but higher than the final 2020 score of +0.58 (79%). The 2021 interim score is also higher than the 2019 Biarritz final score of +0.58 (79%) and the 2018 Charlevoix Summit final score of +0.66 (83%).

## Compliance by Member

Germany, the United States and the European Union ranked first with an average compliance score of +0.82 (91%), followed by Canada and the United Kingdom at +0.77 (89%), France and Japan at +0.59 (80%) and Italy at +0.36 (68%). This is a different configuration from the 2020 interim compliance report where the European Union was the sole highest scoring member. In the 2020 interim compliance report Italy was also the lowest scoring member.

## Compliance by Commitment

Of the 22 commitments assessed, three had compliance of +1.00 (100%). These commitments were on different topics including environment, development and gender. Two commitments had the lowest compliance of +0.13 (56%). These commitments were on democracy and crime and corruption.

## The Compliance Gap Between Members

These interim results from the 2021 Cornwall Summit show a difference of 0.45 between the highest and lowest compliance scores of members.

## Future Research and Reports

The information contained within this report provides G7 members and other stakeholders with an indication of the G7 members' compliance with 22 commitments for the period beginning immediately after the 2021 Cornwall Summit on 14 June 2021 until 1 February 2022. As with previous compliance reports, this report has been produced as an invitation for others to provide additional or more complete information on G7 members' compliance. Comments are always welcomed and would be considered as part of an analytical reassessment. Please send your feedback to [g7@utoronto.ca](mailto:g7@utoronto.ca).

**Table A: 2021 Priority Commitments Selected for Assessment\***

	Commitment
1	“Recognising the urgent need to speed up delivery of doses, we are committing to share at least 870 million doses directly over the next year.”
2	“[Emphasising the need for equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines,] we will support manufacturing in low income countries.”
3	“We pledge to lead the way in building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease, and to detect emerging health threats quickly.”
4	“We agree to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19, ensuring that countries are able to effectively address the indirect impacts on physical and mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.”
5	“We commit to accelerate the transition away from new sales of diesel and petrol cars to promote the uptake of zero emission vehicles.”
6	“In our agricultural, forestry and other land use sectors, we commit to ensuring our policies encourage sustainable production, the protection, conservation, and regeneration of ecosystems and the sequestration of carbon.”
7	“Stepping up our efforts at home and overseas to counter crimes that affect the environment: we will recognise and tackle illicit threats to nature such as the illegal wildlife trade (IWT) as serious organised crimes, including intensifying efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes.”
8	“We will support and drive the protection, conservation and restoration of ecosystems critical to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and environmental degradation, and to tackle climate change.”
9	“Addressing the adverse impact of human activity, such as litter and unsustainable fishing practices, on the marine environment: building on the Osaka Blue Ocean Vision, we will accelerate action to tackle the increasing levels of plastic pollution in the ocean from all sources - land and marine - including by working through the UN Environment Assembly on options including strengthening existing instruments and a potential new global agreement or other instrument to address marine plastic litter, including at UNEA-5.”
10	“[In our energy sectors, we will]...accelerate renewable and other zero emissions energy deployment.”
11	“[To accelerate the international transition away from coal, recognising that continued global investment in unabated coal power generation is incompatible with keeping 1.5°C within reach we stress that international investments in unabated coal must stop now and] we commit now to an end to new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021, including through Official Development Assistance, export finance, investment, and financial and trade promotion support.”
12	“Secure our future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system.”
13	“We will do this in a way that values the individual and promotes equality, especially gender equality, including by supporting a target to get 40 million more girls into education and with at least \$2¼ billion for the Global Partnership for Education.”
14	“With regard to China, and competition in the global economy, we will continue to consult on collective approaches to challenging non-market policies and practices which undermine the fair and transparent operation of the global economy.”
15	“[As democratic societies we support global institutions in their efforts to]...[address]...instability.”
16	“A central focus of our new strategic approach will be supporting sustainable growth in Africa.”
17	“We will develop a new partnership to build back better for the world, through a step change in our approach to investment for infrastructure, including through an initiative for clean and green growth.”
18	“We commit to continue to work together including through our own available domestic means and multilateral institutions to protect individuals from forced labour.”
19	“We commit to preserve an open, interoperable, reliable and secure internet, one that is unfragmented, supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people.”

20	“We will continue to support our economies for as long as is necessary, shifting the focus of our support from crisis response to promoting strong, resilient, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth into the future.”
21	“Collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges and drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity.”
22	“As our nations and communities start to recover from the pandemic and build resilience for future shocks, we will continue to work with our research and business communities to remove barriers to the open and rapid sharing of knowledge, data and tools, to the greatest extent possible, recognising the importance of research security in particular in cutting-edge fields.”

\*For the full list of commitments, please contact the G7 Research Group at [g7@utoronto.ca](mailto:g7@utoronto.ca).



**Table B: 2021 G7 Cornwall Interim Compliance Scores**

Commitment		Canada	France	Germany	Italy	Japan	United Kingdom	United States	European Union	Average	
1	Health: Vaccines	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	0	+1	+1	+0.75	88%
2	Health: Vaccine Equity	0	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+0.75	88%
3	Health: Disease Prevention	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	0	+1	+1	+0.75	88%
4	Health: Indirect Impacts of COVID-19	+1	0	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+0.75	88%
5	Climate Change: Zero Emission Vehicles	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	0	+1	+0.75	88%
6	Agriculture, Forestry and Land Use	+1	+1	+1	0	-1	+1	+1	+1	+0.63	81%
7	Crime and Corruption: Environmental Crime	0	0	+1	0	-1	0	+1	+1	+0.25	63%
8	Environment: Biodiversity Loss	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
9	Environment: Marine Health and Litter	0	0	0	0	+1	0	0	0	+0.13	56%
10	Energy: Renewables	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+0.88	94%
11	Energy: Coal	+1	+1	+1	0	0	+1	+1	+1	+0.75	88%
12	Trade: Free trade	+1	0	0	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+0.63	81%
13	Gender: Education Equality	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
14	Democracy: China	0	0	0	-1	0	+1	+1	0	+0.13	56%
15	Regional Security: Addressing Instability	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+0.88	94%
16	Development: Sustainable Growth in Africa	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
17	Infrastructure: Build Back Better	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+0.88	94%
18	Human Rights: Forced Labour	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+0.75	88%
19	Digital Economy: Open Internet	+1	0	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+0.75	88%
20	Macroeconomics: Growth	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	0	+1	+1	+0.75	88%
21	International Cooperation: Transparency	+1	0	0	0	0	+1	0	+1	+0.38	69%
22	International Cooperation: Knowledge Sharing	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	0	+0.75	88%
	2021 Interim Compliance Average	+0.77	+0.59	+0.82	+0.36	+0.59	+0.77	+0.82	+0.82	+0.69	85%
		89%	80%	91%	68%	80%	89%	91%	91%		

**Table C: 2021 G7 Cornwall Interim Compliance Scores by Member**

	2021 interim		2020 final		2020 interim		2019 final		2019 2nd interim		2019 1st interim		2018 final		2018 interim		2017 final		2017 interim	
	Score	%	Score	%	Score	%	Score	%	Score	%	Score	%	Score	%	Score	%	Score	%	Score	%
European Union	+0.82	91%	+0.71	86%	+0.95	98%	+0.71	86%	+0.67	83%	+0.52	76%	+0.90	95%	+0.85	93%	+0.95	98%	+0.94	97%
Germany	+0.82	91%	+0.81	91%	+0.90	95%	+0.86	93%	+0.76	88%	+0.48	74%	+0.50	75%	+0.40	70%	+0.63	82%	+0.44	72%
United States	+0.82	91%	+0.29	65%	+0.85	93%	+0.29	64%	+0.19	60%	+0.05	53%	+0.47	74%	+0.24	62%	+0.17	59%	+0.13	57%
Canada	+0.77	89%	+0.62	81%	+0.80	90%	+0.62	81%	+0.48	74%	+0.05	53%	+0.80	90%	+0.70	85%	+0.68	84%	+0.44	72%
United Kingdom	+0.77	89%	+0.86	93%	+0.85	93%	+0.81	90%	+0.76	88%	+0.43	72%	+0.85	93%	+0.70	85%	+0.84	92%	+0.56	78%
France	+0.59	80%	+0.67	84%	+0.90	95%	+0.67	83%	+0.67	83%	+0.33	67%	+0.65	83%	+0.45	73%	+0.68	84%	+0.50	75%
Japan	+0.59	80%	+0.48	74%	+0.85	93%	+0.48	74%	+0.38	69%	+0.38	69%	+0.68	84%	+0.58	79%	+0.47	74%	+0.25	63%
Italy	+0.36	68%	+0.19	60%	+0.75	88%	+0.19	60%	+0.10	55%	-0.29	36%	+0.50	75%	+0.15	58%	+0.37	69%	+0.31	66%
Average	+0.68	84%	+0.58	79%	+0.86	93%	+0.58	79%	+0.50	75%	+0.24	62%	+0.66	83%	+0.51	75%	+0.59	80%	+0.44	72%
Spread	0.45		0.67		0.10		0.67		0.67		0.81		0.45		0.7		0.78		0.19	

**Table D: 2021 G7 Cornwall Interim Compliance Scores by Commitment**

Commitment	Score	
	Development: Sustainable Growth in Africa	+1.00
Environment: Halting and Reversing Biodiversity Loss	+1.00	100%
Gender: Education Equality	+1.00	100%
Energy: Renewables	+0.88	94%
Infrastructure: Build Back Better	+0.88	94%
Regional Security: Addressing Instability	+0.88	94%
Climate Change: Zero Emission Vehicles	+0.75	88%
Digital Economy: Open Internet	+0.75	88%
Energy: Coal	+0.75	88%
Health: Disease Prevention	+0.75	88%
Health: Indirect Impacts of COVID-19	+0.75	88%
Health: Vaccine Equity	+0.75	88%
Health: Vaccines	+0.75	88%
Human Rights: Forced Labour	+0.75	88%
International Cooperation: Research and Knowledge Sharing	+0.75	88%
Macroeconomics: Strong, Resilient, Sustainable, Balanced and Inclusive Growth	+0.75	88%
Trade: Free Trade	+0.63	81%
International Cooperation: Research Transparency	+0.38	69%
Crime and Corruption: Environmental Crime	+0.25	63%
Democracy: China	+0.13	56%
Environment: Marine Health and Litter	+0.13	56%

## 1. Health: Vaccines

“Recognising the urgent need to speed up delivery of doses, we are committing to share at least 870 million doses directly over the next year.”

*Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
United Kingdom		0	
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.75 (88%)	

### Background

The World Health Organization (WHO) classified COVID-19 as a disease caused by the new coronavirus SARS-CoV-2, which had first been reported in Wuhan, China, at the end of 2019.<sup>1</sup> Among those who contract the virus, about 80 per cent recover from the disease, while the remaining 20 per cent become seriously ill and require hospitalization.<sup>2</sup> Alongside social distancing, wearing a mask and practicing good hygiene, countries around the world have developed vaccines to minimize the spread and severity of the disease if contracted. COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) is the vaccines pillar of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator, which has been used to accelerate the development, production and equitable access to COVID-19 tests, treatments and vaccines.<sup>3</sup>

Delivering and administering COVID-19 vaccines is fundamental to minimizing the spread and preventing further loss of life as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. COVID-19 vaccines have undergone extraordinary rapid development and immunization is underway in countries around the world.<sup>4</sup> The demand for vaccine doses has continued to rise as cases continue to surge around the world but distribution remains highly skewed in favour of high-income countries.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), World Health Organization (Geneva) 12 October 2020. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/question-and-answers-hub/q-a-detail/coronavirus-disease-covid-19>

<sup>2</sup> Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), World Health Organization (Geneva) 12 October 2020. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/question-and-answers-hub/q-a-detail/coronavirus-disease-covid-19>

<sup>3</sup> COVAX: Working for global equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <https://www.who.int/initiatives/act-accelerator/covax>

<sup>4</sup> Access to COVID-19 vaccines: Global Approaches in a Global Crisis, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 18 March 2021. Access Date: 19 September 2021. [https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/view/?ref=1069\\_1069384-ewmqrw9sx2&title=Access-to-COVID-19-vaccines-Global-approaches-in-a-global-crisis&\\_ga=2.186034729.1826545124.1632065461-1229319885.1632065461](https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/view/?ref=1069_1069384-ewmqrw9sx2&title=Access-to-COVID-19-vaccines-Global-approaches-in-a-global-crisis&_ga=2.186034729.1826545124.1632065461-1229319885.1632065461)

<sup>5</sup> Access to COVID-19 vaccines: Global Approaches in a Global Crisis, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 18 March 2021. Access Date: 19 September 2021. [https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/view/?ref=1069\\_1069384-ewmqrw9sx2&title=Access-to-COVID-19-vaccines-Global-approaches-in-a-global-crisis&\\_ga=2.186034729.1826545124.1632065461-1229319885.1632065461](https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/view/?ref=1069_1069384-ewmqrw9sx2&title=Access-to-COVID-19-vaccines-Global-approaches-in-a-global-crisis&_ga=2.186034729.1826545124.1632065461-1229319885.1632065461)

At the 2020 US Virtual Summit, the issue of the COVID-19 pandemic was one of the primary topics of discussion and eleven commitments related to COVID-19 and health were made.<sup>6</sup> The G7 leaders committed to coordinating on necessary public health measures to protect people at risk from COVID-19, improve prevention strategies and mitigation measures and “adhering to the principles of efficacy, safety, and accessibility.”<sup>7</sup> They also committed to increasing the supply of medical equipment “where it is most needed.”<sup>8</sup> The G7 leaders emphasized the coordination and cooperation of their efforts in delaying the spread of the virus, conducting research efforts, maximizing public access to official information and providing monetary measures for economic stability.<sup>9</sup>

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, the G7 leaders pledged to donate one billion doses of COVID-19 vaccines to low-income and developing countries as part of its mission to end the pandemic by 2022.<sup>10</sup> The United States has stated it will donate 500 million doses, the United Kingdom has announced it will donate 100 million, France on its end has promised 30 million and Canada has announced it will contribute 100 million vaccination doses to combat COVID-19.<sup>11</sup> The European Union also announced a separate pledge to donate 100 million doses to developing countries and invest USD1.2 billion in African vaccine manufacturing facilities.<sup>12</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

This commitment has been broken down into two distinct parts, and to receive full compliance, G7 members must address both aspects of the commitment. The first part of the commitment includes actions that address the “urgent need to speed up delivery of doses.” The second part of the commitment which requires G7 members action is “to share at least 870 million doses directly over the next year.”

The phrase “urgent need to” is understood to mean “a short-term initiative or obligation that should be put into action in the present and/or very near future. It should not include prolonged and/or delayed efforts and compliance.” This phrasing underscores the importance of this commitment to the G7 members and the international community and the strong language demands strong actions to be taken.

Examples of strong actions include plans with short and concrete timelines terminating in the near future or actions which have already been taken by member states. Examples of weaker compliance actions would be pledges or promises made with no specific timeline to completion, passive verbal reference reaffirmation to the need to provide COVID-19 vaccines to countries around the world without any concrete actions mentioned.

The phrase “speeding up delivery” is understood to mean increasing the rate at which COVID-19 vaccines are being delivered internationally and aid in facilitating their delivery.<sup>13</sup> This rate is relative to the rate at

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<sup>6</sup> G7 Leaders’ Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 5 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html>

<sup>7</sup> G7 Leaders’ Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 5 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html>

<sup>8</sup> G7 Leaders’ Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 5 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html>

<sup>9</sup> G7 Leaders’ Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 5 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html>

<sup>10</sup> Vaccinating the world from Cornwall: The pledging begins, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 June 2021. Access Date: 19 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2021cornwall/naylor-el-ghaoui-pledges.html>

<sup>11</sup> Vaccinating the world from Cornwall: The pledging begins, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 June 2021. Access Date: 19 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2021cornwall/naylor-el-ghaoui-pledges.html>

<sup>12</sup> Vaccinating the world from Cornwall: The pledging begins, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 June 2021. Access Date: 19 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2021cornwall/naylor-el-ghaoui-pledges.html>

<sup>13</sup> G7 announces pledges of 870 million COVID-19 vaccine doses, of which at least half to be delivered by the end of 2021, World Health Organization (Geneva) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 25 October 2021. <https://www.who.int/news/item/13-06-2021-g7-announces-pledges-of-870-million-covid-19-vaccine-doses-of-which-at-least-half-to-be-delivered-by-the-end-of-2021>

which previous vaccines were being pledged/donated when they first became available at the end of 2020. Examples by which G7 members can speed up delivery include: increasing funding available to COVAX, providing technology needed to transport and administer COVID-19 vaccines, and funding or supporting teams/organizations to administer vaccines internationally.<sup>14</sup>

Examples of strong compliance action would include the delivery of vaccines which were pledged, allocating money in the annual budget for COVAX or other organizations which are currently distributing vaccines, and sending teams of healthcare workers and/or necessary equipment to nations/COVAX to help administer COVID-19 vaccines. Examples of weaker compliance actions are pledges to send vaccines without actually sending them to COVAX or to nations which need them. Also, making recommendations or affirmations to international organizations or members of the international community on how to perform mass vaccination campaigns are considered weaker compliance actions.

The term “doses” refers to COVID-19 vaccines that have been approved by the WHO to date.<sup>15</sup> These include COVID-19 vaccines produced by the following companies: Pfizer-BioNTech Manufacturing GmbH, AstraZeneca, Serum Institute of India Pvt. Ltd., Janssen-Cilag International NV (Johnson & Johnson), Moderna Biotech, Sinopharm/Beijing Institute of Biological Products Co. Ltd, Sinovac Life Sciences Co. Ltd.<sup>16</sup> As of 26 September 2021, these are the only WHO approved vaccines; however, as the compliance cycle continues and new vaccines are approved, if donations are made of those vaccines, that can also be considered compliance. The number of doses which each country donates will not be assessed as weak or strong compliance action as long as each member state donates as many doses as they are able.

The term “commit” is understood to mean to do or “perform, to pledge or bind (a person or an organization) to a certain course or policy.”<sup>17</sup> This term implies that compliance will require strong actions such as monetary contribution to fund vaccine acquisition, providing human or technological resources to improve vaccine distribution, increase the number of doses they have pledged to deliver, or go one step further and deliver the pledged doses to nations who need them. Examples of weaker compliance would be affirmations or pledges to donate money, vaccines, or resources, but without a concrete timeline or plan of action to do so.

The term “to share” is understood to mean “to grant or give a share in.”<sup>18</sup> As it applies to this commitment, it is understood that the vaccine doses which are shared among nations can be gifted/donated, G7 members can negotiate on behalf of a particular nation for a discounted price, or sell vaccines directly to nations at a discounted price. Examples of stronger compliance would be vaccine doses which are donated so that no money needs to be spent by COVAX or other nations requiring assistance procuring sufficient vaccine doses for their people. Examples of compliance which would merit a score of partial compliance would be instances where G7 members negotiated a reduced price for vaccines on behalf of another country, or sold excess vaccines to COVAX or other nations for a reduced price.

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<sup>14</sup> What is COVAX?, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 16 September 2021. Access Date: 16 September 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/covax-facility>

<sup>15</sup> Status of COVID-19 Vaccines within WHO EUL/PQ evaluation process, World Health Organization (Geneva) 19 August 2021. Access Date: 16 September 2021.

[https://extranet.who.int/pqweb/sites/default/files/documents/Status\\_COVID\\_VAX\\_19August2021.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/pqweb/sites/default/files/documents/Status_COVID_VAX_19August2021.pdf)

<sup>16</sup> Status of COVID-19 Vaccines within WHO EUL/PQ evaluation process, World Health Organization (Geneva) 19 August 2021. Access Date: 16 September 2021.

[https://extranet.who.int/pqweb/sites/default/files/documents/Status\\_COVID\\_VAX\\_19August2021.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/pqweb/sites/default/files/documents/Status_COVID_VAX_19August2021.pdf)

<sup>17</sup> Commit-verb, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/commit>

<sup>18</sup> Share-verb, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/share>

According to the Carbis Bay G7 Communiqué, the term “directly” refers to doses of COVID-19 vaccines that will go to “those in greatest need” and will be channeled primarily through COVAX, which is run by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, the WHO, the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and CEPI (Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations).<sup>19</sup> Donations of vaccines or funds specifically ear-marked to procure vaccines for other nations can also be arranged through other international organizations or third-party vaccine distributors other than COVAX, should such a situation arise. Donations and funding of vaccines, equipment and human resources must be made before the compliance cycle is over in June 2022.

To summarize, G7 members must satisfy both aspects of this commitment to be considered in full compliance. They must take actions which both help to “speed up delivery of doses” and to contribute to the total of 870 million vaccine doses needed by the WHO to be given to countries that cannot afford to procure enough vaccines for all citizens.

In order to be in compliance for this first target, G7 members must take action in at least two of the four following ways: increasing available funds to COVAX or other international organizations which assist in vaccination programs; sending healthcare teams internationally to assist with immunization campaigns; sharing technology and resources which can assist with transportation and delivery of effective and safe vaccination; and/or delivering or pledging to donate available vaccine doses to COVAX.

In order to be in compliance with this second target, G7 members must donate WHO approved vaccine doses to either COVAX or directly to countries who require additional vaccines. Commitments will be considered partial compliance if these donations are only pledged and full compliance will be considered if they are actually delivered to COVAX or to nations before the end of the compliance cycle. Additional examples of compliance will be negotiations for a reduced price for vaccines on behalf of another country, or selling excess vaccines to COVAX or other nations for a reduced price. Such actions, however, would count as only partial compliance.

A G7 member can achieve full compliance, or a score of +1, if they take action to either speed up delivery of vaccine doses and share vaccine doses within the compliance cycle with either COVAX or other organizations with the mandate to vaccinate populations without reliable access to vaccination.

A G7 member can achieve partial compliance, or a score of 0, if they take action to either speed up delivery of vaccine doses or share vaccine doses within the compliance cycle with either COVAX or other organizations with the mandate to vaccinate populations without reliable access to vaccination. Failure to take any action to fulfill either criteria of the commitment will result in a score of -1, or non-compliance.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has NOT taken steps to speed up delivery of vaccine doses OR made efforts to share doses to meet the global target of 870 million doses by the following summit.
0	The G7 member has taken steps to speed up delivery of vaccine doses OR made efforts to share doses to meet the global target of 870 million doses by the following summit.
+1	The G7 member has taken steps to speed up delivery of vaccine doses AND made efforts to share doses to meet the global target of 870 million doses by the following summit.

*Compliance Director: Dorota Borovský  
Lead Analyst: Danielle Maragh*

<sup>19</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 16 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communicue.html>

**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to speed up delivery of vaccine doses and to make efforts to share doses to meet the global target of 870 million doses by the following summit.

On 12 July 2021, Minister of International Development Karina Gould and Minister of Public Services and Procurement Anita Anand announced that Canada will donate an additional 17.7 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX), with distribution to begin “in the coming weeks.”<sup>20</sup> The Ministers additionally announced that Canada will match, dollar for dollar, donations made by individual Canadians to the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF) Canada’s COVID-19 vaccination fundraising campaign (#GiveAVax), up to a total of CAD10 million. These funds will help cover vaccine transportation costs and help train health care workers to administer the vaccine.

On 4 August 2021, Minister Gould announced that Canada will share 82,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine with Trinidad & Tobago through a bilateral agreement, to be delivered “in the coming days.”<sup>21</sup> These doses were previously shipped to Canada but are more than current demand. Trinidad & Tobago has been chosen to receive these doses because of their current need, ability to deploy the vaccines immediately, the need to minimize wasted doses, and the ability to maximize public health impact.<sup>22</sup>

On 12 August 2021, Ministers Gould and Anand announced that Canada intends to donate 10 million doses of its advanced purchase of the Janssen vaccine to COVAX, bringing Canada’s total pledged COVAX donations to 40 million.<sup>23</sup>

Between 24 August 2021 and 2 September 2021, Canada shipped almost 680,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to regional neighbours through bilateral agreements.<sup>24</sup> These doses were previously shipped to Canada but are more than current demand. This included: 20,000 to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, 200,000 to Jamaica, 395,000 to Ecuador, and 30,000 to Barbados.

On 2 September 2021, as part of its pledge of 40 million donated doses through COVAX, Canada shipped 1.3 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine through COVAX, distinct from previous shipments made

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<sup>20</sup> Canada announces new contribution to global vaccination efforts and launch of matching fund with UNICEF Canada, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 12 July 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/07/canada-announces-new-contribution-to-global-vaccination-efforts-and-launch-of-matching-fund-with-unicef-canada.html>

<sup>21</sup> Canada announces new vaccine contributions for regional partners, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 4 August 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/08/canada-announces-new-vaccine-contributions-for-regional-partners.html>

<sup>22</sup> Canada’s international vaccine donations, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues\\_development-enjeux\\_developpement/global\\_health-sante\\_mondiale/vaccine\\_donations-dons\\_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/global_health-sante_mondiale/vaccine_donations-dons_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>23</sup> Canada announces new contribution to global vaccination efforts, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 12 August 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/08/canada-announces-new-contribution-to-global-vaccination-efforts.html>

<sup>24</sup> Canada’s international vaccine donations, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues\\_development-enjeux\\_developpement/global\\_health-sante\\_mondiale/vaccine\\_donations-dons\\_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/global_health-sante_mondiale/vaccine_donations-dons_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng)



through bilateral agreements.<sup>25</sup> This included: 319,200 to Costa Rica, 801,600 to Nigeria, 100,800 doses to Niger, 459,300 to Kenya and 35,100 to Peru.<sup>26</sup>

On 5 September 2021, Canada shipped 363,100 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Guatemala via COVAX.<sup>27</sup>

On 13 September 2021, Canada shipped 100,800 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Jamaica via COVAX.<sup>28</sup>

On 27 September 2021, Canada shipped 549,600 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Argentina via COVAX.<sup>29</sup>

On 30 October 2021, at the G20 Rome Summit, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced that Canada will donate the equivalent of 200 million doses to the COVAX facility by the end of 2022, including an immediate commitment to contribute up to 10 million doses of the Moderna vaccine.<sup>30</sup> Prime Minister Trudeau similarly pledged CAD15 million to COVAX Manufacturing Task Force partners to support the establishment of the South Africa Technology Transfer Hub. The Hub will support production and development of mRNA vaccines in the region.

On 31 October 2021, Canada shipped 784,280 doses of the Moderna vaccine to Egypt via COVAX.<sup>31</sup>

On 1 November 2021, Canada shipped 369,600 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Jamaica via COVAX.<sup>32</sup>

On 2 November 2021, Canada shipped 326,400 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Angola via COVAX.<sup>33</sup>

On 3 November 2021, Minister of International Development Harjit Sajjan announced that Canada's total donation to UNICEF's #GiveAVax campaign, including original contributions and government matching, to be CAD19.4 million.<sup>34</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> Canada donates doses through COVAX – Nigeria, Kenya and Niger to receive first doses, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 2 September 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/canada-donates-doses-through-covax-nigeria-kenya-and-niger-receive-first-doses>

<sup>26</sup> Canada's international vaccine donations, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues\\_development-enjeux\\_developpement/global\\_health-sante\\_mondiale/vaccine\\_donations-dons\\_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/global_health-sante_mondiale/vaccine_donations-dons_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>27</sup> Canada's international vaccine donations, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues\\_development-enjeux\\_developpement/global\\_health-sante\\_mondiale/vaccine\\_donations-dons\\_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/global_health-sante_mondiale/vaccine_donations-dons_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>28</sup> Canada's international vaccine donations, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues\\_development-enjeux\\_developpement/global\\_health-sante\\_mondiale/vaccine\\_donations-dons\\_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/global_health-sante_mondiale/vaccine_donations-dons_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>29</sup> Canada's international vaccine donations, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues\\_development-enjeux\\_developpement/global\\_health-sante\\_mondiale/vaccine\\_donations-dons\\_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/global_health-sante_mondiale/vaccine_donations-dons_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>30</sup> Global Health and Economy: Prime Minister concludes productive first day of G20 Leaders' Summit in Italy, Office of the Prime Minister (Rome) 30 October 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/10/30/global-health-and-economy-prime-minister-concludes-productive-first>

<sup>31</sup> Canada's international vaccine donations, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues\\_development-enjeux\\_developpement/global\\_health-sante\\_mondiale/vaccine\\_donations-dons\\_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/global_health-sante_mondiale/vaccine_donations-dons_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>32</sup> Canada's international vaccine donations, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues\\_development-enjeux\\_developpement/global\\_health-sante\\_mondiale/vaccine\\_donations-dons\\_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/global_health-sante_mondiale/vaccine_donations-dons_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>33</sup> Canada's international vaccine donations, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues\\_development-enjeux\\_developpement/global\\_health-sante\\_mondiale/vaccine\\_donations-dons\\_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/global_health-sante_mondiale/vaccine_donations-dons_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng)

On 9 November 2021, Canada shipped 326,400 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Nicaragua via COVAX.<sup>35</sup>

On 13 November 2021, Canada shipped 1,904,140 doses of the Moderna vaccine to Uganda via COVAX.<sup>36</sup>

On 15 November 2021, Canada shipped 368,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Nepal via COVAX.<sup>37</sup>

On 18 November 2021, Canada shipped 1,602,160 doses of the Moderna vaccine to Rwanda via COVAX.<sup>38</sup>

On 22 November 2021, the Canadian Crown corporation International Development Research Centre (IDRC) announced interim results of its new artificial intelligence (AI) research project in southern Africa.<sup>39</sup> The project creates data- and AI-powered dashboards that, among other items, assist local public health teams in developing vaccine-rollout strategies.

On 14 December 2021, Canada shipped 841,260 doses of the Moderna vaccine to Egypt via COVAX.<sup>40</sup>

On 15 December 2021, Canada funded and shipped 48,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to the Bahamas, procured through the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) Revolving Fund.<sup>41</sup> This was enacted as part of the CAD50 million “Providing Access to COVID-19 Vaccines for Populations in Situations of Vulnerability in the Americas” project launched in early 2021.<sup>42</sup> This joint Canada-PAHO project supports vaccine delivery and immunization program, community engagement, and communication to support vaccination.

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<sup>34</sup> Canada announces results of matching fund with UNICEF Canada, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 3 November 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/11/canada-announces-results-of-matching-fund-with-unicef-canada.html>

<sup>35</sup> Canada’s international vaccine donations, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues\\_development-enjeux\\_developpement/global\\_health-sante\\_mondiale/vaccine\\_donations-dons\\_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/global_health-sante_mondiale/vaccine_donations-dons_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>36</sup> Canada’s international vaccine donations, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues\\_development-enjeux\\_developpement/global\\_health-sante\\_mondiale/vaccine\\_donations-dons\\_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/global_health-sante_mondiale/vaccine_donations-dons_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>37</sup> Canada’s international vaccine donations, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues\\_development-enjeux\\_developpement/global\\_health-sante\\_mondiale/vaccine\\_donations-dons\\_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/global_health-sante_mondiale/vaccine_donations-dons_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>38</sup> Canada’s international vaccine donations, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues\\_development-enjeux\\_developpement/global\\_health-sante\\_mondiale/vaccine\\_donations-dons\\_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/global_health-sante_mondiale/vaccine_donations-dons_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>39</sup> AI project delivers key pandemic data to policymakers in Africa, International Development Research Centre (Ottawa) 22 November 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://idrc.ca/en/news/ai-project-delivers-key-pandemic-data-policymakers-africa>

<sup>40</sup> Canada’s international vaccine donations, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues\\_development-enjeux\\_developpement/global\\_health-sante\\_mondiale/vaccine\\_donations-dons\\_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/global_health-sante_mondiale/vaccine_donations-dons_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>41</sup> The Bahamas receives COVID-19 vaccines through a collaboration between PAHO/WHO, Canada and Colombia, Pan-American Health Organization (Washington D.C.) 28 December 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.paho.org/en/news/28-12-2021-bahamas-receives-covid-19-vaccines-through-collaboration-between-pahowho-canada-and>

<sup>42</sup> Guyana receives 55,200 doses of COVID-19 vaccines through a collaboration between PAHO and Canada, Pan-American Health Organization (Washington D.C.) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.paho.org/en/news/21-12-2021-guyana-receives-55200-doses-covid-19-vaccines-through-collaboration-between-paho>

On 17 December 2021, Canada donated and shipped 55,200 COVID-19 vaccine doses to Guyana, procured through the PAHO Revolving Fund.<sup>43</sup> This was enacted as part of the joint Canada-PAHO project entitled “Providing Access to COVID-19 Vaccines for Populations in Situations of Vulnerability in the Americas.”

On 18 December 2021, Canada shipped 816,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Colombia, in partnership with PAHO.<sup>44</sup>

On 19 December 2021, Canada shipped 2,203,100 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Bangladesh via COVAX.<sup>45</sup>

On 21 December 2021, Canada shipped 477,680 doses of the Moderna vaccine to Rwanda via COVAX.<sup>46</sup>

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to speed up delivery of vaccine doses and to make efforts to share doses to meet the global target of 870 million doses by the following summit. Canada has sped up deliveries by delivering available vaccine doses to COVAX and by increasing available funds to international organizations assisting in immunization campaigns. Canada has made efforts to share doses by delivering WHO approved doses to COVAX and directly to in-need countries through bilateral agreements.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Asbton Mathias*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to speed up delivery of vaccine doses and to make efforts to share doses to meet the global target of 870 million doses by the following summit.

On 16 June 2021, France shipped 175,200 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Uganda via the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX).<sup>47</sup>

On 17 June 2021, France shipped 24,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Sao Tome and Principe via COVAX.<sup>48</sup>

On 21 June 2021, President Emmanuel Macron, South Africa’s President Cyril Ramaphosa, and Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus announced plans for Africa’s first mRNA technology transfer hub, which aims to scale up production and access to COVID-19

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<sup>43</sup> Guyana receives 55,200 doses of COVID-19 vaccines through a collaboration between PAHO and Canada, Pan-American Health Organization (Washington D.C.) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.paho.org/en/news/21-12-2021-guyana-receives-55200-doses-covid-19-vaccines-through-collaboration-between-paho>

<sup>44</sup> Colombia received 816,000 COVID-19 vaccines donated by Canada, Colombia Ministry of Health and Social Protection (Bogota) 18 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 4 February 2022. <https://www.minsalud.gov.co/Paginas/Colombia-recibio-816.000-vacunas-covid-19-donadas-por-Canada.aspx>

<sup>45</sup> Canada’s international vaccine donations, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues\\_development-enjeux\\_developpement/global\\_health-sante\\_mondiale/vaccine\\_donations-dons\\_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/global_health-sante_mondiale/vaccine_donations-dons_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>46</sup> Canada’s international vaccine donations, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues\\_development-enjeux\\_developpement/global\\_health-sante\\_mondiale/vaccine\\_donations-dons\\_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/global_health-sante_mondiale/vaccine_donations-dons_vaccins.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>47</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>48</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

vaccines for the developing world.<sup>49</sup> Working with the South African consortium of Biovac, Afrigen Biologics and Vaccines, a network of universities and the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) the goal of this effort is to scale up production of vaccines in Africa.

On 5 July 2021, France shipped 108,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Mozambique via COVAX, and 228,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Zambia via COVAX.<sup>50</sup>

On 8 July 2021, France shipped 182,400 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Kenya via COVAX, and 108,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Somalia via COVAX.<sup>51</sup>

On 9 July 2021, France confirmed its investment of EUR1.8 million through the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) for the (Manufacturing in Africa for Disease Immunization and Building Autonomy (MADIBA) project at the Institut Pasteur in Dakar, Senegal.<sup>52</sup> The European Commission, the European Investment Bank, and other EU member-states similarly confirmed investments and signed grant agreements at this event.

On 9 July 2021, France shipped 391,200 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Ethiopia via COVAX.<sup>53</sup>

On 11 July 2021, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian announced to his Tunisian counterpart, Minister Othman Jerandi, that France would increase vaccine contributions to Tunisia, including an imminent 324,000 of AstraZeneca doses through COVAX, and then a shipment of 300,000 AstraZeneca and 500,000 Janssen doses to be delivered in the upcoming weeks, facilitated via bilateral arrangements.<sup>54</sup>

On 18 July 2021, France shipped 324,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Tunisia via COVAX, and then an additional 300,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Tunisia via bilateral arrangement.<sup>55</sup>

On 19 July 2021, France shipped 268,800 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to the Ivory Coast via COVAX.<sup>56</sup>

On 22 July 2021, France shipped 500,000 doses of the Janssen vaccine to Tunisia via bilateral arrangement.<sup>57</sup>

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<sup>49</sup> WHO supporting South African consortium to establish first COVID mRNA vaccine technology transfer hub, World Health Organization (Geneva) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.who.int/news/item/21-06-2021-who-supporting-south-african-consortium-to-establish-first-covid-mrna-vaccine-technology-transfer-hub>

<sup>50</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>51</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>52</sup> Republic of Senegal and Team Europe agree to build a manufacturing plant to produce vaccines against COVID-19 and other endemic diseases, the European Commission (Brussels) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3562](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3562)

<sup>53</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>54</sup> Tunisia – Conversation between Jean-Yves Le Drian and his counterpart, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 11 July 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/tunisia/news/article/tunisia-conversation-between-jean-yves-le-drian-and-his-counterpart-11-july>

<sup>55</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>56</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

On 24 July 2021, France shipped 192,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Malawi via COVAX.<sup>58</sup>

On 8 August 2021, France shipped 144,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Afghanistan via COVAX, and 96,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Sierra Leone via COVAX.<sup>59</sup>

On 14 August 2021, France shipped 19,200 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Guyana via COVAX, and 276,480 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Uzbekistan via COVAX.<sup>60</sup>

On 15 August 2021, France shipped 200,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Madagascar via COVAX.<sup>61</sup>

On 18 August 2021, France shipped 19,200 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Guyana via COVAX, and 115,200 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Mozambique via COVAX.<sup>62</sup>

On 20 August 2021, France shipped 96,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Liberia via COVAX, and 115,200 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Malawi via COVAX.<sup>63</sup>

On 22 August 2021, France shipped 38,400 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to the Gambia via COVAX, 165,600 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Mauritania via COVAX, and 151,200 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Tunisia via COVAX.<sup>64</sup>

On 23 August 2021, France shipped 151,200 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Somalia via COVAX.<sup>65</sup>

On 27 August 2021, France shipped 218,400 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Sudan via COVAX.<sup>66</sup>

On 31 August 2021, France shipped 59,250 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to South Sudan via COVAX.<sup>67</sup>

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<sup>57</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>58</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>59</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>60</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>61</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>62</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>63</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>64</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>65</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>66</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

On 30 August 2021, France announced a donation of 10 million doses of Pfizer and AstraZeneca vaccines to African Union (AU) member states, through COVAX.<sup>68</sup>

On 6 September 2021, France shipped 90,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Tunisia via COVAX.<sup>69</sup>

On 10 September 2021, France shipped 358,700 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Indonesia via COVAX, and 42,240 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Madagascar via COVAX.<sup>70</sup>

On 13 September 2021, France shipped 25,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Armenia via bilateral arrangement, and 672,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Vietnam via COVAX.<sup>71</sup>

On 14 September 2021, France shipped an additional 25,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Armenia via bilateral arrangement.<sup>72</sup>

On 16 September 2021, France shipped 938,360 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Indonesia via COVAX.<sup>73</sup>

On 17 September 2021, France shipped 546,400 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Egypt via COVAX.<sup>74</sup>

On 20 September 2021, France shipped 97,800 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Bolivia via COVAX.<sup>75</sup>

On 22 September 2021, France shipped 501,300 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Uganda via COVAX.<sup>76</sup>

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<sup>67</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>68</sup> France is working with its African partners to deliver 10 million doses of vaccines to Africa, Office of the President of France (Paris) 30 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2021/08/30/la-france-collabore-avec-ses-partenaires-africains-pour-livrer-10-millions-de-doses-de-vaccins-a-lafrique>

<sup>69</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>70</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>71</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>72</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>73</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>74</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>75</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>76</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

On 23 September 2021, France shipped 100,800 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Algeria via COVAX, and 1,236,480 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Indonesia via COVAX.<sup>77</sup>

On 24 September 2021, France shipped 100,800 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Cote D'Ivoire via COVAX, and 300,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Senegal via COVAX.<sup>78</sup>

On 25 September 2021, France shipped 100,800 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Malawi via COVAX.<sup>79</sup>

On 26 September 2021, President Macron announced France would double its COVID-19 vaccine sharing pledge to COVAX, for a grand total of 120 million doses by mid-2022.<sup>80</sup>

On 26 September 2021, France shipped 40,800 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Benin via COVAX.<sup>81</sup>

On 27 September 2021, France shipped 100,800 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Angola via COVAX.<sup>82</sup>

On 28 September 2021, France shipped 100,800 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Somalia via COVAX.<sup>83</sup>

On 2 October 2021, France shipped 600,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Indonesia via bilateral arrangement.<sup>84</sup>

On 4 October 2021, France shipped 501,600 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Nigeria via COVAX.<sup>85</sup>

On 8 October 2021, France shipped 401,900 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Kenya via COVAX.<sup>86</sup>

On 9 October 2021, France shipped 300,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Sudan via COVAX.<sup>87</sup>

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<sup>77</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>78</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>79</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>80</sup> France to double Covid vaccine doses for poorer countries, France24 (Paris) 26 September 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20210925-france-to-double-covid-vaccine-doses-for-poorer-countries>

<sup>81</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>82</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>83</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>84</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>85</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>86</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

On 13 October 2021, France shipped 688,800 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Indonesia via COVAX.<sup>88</sup>

On 14 October 2021, France shipped 643,280 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Egypt via COVAX.<sup>89</sup>

On 16 October 2021, France shipped 516,800 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Uganda via COVAX.<sup>90</sup>

On 17 October 2021, France shipped 100,800 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Sierra Leone via COVAX.<sup>91</sup>

On 18 October 2021, France shipped 100,800 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Guinea via COVAX.<sup>92</sup>

On 19 October 2021, France shipped 452,400 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Ethiopia via COVAX.<sup>93</sup>

On 21 October 2021, France shipped 120,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Uganda via COVAX.<sup>94</sup>

On 27 October 2021, France shipped an additional 21,400 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Uganda via COVAX.<sup>95</sup>

On 27 October 2021, Minister Le Drian announced that France had donated an additional 398,970 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Rwanda through COVAX and the African Vaccine Acquisition Trust (AVAT) initiative.<sup>96</sup>

On 30 October 2021, France announced a new partnership with COVAX through Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) to increase immunization capacity in Africa, by tackling hesitancy and mobilizing domestic and international civil society

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<sup>87</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>88</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>89</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>90</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>91</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>92</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>93</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>94</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>95</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>96</sup> Rwanda – Donation of nearly 400,000 doses of Pfizer vaccine, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 27 October 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/rwanda/news/article/rwanda-donation-of-nearly-400-000-doses-of-pfizer-vaccine-oct-27-2021>



organizations.<sup>97</sup> The six-month pilot phase begins as early as November 2021, whereby the partners select two African countries with low vaccine uptake rates and aim to target vaccination among healthcare workers and populations most at risk of developing severe disease.

On 1 November 2021, France shipped 442,700 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Rwanda via COVAX.<sup>98</sup>

On 3 November 2021, France shipped 501,600 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Mozambique via COVAX.<sup>99</sup>

On 6 November 2021, France shipped 183,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Togo via COVAX.<sup>100</sup>

On 9 November 2021, France shipped 495,600 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Angola via COVAX.<sup>101</sup>

On 16 November 2021, France shipped 60,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to South Sudan via COVAX.<sup>102</sup>

On 17 November 2021, France shipped 1,154,400 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Angola via COVAX.<sup>103</sup>

On 23 November 2021, France shipped 90,090 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Bolivia via COVAX, 9,600 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Lesotho via COVAX, and 579,600 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Egypt via COVAX.<sup>104</sup>

On 25 November 2021, France shipped 115,200 doses of the Moderna vaccine to Kyrgyzstan via COVAX.<sup>105</sup> Accordingly, Moderna became the fourth vaccine type donated by France, after AstraZeneca, Pfizer, and Janssen.

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<sup>97</sup> To support vaccination against COVID-19, France joins forces with COVAX to launch “From vaccines delivery to vaccination against COVID-19” project, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 30 October 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2021/article/to-support-vaccination-against-covid-19-france-joins-forces-with-covax-to>

<sup>98</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>99</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>100</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>101</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>102</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>103</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>104</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>105</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

On 26 November 2021, France shipped 4,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Chad via bilateral arrangement, and 398,970 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Tunisia via COVAX.<sup>106</sup>

On 27 November 2021, France delivered 969,930 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Vietnam via COVAX.<sup>107</sup>

On 27 November 2021, France shipped 2,205,385 doses of the Moderna vaccine to Pakistan via COVAX.<sup>108</sup>

On 29 November 2021, France shipped 2,006,400 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Bangladesh via COVAX.<sup>109</sup>

On 30 November 2021, France shipped 500,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Libya via bilateral arrangement.<sup>110</sup>

On 1 December 2021, France shipped 1,632,900 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to the Philippines via COVAX.<sup>111</sup>

On 2 December 2021, France shipped 400,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Vietnam via bilateral arrangement.<sup>112</sup>

On 3 December 2021, France shipped 355,200 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Egypt via COVAX, and 200,070 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Botswana via COVAX.<sup>113</sup>

On 6 December 2021, France shipped 76,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Lebanon via bilateral arrangement.<sup>114</sup>

On 7 December 2021, France shipped 684,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Ghana via COVAX.<sup>115</sup>

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<sup>106</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>107</sup> 969,930 doses of COVID-19 vaccines donated by France through the COVAX Facility arrived in Viet Nam, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (Hanoi) 29 November 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021.

<https://www.unicef.org/vietnam/press-releases/969930-doses-covid-19-vaccines-donated-france-through-covax-facility-arrived-viet>

<sup>108</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>109</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>110</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>111</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>112</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>113</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>114</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

On 8 December 2021, France announced 10 million doses had been successfully delivered to at least 38 African Union member-states, including recent shipments to Ghana, Botswana, Egypt, Tunisia, and Lesotho.<sup>116</sup>

On 10 December 2021, France shipped 117,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Montenegro via bilateral arrangement, 117,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Kosovo via bilateral arrangement, and 100,000 doses of the Moderna vaccine to Gabon via bilateral arrangement.<sup>117</sup>

On 23 December 2021, Minister Le Drian committed to donating 200,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to help vaccinate migrants in Costa Rica.<sup>118</sup>

On 27 December 2021, France donated 117,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Bosnia and Herzegovina as promised by President Macron at the EU-Western Balkans Summit in Brdo on 7 October 2021.<sup>119</sup>

France has fully complied with its commitment to speed up delivery of vaccine doses and to make efforts to share doses to meet the global target of 870 million doses by the following summit. France has sped up deliveries by delivering available vaccine doses to COVAX and by investing in technology, programs and resources that can assist in the production and delivery of effective vaccines. France has made efforts to share doses by delivering WHO approved doses to COVAX and directly to in-need countries.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Ashton Mathias*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to speed up delivery of vaccine doses and to make efforts to share doses to meet the global target of 870 million doses by the following summit.

On 9 July 2021, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) announced its support for a vaccine manufacturing hub in Senegal with a EUR20 million grant through KfW (Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau), the German Development Bank.<sup>120</sup> The goal of the new plant is to reduce Africa's 99 per cent dependence on imported vaccines and to strengthen future pandemic resilience.

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<sup>115</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>116</sup> Covid-19 - France delivers 10 million vaccine doses to the African Union, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/covid-19-france-delivers-10-million-vaccine-doses-to-the-african-union-dec-8>

<sup>117</sup> France, spearheading vaccine solidarity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/france-spearheading-vaccine-solidarity>

<sup>118</sup> Costa Rica – Visit by Jean-Yves Le Drian, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 23 December 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/costa-rica/events/article/costa-rica-visit-by-jean-yves-le-drian-dec-22-23-2021>

<sup>119</sup> A donation of 117,000 doses of Pfizer vaccine from France arrives in BiH, Sarajevo Times (Sarajevo) 27 December 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. <https://sarajevotimes.com/a-donation-of-117000-doses-of-pfizer-vaccine-from-france-arrives-in-bih/>

<sup>120</sup> Republic of Senegal and Team Europe agree to build a manufacturing plant to produce vaccines against COVID-19 and other endemic diseases, European Commission (Brussels) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 29 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/api/files/document/print/en/ip\\_21\\_3562/IP\\_21\\_3562\\_EN.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/api/files/document/print/en/ip_21_3562/IP_21_3562_EN.pdf)

On 15 July 2021, Federal Minister of Health Jens Spahn announced a donation of 30 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines and EUR260 million to the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A).<sup>121</sup>

On 26 August 2021, Germany delivered 1.5 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Ghana, 300,000 more than initially agreed upon when Chancellor Angela Merkel held bilateral talks with Ghanaian President Nana Akufo-Addo earlier in the month.<sup>122</sup>

On 8 September 2021, Germany donated the first batch of its pledge of 100 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines, majority delivered via the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX), with 213,600 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Mauritania.<sup>123</sup>

On 9 September 2021, Germany shipped 100,800 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Tajikistan via COVAX.<sup>124</sup>

On 10 September 2021, Germany shipped 356,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Uzbekistan via COVAX.<sup>125</sup>

On 11 September 2021, Germany shipped 357,600 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Sudan via COVAX.<sup>126</sup>

On 13 September 2021, Germany shipped 271,200 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Ethiopia via COVAX, with a second distribution of 101,760 vaccine doses to Botswana and 117,120 vaccine doses to Namibia forthcoming.<sup>127</sup>

On 18 October 2021, Germany shipped 302,400 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Iran via COVAX.<sup>128</sup>

On 10 December 2021, Germany donated a shipment of 2.558 million doses of the Moderna vaccine to Vietnam via COVAX.<sup>129</sup>

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<sup>121</sup> Germany reinforces its commitment to support WHO's work, World Health Organization (Geneva) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 30 December 2021. <https://www.who.int/news/item/16-07-2021-germany-reinforces-its-commitment-to-support-who-s-work>

<sup>122</sup> Ghana receives 1.5M doses of AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine from Germany, Anadolu Agency (Accra) 26 August 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/ghana-receives-15m-doses-of-astrazeneca-covid-19-vaccine-from-germany/2375540>

<sup>123</sup> First delivery of German-donated COVID vaccines to COVAX land in Mauritania, with other deliveries to follow, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 8 September 2021. Access Date: 30 December 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/first-delivery-german-donated-covid-vaccines-covax-land-mauritania-other-deliveries>

<sup>124</sup> First delivery of German-donated COVID vaccines to COVAX land in Mauritania, with other deliveries to follow, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 8 September 2021. Access Date: 30 December 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/first-delivery-german-donated-covid-vaccines-covax-land-mauritania-other-deliveries>

<sup>125</sup> First delivery of German-donated COVID vaccines to COVAX land in Mauritania, with other deliveries to follow, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 8 September 2021. Access Date: 30 December 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/first-delivery-german-donated-covid-vaccines-covax-land-mauritania-other-deliveries>

<sup>126</sup> First delivery of German-donated COVID vaccines to COVAX land in Mauritania, with other deliveries to follow, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 8 September 2021. Access Date: 30 December 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/first-delivery-german-donated-covid-vaccines-covax-land-mauritania-other-deliveries>

<sup>127</sup> First delivery of German-donated COVID vaccines to COVAX land in Mauritania, with other deliveries to follow, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 8 September 2021. Access Date: 30 December 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/first-delivery-german-donated-covid-vaccines-covax-land-mauritania-other-deliveries>

<sup>128</sup> Iran receives 1,442,000 COVID-19 vaccine doses donated by Italy and Germany through the COVAX Facility, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (Tehran) 18 October 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. <https://www.unicef.org/iran/en/press-releases/iran-receives-1442000-covid-19-vaccine-doses-donated-italy-and-germany-through-covax>

Germany has put forth considerable effort and had success in their two target areas of accelerating vaccinations and sharing vaccines either through bilateral arrangements or donation to COVAX. Germany has both donated vaccine doses to low- and middle-income countries, as well as contributed to increasing the vaccination efforts globally.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Robin Yuen*

### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to speed up delivery of vaccine doses and to make efforts to share doses to meet the global target of 870 million doses by the following summit.

On 1 August 2021, Italy shipped 1.5 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccines to Tunisia.<sup>130</sup> This aligned with Italy's commitment to supply "15 million vaccine doses to low-income countries by the end of 2021."<sup>131</sup>

On 13 September 2021, Italy donated 100,800 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Iraq through the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) initiative.<sup>132</sup>

On 14 September 2021, Italy donated 812,060 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Vietnam through the COVAX initiative.<sup>133</sup>

On 16 September 2021, Italy donated 117,600 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Libya through the COVAX initiative.<sup>134</sup>

On 23 September 2021, Prime Minister Mario Draghi pledged an additional 30 million donation of doses totaling to 45 million doses by the end of 2021.<sup>135</sup> These donations are set to be delivered either directly to countries or through COVAX.

On 30 September 2021, Italy shipped 796,800 COVID-19 vaccine doses to Indonesia via COVAX.<sup>136</sup>

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<sup>129</sup> Joining hands to fight the pandemic- together against the pandemic Germany supports Vietnam with another 2,558,000 vaccine doses via COVAX, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 30 December 2021. <https://www.unicef.org/vietnam/press-releases/joining-hands-fight-pandemic-together-against-pandemic-germany-supports-vietnam>

<sup>130</sup> Tunisia take delivery of Italian donation of 1.5 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines, Agence Tunis Afrique Presse (Tunis) 1 August 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.tap.info.tn/en/Portal-Society/14254093-tunisia-takes>

<sup>131</sup> Foreign Ministry Note – Vaccine supplies to Tunisia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 2 August 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/08/nota-farnesina-fornitura-di-vaccini-alla-tunisia-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/08/nota-farnesina-fornitura-di-vaccini-alla-tunisia-2/)

<sup>132</sup> Iraq receives first doses donated by Italy through COVAX, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 13 September 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/iraq-receives-first-doses-donated-italy-through-covax>

<sup>133</sup> 1,484,060 doses of COVID-19 vaccines donated by France and Italy through the COVAX Facility arrive in Vietnam today, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (Hanoi) 14 September 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021.

<https://www.unicef.org/vietnam/press-releases/1484060-doses-covid-19-vaccines-donated-france-and-italy-through-covax-facility>

<sup>134</sup> Italy donates 117,600 doses of AstraZeneca anti-Coronavirus vaccines to Libya, Libya Herald (Tripoli) 16 September 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.libyaherald.com/2021/09/16/italy-donates-117600-doses-of-astrazeneca-anti-coronavirus-vaccines-to-libya/>

<sup>135</sup> Global leaders commit further support for global equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines and COVAX, World Health Organization (Geneva) 23 September 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.who.int/news/item/23-09-2021-global-leaders-commit-further-support-for-global-equitable-access-to-covid-19-vaccines-and-covax>

<sup>136</sup> Indonesia receives 796,800 COVID-19 Vaccines from the Government of Italy, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (New York) 30 September 2021. Access Date: 28 January 2021. <https://www.unicef.org/indonesia/press-releases/indonesia-receives-796800-covid-19-vaccines-government-italy>

On 1 October 2021, Italy renewed its initial AstraZeneca donation to Libya with an additional 240,000 doses.<sup>137</sup>

On 5 October 2021, Italy donated 1.2 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccines to Iran with delivery being facilitated by the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF).<sup>138</sup>

On 6 October 2021, Italy delivered a third donation of 144,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Libya, bringing their total donation to this nation up to 501,600 doses.<sup>139</sup>

On 18 October 2021, Italy shipped 1.442 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Iran via COVAX.<sup>140</sup>

On 15 December 2021, Italy donated 1,814,400 doses of the Janssen vaccine to Angola via COVAX.<sup>141</sup>

On 31 December 2021, Italy and Germany donated 453,600 doses of the Moderna vaccine to the Palestinian Authority's Ministry of Health through the COVAX initiative.<sup>142</sup>

On 31 January 2022, Italy donated more than three million COVID-19 vaccine doses to Syria.<sup>143</sup>

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to speed up delivery of vaccines and to make efforts to share doses to meet the global target of 870 million doses directly over the next year. Italy has shown its compliance through the donation of doses that were ultimately received by low-income countries. However, Italy has failed to provide financial support or resources to international organizations to increase the administration of vaccines.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Sharif Fatourehchi*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to speed up delivery of vaccine doses and to make efforts to share doses to meet the global target of 870 million doses by the following summit.

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<sup>137</sup> Italy donates 240,000 doses of AstraZeneca vaccines to Libya, Libya Herald (Tripoli) 1 October 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.libyaherald.com/2021/10/01/italy-donates-240000-doses-of-astrazeneca-vaccines-to-libya/>

<sup>138</sup> Italy Donates 1.2m Doses of COVID-19 Vaccine to Iran, Tehran Times (Tehran) 8 October 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/465771/Italy-donates-1-2m-doses-of-vaccine-to-iran>

<sup>139</sup> Libya receives another 144,000 vaccines are from Italy, Libya Update (Benghazi) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 27 December 2021. <https://libyaupdate.com/libya-receives-another-144000-vaccines-are-from-italy/>

<sup>140</sup> Iran receives 1,442,000 COVID-19 vaccine doses donated by Italy and Germany through the COVAX Facility, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (Tehran) 18 October 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. <https://www.unicef.org/iran/en/press-releases/iran-receives-1442000-covid-19-vaccine-doses-donated-italy-and-germany-through-covax>

<sup>141</sup> Italy supports Angola in the fight against COVID-19, Agenzia Nazionale Stampa Associata (Cairo) 15 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 February 2022.

[https://www.ansa.it/sito/notizie/mondo/news\\_dalle\\_ambasciate/2021/12/15/litalia-sostiene-langola-nella-lotta-al-covid-19\\_bbaa1b63-51e2-467a-8f5c-fdaf83cfc3f2.html](https://www.ansa.it/sito/notizie/mondo/news_dalle_ambasciate/2021/12/15/litalia-sostiene-langola-nella-lotta-al-covid-19_bbaa1b63-51e2-467a-8f5c-fdaf83cfc3f2.html)

<sup>142</sup> Palestine without vaccines, half a million doses from UNICEF, La Stampa (Rome) 31 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 February 2022.

[https://www.lastampa.it/esteri/2021/12/31/news/palestina\\_senza\\_vaccini\\_mezzo\\_milione\\_di\\_dosi\\_dall\\_unicef\\_-2424117/](https://www.lastampa.it/esteri/2021/12/31/news/palestina_senza_vaccini_mezzo_milione_di_dosi_dall_unicef_-2424117/)

<sup>143</sup> Italy donates more than three million doses of COVID-19 vaccine to Syria, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (New York) 1 February 2022. Access Date: 5 February 2022. <https://www.unicef.org/syria/stories/italy-donates-more-three-million-doses-covid-19-vaccine-syria>

On 16 June 2021, Japan donated 1 million doses of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine to Vietnam.<sup>144</sup> The vaccines were provided as part of Japanese commitment to ensuring equitable access to vaccines in all countries.

On 25 June 2021, the Government of Japan announced the use of its Emergency Grant Aid scheme to provide cold chain equipment and relevant assistance to India valued at USD9.3 million.<sup>145</sup> This includes providing medical equipment such as cold-storage facilities. This complies with Japan's commitment to accelerate vaccination throughout the world in order to contain the spread of COVID-19. The provision of equipment and assistance is part of Japanese assistance in preventing the spread of the disease.

On 25 June 2021, the Government of Japan pledged to donate 1 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine each to Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Taiwan, and Vietnam.<sup>146</sup> This comes in addition to the 1.24 million doses provided to Taiwan and the 1 million doses provided to Vietnam earlier in the month.

On 1 July 2021, Japan delivered 1 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccines to Malaysia in accordance with the exchange of notes regarding the provision of COVID-19 vaccines that occurred in Putrajaya, Malaysia on 29 June 2021.<sup>147</sup>

On 13 July 2021, Japan announced that it will donate another 1 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Taiwan.<sup>148</sup> These doses are in addition to the already 2.37 million doses which were delivered to Taiwan since early June. The vaccine donations are in compliance with Japan's commitment to ensuring speedy delivery of COVID-19 vaccines around the world.

On 15 July 2021, Japan delivered 1 million doses of AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines to Indonesia as part of the Exchange of Notes on 29 June 2021 between the two countries that guaranteed the donation of vaccines.<sup>149</sup> This shipment adds to the 1 million doses sent on 1 July 2021, totaling to 2 million doses sent from Japan to Indonesia. These vaccines were provided as part of Japanese assistance in mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in Indonesia.

On 16 July 2021, the Government of Japan extended an Emergency Grant Aid of USD4.66 million to the United Nations Office for Project Services to cover a part of the logistical costs, including transportation costs, of donating 11 million COVID-19 vaccine doses manufactured in Japan through the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) facility to 15 countries.<sup>150</sup> This donation will accelerate the delivery of COVID-19 vaccines to countries in Southeast Asia, Southwest Asia, and the Pacific Islands.

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<sup>144</sup> Japan to ship 1 mln COVID-19 vaccines to Vietnam on Wednesday, Reuters (Tokyo) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/japan-ship-1-mln-covid-19-vaccines-vietnam-june-16-2021-06-15/>

<sup>145</sup> Support for Cold Chain System Building in response to COVID-19 pandemic in India, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 25 June 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e\\_000304.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000304.html)

<sup>146</sup> Japan to donate millions more AstraZeneca vaccine doses across Asia, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 25 June 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2021/06/082ff96b4bdb-japan-to-donate-millions-more-astrazeneca-vaccines-across-asia.html>

<sup>147</sup> Exchange of Notes regarding the grant of COVID-19 vaccines to Malaysia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e\\_000305.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000305.html)

<sup>148</sup> Japan to give more COVID vaccine doses to Taiwan, Indonesia, Vietnam, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 28 December 2021. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2021/07/1d8b776a9fc9-japan-to-give-more-covid-vaccine-doses-to-taiwan-indonesia-vietnam.html>

<sup>149</sup> The grant of COVID-19 vaccines to the Republic of Indonesia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000211.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000211.html)

<sup>150</sup> Emergency Grant Aid for logistical support including transportation of the vaccines manufactured in Japan to be donated through the COVAX facility, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e\\_000311.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000311.html)

On 18 July 2021, Japan delivered 1 million doses of AstraZeneca vaccines to the Philippines in accordance with the Exchange of Notes regarding the provision of COVID-19 vaccines that occurred in Manila on 29 June 2021.<sup>151</sup>

On 23 July 2021, Japan delivered 300,000 out of a promised 1 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine made in Japan to Cambodia.<sup>152</sup> The vaccines were provided as part of Japanese assistance in mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in Cambodia in collaboration with the global COVAX initiative.

On 24 July 2021, Japan donated 245,200 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Bangladesh via the global COVAX initiative.<sup>153</sup>

On 31 July 2021, Japan delivered 700,000 out of a promised 1.5 million AstraZeneca vaccine doses made in Japan to Sri Lanka.<sup>154</sup> The vaccines were provided as part of Japanese assistance in mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in Sri Lanka in collaboration with the global COVAX initiative.

On 31 July 2021, Japan donated 781,320 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Bangladesh via the global COVAX initiative.<sup>155</sup>

On 3 August 2021, the Government of Japan delivered approximately 600,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines made in Japan to Laos.<sup>156</sup> The vaccines were provided as part of Japanese assistance in mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in Laos in collaboration with the global COVAX initiative.

On 3 August 2021, Japan delivered 616,780 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Bangladesh via the global COVAX initiative.<sup>157</sup>

On 4 August 2021, the Government of Japan decided to provide approximately 1.6 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines created in Japan to Nepal as part of the COVAX facility.<sup>158</sup> The first 510,000 doses were airlifted on 5 August 2021, and another 330,000 on 6 August 2021.

On 6 August 2021, Japan donated 781,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Bangladesh, bringing the total donation to Bangladesh to around 2.4 million doses.<sup>159</sup>

On 13 August 2021 the Government of Japan decided to provide approximately 170,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines made in Japan to Timor-Leste.<sup>160</sup> The vaccines were provided as part of Japanese assistance in mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in Timor-Leste in collaboration with the global COVAX initiative.

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<sup>151</sup> Exchange of Notes regarding the provision of COVID-19 vaccines to the Republic of the Philippines, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e\\_000307.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000307.html)

<sup>152</sup> The Provision of COVID-19 vaccines to Kingdom of Cambodia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 23 July 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000218.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000218.html)

<sup>153</sup> Japan gifts Bangladesh 781,000 more doses of COVID-19 vaccine, Anadolu Agency (Dhaka) 21 August 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/asia-pacific/japan-gifts-bangladesh-781-000-more-doses-of-covid-19-vaccine/2342003>

<sup>154</sup> The Provision of COVID-19 vaccines to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka through the COVAX facility, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 30 July 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000221.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000221.html)

<sup>155</sup> Japan gifts Bangladesh 781,000 more doses of COVID-19 vaccine, Anadolu Agency (Dhaka) 21 August 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/asia-pacific/japan-gifts-bangladesh-781-000-more-doses-of-covid-19-vaccine/2342003>

<sup>156</sup> The Provision of COVID-19 vaccines to the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 3 August 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000223.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000223.html)

<sup>157</sup> Japan gifts Bangladesh 781,000 more doses of COVID-19 vaccine, Anadolu Agency (Dhaka) 21 August 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/asia-pacific/japan-gifts-bangladesh-781-000-more-doses-of-covid-19-vaccine/2342003>

<sup>158</sup> The Provision of COVID-19 vaccines to Nepal through the COVAX facility, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 4 August 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000225.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000225.html)

<sup>159</sup> Japan gifts Bangladesh 781,000 more doses of COVID-19 vaccine, Anadolu Agency (Dhaka) 21 August 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/asia-pacific/japan-gifts-bangladesh-781-000-more-doses-of-covid-19-vaccine/2342003>



On 19 August 2021, Japan delivered 110,000 doses of AstraZeneca vaccines made in Japan to Samoa.<sup>161</sup> These vaccines were provided as part of Japanese assistance in mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in Samoa as a member of the global COVAX initiative. This action aligns with Japan's commitment to provide countries in the Pacific Islands with a total of three million COVID-19 vaccines as part of COVAX by the end of 2021.

On 20 August 2021, Japan announced it will provide approximately 60,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines made in Japan to Kiribati through the COVAX facility.<sup>162</sup> This donation was made as part of Japan's pledge at the Ninth Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting in July 2021, where Japan promised to donate approximately three million doses of vaccines to Pacific Island countries, including through the COVAX initiative.

On 21 August 2021, Japan delivered 60,000 COVID-19 vaccine doses made in Japan to Fiji through the global COVAX initiative.<sup>163</sup>

On 21 August 2021, Japan delivered 100,000 doses of AstraZeneca vaccine made in Japan to the Maldives through the global COVAX initiative.<sup>164</sup>

On 25 August 2021, Japan delivered 40,000 COVID-19 vaccine doses made in Japan to Tonga through the global COVAX initiative.<sup>165</sup>

On 27 August 2021, Japan delivered 60,000 COVID-19 vaccine doses made in Japan to the Solomon Islands through the global COVAX initiative.<sup>166</sup>

On 21 September 2021, the Government of Japan pledged to donate 500,000 additional AstraZeneca doses to Taiwan, 400,000 doses to Vietnam, 300,000 doses to Thailand and 100,000 doses to Brunei.<sup>167</sup>

On 23 September 2021, Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga announced that Japan intends on donating 60 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines to other countries, doubling its previous pledge of 30 million doses.<sup>168</sup> Prime Minister Suga also declared that Japan has successfully delivered 23 million doses to other countries, primarily those in Asia.

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<sup>160</sup> The Provision of COVID-19 vaccines to Timor-Leste through the COVAX facility, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 12 August 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000228.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000228.html)

<sup>161</sup> The Provision of COVID-19 vaccines to the Independent State of Samoa through the COVAX facility, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000230.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000230.html)

<sup>162</sup> The Provision of COVID-19 Vaccines to Kiribati through the COVAX Facility, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 20 August 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000233.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000233.html)

<sup>163</sup> The Provision of COVID-19 Vaccines to Fiji through the COVAX Facility, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 20 August 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000232.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000232.html)

<sup>164</sup> The Provision of COVID-19 vaccines to the Maldives through the COVAX Facility, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 20 August 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000234.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000234.html)

<sup>165</sup> The Provision of COVID-19 Vaccines to Tonga through the COVAX Facility, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 24 August 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_003035.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_003035.html)

<sup>166</sup> The Provision of COVID-19 Vaccines to the Solomon Islands through the COVAX Facility, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 26 August 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_003037.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_003037.html)

<sup>167</sup> Japan to donate 1.3 million more AstraZeneca vaccine doses to Taiwan, Asian neighbors, The Asahi Shimbun (Osaka). 14 September 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/14440059>

<sup>168</sup> Japan to double COVID-19 vaccine donations to other countries to 60 mln doses, Reuters (Tokyo) 23 September 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/business/healthcare-pharmaceuticals/japan-double-covid-19-vaccine-donations-other-countries-60-mln-doses-2021-09-22/>

On 17 October 2021, Japan announced that it would donate 1.96 million additional doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to the Philippines, bringing its total donation to the Philippines to about three million doses.<sup>169</sup> This action complies with Japan's commitment to ensuring access to vaccines around the world.

On 19 November 2021, Minister for Foreign Affairs Yoshimasa Hayashi pledged to deliver 3.7 million doses of AstraZeneca vaccines made in Japan to Cambodia, Laos, Tonga, Vanuatu, Nicaragua, Egypt, Syria and Yemen under the COVAX initiative.<sup>170</sup> This is a move towards meeting the commitment undertaken by Japan as part of COVAX by donating vaccines to low and lower-middle income countries. This donation marks the first delivery of vaccines to Africa and Latin America from Japan.

On 13 December 2021, the Government of Japan announced that it will provide Bangladesh with 1.49 million doses of AstraZeneca vaccines made in Japan in addition to the approximately 3.06 million doses provided since July 2021, totaling to approximately 4.55 million doses of vaccines.<sup>171</sup> On 13 December 2021, approximately 790,000 out of the promised 1.49 million doses were delivered to Bangladesh. These vaccines were provided as part of Japanese assistance in mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in Bangladesh in collaboration with the global COVAX initiative.

On 14 December 2021, the Government of Japan provided Tonga with 7,000 additional doses of AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines made in Japan.<sup>172</sup> These vaccines were provided as part of Japanese assistance in mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in Tonga as a member of the global COVAX initiative.

On 24 December 2021, the Government of Japan decided to provide approximately 150,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines made in Japan to Syria through the COVAX facility.<sup>173</sup> This action complies with Japan's commitment to ensuring access to vaccines around the world.

On 27 December 2021, Japan delivered 70,000 COVID-19 vaccine doses to Egypt through the global COVAX facility.<sup>174</sup>

On 12 January 2022, the Government of Japan announced that it will provide approximately 700,000 doses of AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines manufactured in Japan to Iran through the COVAX facility.<sup>175</sup> This action aligns with Japan's commitment to help slow the spread of COVID-19 by means of providing vaccination against the disease.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to speed up delivery of vaccine doses and to make efforts to share doses to meet the global target of 870 million vaccine doses by the following summit. Japan has donated doses of domestically produced COVID-19 vaccines to countries all around the world, both as part of COVAX and via bilateral and multilateral agreements. Japan has also provided funds to aid countries in

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<sup>169</sup> Japan to donate 1.96 million more AstraZeneca vaccine doses to the Philippines, Rappler (Manila) 17 October 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.rappler.com/nation/japan-donate-astrazeneca-covid-19-vaccine-doses-philippines-2021/>

<sup>170</sup> Japan to provide 3.7 mil. COVID vaccines to 9 nations via COVAX, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 19 November 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2021/11/d7f8e6e26d48-japan-to-provide-37-mil-covid-vaccines-to-9-nations-via-covax.html>

<sup>171</sup> The Provision of COVID-19 vaccine to the People's Republic of Bangladesh through the COVAX Facility, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 13 December 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e\\_000356.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000356.html)

<sup>172</sup> The Provision of COVID-19 vaccines to Tonga through the COVAX Facility, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e\\_000358.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000358.html)

<sup>173</sup> The Provision of COVID-19 vaccines to the Syrian Arab Republic through the COVAX facility, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo). 24 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022.

<sup>174</sup> The Provision of COVID-19 vaccines to the Arab Republic of Egypt through the COVAX facility, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 27 December 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000302.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000302.html)

<sup>175</sup> Provision of additional COVID-19 vaccines to the Islamic Republic of Iran through the COVAX facility, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 12 January 2022. Access Date: 16 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000304.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000304.html)

gaining access to and storing vaccine doses. Moreover, Japan has placed a particular emphasis on aiding lower-income countries to ensure that the most vulnerable populations have equitable access to vaccines.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

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### **United Kingdom: 0**

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to speed up delivery of vaccine doses and to make efforts to share doses to meet the global target of 870 million doses by the following summit.

On 28 July 2021, the United Kingdom donated 12,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Antigua & Barbuda via bilateral agreement.<sup>176</sup>

On 29 July 2021, the UK announced a donation of 817,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Kenya, 600,000 doses to Indonesia and 300,000 doses to Jamaica.<sup>177</sup> The UK has done so in compliance with its commitment to supply 100 million vaccine doses to low-income countries by June 2022, including 80 million vaccine doses for the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) initiative.<sup>178</sup>

On 29 July 2021, the UK delivered 415,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Cambodia via bilateral agreement.<sup>179</sup>

On 2 August 2021, the UK delivered 415,040 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to the Philippines as part of its commitment to supply 100 million vaccines to developing countries.<sup>180</sup>

On 2 August 2021, the UK delivered 620,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Indonesia.<sup>181</sup>

On 3 August 2021, the UK delivered 415,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccines to Vietnam.<sup>182</sup>

On 13 August 2021, the UK delivered three million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to COVAX and sent to 11 countries across Africa including Angola, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Senegal and Uganda.<sup>183</sup> The first distribution included 119,200 doses to Zambia and 51,840 doses to the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

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<sup>176</sup> UK donates Oxford-AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines to Angitua, Loop Caribbean (Saint John's) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. <https://caribbean.loopnews.com/content/uk-donates-oxford-astrazeneca-covid-19-vaccines-antigua>

<sup>177</sup> Covid: UK sends nine million vaccines to vulnerable countries, British Broadcasting Corporation (London) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-58004934>

<sup>178</sup> Covax and global access to Covid-19 vaccines, House of Commons Library (London) 10 December 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/research-briefings/cbp-9240/>

<sup>179</sup> United Kingdom donates 415,000 doses of Astra Zeneca vaccine to Cambodia, Khmer Times (Phnom Penh) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50903837/united-kingdom-donates-415000-doses-of-astra-zeneca-vaccine-to-cambodia/>

<sup>180</sup> UK-donated AstraZeneca jabs arrive in PH, Philippine News Agency (Manila) 2 August 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1149145>

<sup>181</sup> UK Donates Healthcare Equipment to Help Covid Patients in Indonesia, Jakarta Globe (Jakarta) 4 August 2021. Access Date: 29 December 2021. <https://jakartaglobe.id/news/uk-donates-healthcare-equipment-to-help-covid-patients-in-indonesia>

<sup>182</sup> UK Government presents Việt Nam with 415,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccine, Việt Nam News (Hanoi) 3 August 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://vietnamnews.vn/society/1002942/uk-government-presents-viet-nam-with-415000-doses-of-covid-19-vaccine.html>

<sup>183</sup> UK-donated COVID-19 vaccine doses reach African countries, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/uk-donated-covid-19-vaccine-doses-reach-african-countries>

On 14 August 2021, the UK delivered 119,040 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Malawi via COVAX.<sup>184</sup>

On 15 August 2021, the UK delivered 140,160 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Senegal via COVAX.<sup>185</sup>

On 16 August 2021, the UK delivered 299,680 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Egypt via COVAX.<sup>186</sup>

On 17 August 2021, the UK delivered 699,760 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Nigeria via COVAX.<sup>187</sup>

On 18 August 2021, the UK delivered 249,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Ghana via COVAX.<sup>188</sup>

On 18 August 2021, the UK delivered 299,520 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Uganda via COVAX.<sup>189</sup>

On 30 October 2021, the UK announced it will donate a further 20 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to countries in need by the end of 2021.<sup>190</sup> 10 million doses were noted to have been delivered to COVAX, with another 10 million to be delivered in the coming weeks. These additional donations mean that 30.6 million surplus doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine will have been delivered to countries in need in 2021. Furthermore, the government announced it will donate all 20 million doses of the Janssen vaccine to COVAX.

On 16 December 2021, the UK delivered 321,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccines to Vietnam via COVAX.<sup>191</sup>

On 23 December 2021, the United Kingdom donated four million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Bangladesh.<sup>192</sup>

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to speed up delivery of vaccines and to make efforts to share doses to meet the global target of 870 million doses directly over the next year. The United Kingdom has shown its compliance through the donation of doses that were ultimately received by low-income countries, especially countries in Africa; however, it has failed to provide financial support or resources to international organizations to increase the administration of vaccines.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

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<sup>184</sup> UK-donated COVID-19 vaccine doses reach African countries, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/uk-donated-covid-19-vaccine-doses-reach-african-countries>

<sup>185</sup> UK-donated COVID-19 vaccine doses reach African countries, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/uk-donated-covid-19-vaccine-doses-reach-african-countries>

<sup>186</sup> UK-donated COVID-19 vaccine doses reach African countries, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/uk-donated-covid-19-vaccine-doses-reach-african-countries>

<sup>187</sup> COVID-19: UK donates 669,760 Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine doses to Nigeria, The Premium Times, Nigeria (Abuja) 17 August 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/top-news/479768-covid-19-uk-donates-669760-oxford-astrazeneca-vaccine-doses-to-nigeria.html>

<sup>188</sup> Almost a quarter of a million UK-donated COVID-19 vaccines arrive in Ghana, British High Commission Accra (Accra) 19 August 2021. Access Date: 29 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/almost-a-quarter-of-a-million-uk-donated-covid-19-vaccines-arrive-in-ghana>

<sup>189</sup> Uganda to benefit from UK COVID-19 vaccines donation, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (Entebbe) 19 August 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.unicef.org/uganda/press-releases/uganda-benefit-uk-covid-19-vaccines-donation>

<sup>190</sup> UK donates 20 million more Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccines to countries in need, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 30 October 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-donates-20-million-more-oxford-astrazeneca-vaccines-to-countries-in-need>

<sup>191</sup> Over 321,000 AstraZeneca doses donated by UK arrive in Vietnam, The Saigon Times (Ho Chi Minh City) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://english.thesaigontimes.vn/over-321000-astrazeneca-doses-donated-by-uk-arrive-in-vietnam/>

<sup>192</sup> UK donates over 4 million doses of Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine to Bangladesh, British High Commission Dhaka (Dhaka) 23 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-donates-over-4-million-doses-of-oxford-astrazeneca-vaccine-to-bangladesh>

## United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to speed up delivery of vaccine doses and to make efforts to share doses to meet the global target of 870 million doses by the following summit.

On 15 June 2021, the United States delivered 1.35 million doses of the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine to Mexico.<sup>193</sup>

On 17 June 2021, the US donated 1 million doses of the Moderna vaccine to Canada as part of President Joe Biden's broad donation strategy.<sup>194</sup>

On 27 June 2021, the US delivered 1.5 million doses of the Moderna vaccine to Honduras via the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) initiative.<sup>195</sup>

On 1 July 2021, the US delivered 2.5 million doses of the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine to Colombia and 1 million doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Ecuador.<sup>196</sup>

On 7 July 2021, the US delivered 1.5 million doses of the Moderna vaccine to Ecuador via COVAX.<sup>197</sup>

On 9 July 2021, the US delivered 1.08 million doses of the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine to Bolivia via COVAX.<sup>198</sup>

On 14 July 2021, the US delivered 500,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Costa Rica via direct donation and 500,000 doses of the Moderna vaccine to Haiti via COVAX.<sup>199</sup>

On 16 July 2021, the US delivered 3.5 million doses of the Moderna vaccine to Argentina.<sup>200</sup>

On 20 July 2021, the US delivered three million doses of the Moderna vaccine to Guatemala.<sup>201</sup>

On 25 July 2021, the US delivered 3.5 million doses of the Moderna vaccine to Colombia.<sup>202</sup>

On 28 July 2021, the US delivered 1 million doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Paraguay.<sup>203</sup>

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<sup>193</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>194</sup> U.S. donating additional 1 million COVID-19 vaccines to Canada, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (Toronto) 17 June 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/us-vaccine-donation-june-17-1.6068714>

<sup>195</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>196</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>197</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>198</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>199</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>200</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>201</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>202</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>203</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

As of 3 August 2021, the US has donated and shipped more than 100 million COVID-19 vaccines to more than 60 countries.<sup>204</sup>

On 24 August 2021, the US delivered 1.75 million doses of the Moderna vaccine to Mexico via direct donation and 99,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Honduras via COVAX.<sup>205</sup>

On 28 August 2021, the US delivered 188,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to El Salvador via COVAX.<sup>206</sup>

On 21 September 2021, the US delivered 1.75 million doses of the Moderna vaccine to Mexico.<sup>207</sup>

On 22 September 2021, at the Global COVID-19 Summit President Biden announced that the US will donate and ship an additional 500 million doses of US manufactured COVID-19 vaccines to low- and middle-income countries, with the shipment plan beginning in January 2022.<sup>208</sup> This brings the total US pledged vaccines to 1.1 billion. In addition, President Biden pledged to donate three doses globally for every one shot administered in the United States. President Biden has pledged USD370 million to ensure vaccine administration and deliver and another USD380 million to aid Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, in vaccine distribution. During the summit, President Biden also announced that the US will provide financing and help strengthen vaccine manufacturing in South Africa so they can produce over 500 million doses of the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine for Africa in 2022.

On 27 September 2021, the US delivered 188,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Bolivia via COVAX.<sup>209</sup>

On 28 September 2021, the US donated 2.5 million doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Bangladesh delivered through COVAX.<sup>210</sup>

On 1 October 2021, the US delivered 82,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Honduras via COVAX.<sup>211</sup>

On 4 October 2021, the US delivered 250,000 doses of the Moderna vaccine to Honduras via COVAX.<sup>212</sup>

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<sup>204</sup> Fact Sheet: President Biden Announces Major Milestone in Administration's Global Vaccination Efforts: More than 100 Million U.S. COVID-19 Vaccine Doses Donated and Shipped Abroad, The White House (Washington D.C.) 3 August 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/08/03/fact-sheet-president-biden-announces-major-milestone-in-administrations-global-vaccination-efforts-more-than-100-million-u-s-covid-19-vaccine-doses-donated-and-shipped-abroad/>

<sup>205</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>206</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>207</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>208</sup> U.S. will donate 500 million more COVID-19 vaccine doses worldwide, United States Embassy in Georgia (Tbilisi) 23 September 2021. Access Date: 30 December 2021. <https://ge.usembassy.gov/u-s-will-donate-500-million-more-covid-19-vaccine-doses-worldwide/>

<sup>209</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>210</sup> U.S. Donates 2.5 Million More Pfizer Vaccines to Bangladesh, United States Embassy in Bangladesh (Dhaka) 28 September 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://bd.usembassy.gov/us-donates-2-5-million-more-pfizer-vaccines-to-bangladesh-092821>

<sup>211</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>212</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

On 14 October 2021, President Biden announced that the US will donate over 17 million doses of the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine to the African Union during his meeting with Kenya's President Uhuru Kenyatta, in addition to 50 million doses that were already committed to the African Union by the US.<sup>213</sup>

On 19 October 2021, the US directly delivered 3.413 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Mexico.<sup>214</sup>

On 23 October 2021, the US delivered 1,000,300 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Bolivia via COVAX.<sup>215</sup>

On 25 October 2021, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) donated USD2.8 million to the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) in order to aid Ukraine in the upgrade of their cold chain system to improve safe transport and storage of vaccines.<sup>216</sup>

On 28 October 2021, the African Union was able to buy 110 million doses of the Moderna vaccine at a reduced rate that was negotiated by the US.<sup>217</sup> The US also announced it is working with partners to expand the supply of critical vaccine administration tools and reaffirmed its commitment to donate an additional 200 million doses within the next 100 days.

On 28 October 2021, the US delivered 305,400 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Nicaragua via COVAX.<sup>218</sup>

On 29 October 2021, the US delivered 250,040 doses of the Moderna vaccine to Honduras via COVAX.<sup>219</sup>

On 3 November 2021, the US delivered 100,000 doses of the Moderna vaccine to Haiti via COVAX.<sup>220</sup>

On 10 November 2021, the US brokered a deal between Johnson & Johnson and COVAX to deliver vaccines to humanitarian settings and conflict zones.<sup>221</sup> Under this deal, 300,000 doses of the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine will be available to frontline humanitarian workers and UN peacekeepers. Exact number of doses allocated to conflict zones was not specified.<sup>222</sup>

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<sup>213</sup> U.S. donates 17 million J&J doses to African Union, Reuters (Washington D.C.) 16 October 2021. Access Date: 30 December 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/us-donates-17-million-jj-doses-african-union-2021-10-14/>

<sup>214</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>215</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>216</sup> Ukraine to receive \$2.8 million worth of cold chain equipment to support COVID vaccination, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (New York), 25 October 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.unicef.org/ukraine/en/press-releases/ukraine-receive-28-million-worth-cold-chain-equipment-support-covid-vaccination>

<sup>217</sup> President Biden Announces New Actions to Protect Americans Against Delta and Omicron Variants as We Battle COVID-19 this Winter, White House Briefing Room (Washington D.C.) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 30 December 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/12/02/fact-sheet-president-biden-announces-new-actions-to-protect-americans-against-the-delta-and-omicron-variants-as-we-battle-covid-19-this-winter/>

<sup>218</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>219</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>220</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>221</sup> U.S. brokers J&J-COVAX deal to send vaccines to conflict zones - Blinken, Reuters (Washington D.C.) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 30 December 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/business/healthcare-pharmaceuticals/blinken-says-us-brokered-deal-between-jj-covax-send-vaccines-conflict-zones-2021-11-10/>

<sup>222</sup> U.S. brokers J&J-COVAX deal to send vaccines to conflict zones - Blinken, Reuters (Washington D.C.) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 30 December 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/business/healthcare-pharmaceuticals/blinken-says-us-brokered-deal-between-jj-covax-send-vaccines-conflict-zones-2021-11-10/>

On 21 November 2021, the US directly delivered 2,187,300 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Brazil.<sup>223</sup>

On 24 November 2021, the US directly delivered 2 million doses of the Moderna vaccine to Guatemala.<sup>224</sup>

On 6 December 2021, the USAID announced a new Global Vaccine Access (Global VAX) initiative in support of global vaccination efforts and to improve international coordination to overcome access barriers to vaccination, with a priority on scaling up support to sub-Saharan Africa.<sup>225</sup> This initiative includes USD400 million to mainly improve vaccine delivery, support in-country manufacturing and additional funding for the USAID's Rapid Response Surge Support.<sup>226</sup>

On 11 December 2021, the US directly delivered an additional 2 million doses of the Moderna vaccine to Guatemala.<sup>227</sup>

On 16 December 2021, the US delivered 999,180 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Bolivia via COVAX.<sup>228</sup>

On 11 January 2022, the US delivered 39,800 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Haiti via COVAX.<sup>229</sup>

On 24 January 2022, the US delivered 1,368,900 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Kenya as well as 100,620 doses of the Pfizer vaccine and 504,000 doses of the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine to Mauritania.<sup>230</sup> As of 24 January 2022, the US has shipped more than 390 million COVID-19 vaccine doses out of the 1.1 billion doses promised, with most being delivered to countries in Asia and Africa.

The United States pledged and took concrete action to help speed up the delivery of doses and to contribute to the global target of sharing 870 million doses. By directly donating vaccines to lower and middle income countries, negotiating for reduced prices on behalf of nations, and investing in mechanisms to increase the delivery and administration of vaccines, the United States has fully complied with its vaccine commitments.

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

*Analyst: Robin Yuen*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to speed up delivery of vaccine doses and to make efforts to share doses to meet the global target of 870 million doses by the following summit.

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<sup>223</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York), 15 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2021. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>224</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York), 15 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2021. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>225</sup> Overcoming vaccine delivery challenges, United States Embassy in Georgia (Tbilisi) 22 December 2021. Access Date: 30 December 2021. <https://ge.usembassy.gov/overcoming-vaccine-delivery-challenges/>

<sup>226</sup> USAID announces initiative for Global Vaccine Access (Global Vax) to accelerate vaccine access and delivery assistance around the world, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 6 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/dec-6-2021-usaid-announces-initiative-global-vaccine-access-global-vax>

<sup>227</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York), 15 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2021. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>228</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>229</sup> Tracker: U.S. Vaccine Donations to Latin America, Americas Society/Council of the Americas (New York) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.as-coa.org/articles/tracker-us-vaccine-donations-latin-america>

<sup>230</sup> Kenya, Mauritania get nearly two million Covid vaccine doses from US, Radio France Internationale (Paris) 25 January 2022. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.rfi.fr/en/africa/20220125-kenya-mauritania-get-nearly-two-million-covid-vaccine-doses-from-us>



On 17 June 2021, the European Investment Bank provided EUR50 million to the Government of Georgia to procure COVID-19 vaccines through the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) facility as part of the EUR100 million support package for Georgia's healthcare system against COVID-19.<sup>231</sup> The provision of funds for vaccine purchases as well as the support to Georgia's healthcare system complies with the European Union's commitment to ensure speedy procurement of vaccines around the world.

On 29 June 2021, the European Commission, agreed to help Norway deliver over 180,000 COVID-19 vaccines to Kosovo after Kosovo's aid request through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism.<sup>232</sup> The European Commission will be coordinating and financing 75 per cent of the transport costs. As of 29 June 2021, EU Member States have donated over 2.5 million COVID-19 vaccine doses with countries outside the EU through COVAX and the EU's Civil Protection Mechanism.

On 9 July 2021, the EU announced its support for vaccine production by the Institut Pasteur in Dakar, Senegal, to allow for domestic vaccine manufacturing and to reduce Africa's 99 per cent dependence on foreign vaccine production.<sup>233</sup> The European Investment Bank provided EUR4.75 million investment to support this venture.<sup>234</sup> Through this action, the EU is helping to accelerate the production of COVID-19 vaccines across the world.

On 20 July 2021, the European Investment Bank partnered with the Caribbean Development Bank to provide a loan of EUR 30 million to the Caribbean Development Bank's Borrowing Member Countries for health-related emergency expenses, including purchasing COVID-19 vaccines.<sup>235</sup> This action will provide affordable access to COVID-19 vaccines for lower-income countries, supporting the EU's commitment to ensuring higher vaccination rates across the world.

On 10 August 2021, the European Commission increased its aid package for the Eastern Partnership from EUR40 million to EUR75 million to increase vaccine access in six countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, in addition to support in training staff in administering, delivering and handling vaccines as well as monitoring vaccine data.<sup>236</sup> This action was taken to assist Eastern Partnership countries amid the global vaccine shortage by reimbursing the cost to the countries for vaccine procurement.

On 11 October 2021, the European Commission proposed to amend the EU's budget for 2021 to allocate an additional EUR450 million to secure an additional 200 million vaccine doses to be delivered to lower and middle-income countries by mid-2022.<sup>237</sup> This additional funding was needed to meet the European

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<sup>231</sup> Georgia: Team Europe – EIB to support procurement of vaccines and COVID-19 related medical equipment with EUR 50m, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 17 June 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-203-team-europe-eib-to-support-procurement-of-vaccines-and-covid-19-related-medical-equipment-in-georgia-with-eur-50m>

<sup>232</sup> COVID-19: EU helps deliver vaccines to Kosovo, European Commission (Brussels) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 17 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3300](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3300)

<sup>233</sup> Vaccinating the world: 'Team Europe' to share more than 200 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines with low and middle-income countries by the end of 2021, European Commission (Brussels). 22 July 2021. Access Date: 17 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/vaccinating-world-team-europe-share-more-200-million-doses-covid-19-vaccines-low-and-middle\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/vaccinating-world-team-europe-share-more-200-million-doses-covid-19-vaccines-low-and-middle_en)

<sup>234</sup> COVID-19 Vaccine Manufacturing (Senegal), European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 8 July 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.eib.org/en/projects/loans/all/20210481>

<sup>235</sup> Caribbean Development Bank and EIB announce EUR 30m (USD 36m) in financing for affordable access to vaccines and new healthcare investments across the region, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 20 July 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/202-272-caribbean-development-bank-and-european-investment-bank-announce-eur-30m-usd-36m-in-financing-for-affordable-access-to-vaccines-and-new-healthcare-investments-across-the-region>

<sup>236</sup> EU strengthens support to speed up vaccination in the Eastern Partnership region, European Commission (Brussels) 10 August 2021. Access Date: 17 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_4069](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4069)

<sup>237</sup> Securing access to vaccines EU Vaccine Strategy, European Commission (Brussels) n.d. Access Date: 27 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/public-health/eu-vaccines-strategy\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/public-health/eu-vaccines-strategy_en)

Commission's goal of securing EUR1.3 billion to purchase sufficient COVID-19 vaccine doses for lower- and middle-income countries.

On 22 November 2021, the European Union Member States, along with Norway and Iceland, donated 99.6 million doses of the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine, with 496,800 doses going to Niger, 496,800 doses to Guinea, 144,000 doses to Mauritania, 302,400 doses to the Central African Republic, 50,400 doses to Djibouti, 2,764,800 doses to Nigeria, 633,600 doses to Togo and 230,400 doses to the Republic of the Congo.<sup>238</sup> The donation of vaccines to Africa is a part of the EU's overall commitment to donating 300 million vaccines to low and lower-middle income countries by the end of 2021 and a further 200 million by mid-2022. This donation comprises about one-third of the EU's overall commitment for the year.

On 24 November 2021, European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Stella Kyriakides delivered a speech outlining the EUR46 billion contribution that the EU has provided to the international effort against COVID-19, reaffirming its commitment to helping 70 per cent of the global population to be vaccinated by mid-2022.<sup>239</sup> The European Commission also declared that the EU has proved a collective donation of more than EUR3 billion to COVAX, as well as exporting 1.2 billion doses via different agreements. Moreover, in addition to the 250 million doses that the EU Member States are to share by the end of 2021, President Ursula von der Leyen also announced a new commitment to share another 200 million doses with low and middle-income countries by mid-2022. These pledges further support the EU's commitment to providing vaccines around the world and assist lower income countries in improving their vaccination rates.

On 29 November 2021, nine EU Member States, namely Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Ireland, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Slovakia and Slovenia, donated doses of the AstraZeneca, Johnson & Johnson (Janssen), Pfizer and Moderna vaccines as part of COVAX.<sup>240</sup> 1,110,200 doses have gone to Egypt, 496,800 doses to Nigeria, 199,200 doses to Laos and 52,800 doses to Syria. This donation is part of the EU's overall commitment of donating 500 million doses of the vaccine to low and lower-middle income countries by 2022, of which 300 million doses are to be donated by the end of 2021.

On 29 November 2021, the President von der Leyen announced plans to increase its donation of vaccine doses to lower and middle-income countries to 700 million by mid-2022.<sup>241</sup> This increase will support the provision of a greater supply of vaccines in accordance with the EU's commitment with the COVAX initiative.

On 6 December 2021, President von der Leyen declared the EU's aim to ensure that 70 per cent of the global population receives COVID-19 vaccination by the middle of 2022, a rise from the 44 per cent of the population that is currently vaccinated.<sup>242</sup> EU Member States have thus far donated 300 million doses to the COVAX initiation, along with over 45 million doses through bilateral donations. This declaration aligns with the EU's interest in promoting increased vaccination rates across the world.

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<sup>238</sup> Team Europe vaccine sharing: almost 100 million J & J doses to be donated by the end of 2021 – first doses arriving in African countries this week, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 22 November 2021. Access Date: 17 December 2021.

<https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/team-europe-vaccine-sharing-almost-100-million-j-j-doses-be-donated-end-2021-first>

<sup>239</sup> Speech by Commissioner Kyriakides at the European Parliament Plenary on the EU's Role in Combating the COVID-19 Pandemic, European Commission (Brussels) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2019-2024/kyriakides/announcements/speech-commissioner-kyriakides-european-parliament-plenary-eus-role-combating-covid-19-pandemic\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2019-2024/kyriakides/announcements/speech-commissioner-kyriakides-european-parliament-plenary-eus-role-combating-covid-19-pandemic_en)

<sup>240</sup> Team Europe dose-sharing: nine additional EU member-states support lower-income countries through COVAX, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 29 November 2021. Access Date: 17 December 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/team-europe-dose-sharing-nine-additional-eu-member-states-support-lower-income>

<sup>241</sup> Securing access to vaccines EU Vaccine Strategy, European Commission (Brussels) n.d. Access Date: 27 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/public-health/eu-vaccines-strategy\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/public-health/eu-vaccines-strategy_en)

<sup>242</sup> Statement by President von der Leyen on vaccine sharing, European Commission (Brussels) 6 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/STATEMENT\\_21\\_6651](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/STATEMENT_21_6651)

On 8 December 2021, the EU's Humanitarian Aid provided a grant of EUR 100 million to the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) to provide COVID-19 vaccines to 12 countries in Eastern, Southern, West and Central Africa.<sup>243</sup> This action is in cooperation with the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention and will reach over 189 million people. This donation complies with the EU's efforts to increase vaccination rates among vulnerable communities in lower-income countries.

On 13 December 2021, the European Commission signed an agreement worth EUR35 million with Bank Gospodarstwa Krajowego, the Polish National Development Bank, to support EU Member States in delivering COVID-19 vaccines to countries in the Eastern Partnership.<sup>244</sup> This agreement provides the European Union with greater financial means to ensure that all countries receive vaccines as soon as possible.

On 13 December 2021, the European Investment Bank proposed a project to support Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, specifically on accelerating the access to new and underutilized vaccines, particularly in the lowest-income countries, and shaping the global vaccine market to best support developing countries.<sup>245</sup> This initiative will promote access to vaccines in developing countries, complying with the European Union's commitment to providing equitable accessibility around the world.

On 15 December 2021, three EU member states, namely Austria, the Netherlands and Sweden, donated 3,789,600 doses of the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine to the Philippines.<sup>246</sup> This donation is part of the EU's overall commitment of donating 700 million doses of the vaccine to low and lower-middle income countries by 2022.

On 6 January 2022, President von der Leyen declared that the EU is on track to fulfill its promise to share 700 million COVID-19 vaccine doses by mid-2022, and promised a particular emphasis on supporting Africa, where vaccination rates are below the rest of the world.<sup>247</sup> This declaration reaffirms the European Union's commitment to ensuring that all parts of the world receive fair access to COVID-19 vaccines.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to speed up delivery of vaccine doses and to make efforts to share doses to meet the global target of 870 million doses by the following summit. The European Union has donated doses of domestically produced COVID-19 vaccines to countries all around the world, both as part of COVAX and via bilateral and multilateral agreements. The European Union has also funded and proposed the funding of several projects to enable lower-income countries to be able to produce their own vaccines and accelerate their vaccination rates. Moreover, the European Union has spoken out and appealed to other countries on the need to promote vaccine sharing. Lastly, the European Union has emphasized the need to vaccinate lower-income countries, especially those in Africa to ensure that vulnerable communities receive equitable access to vaccines

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

*Analyst: Samraggi Hazra*

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<sup>243</sup> European Union provides fresh funding to support COVID-19 vaccination in sub-Saharan Africa, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (Dakar/Nairobi) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.unicef.org/esa/press-releases/european-union-provides-fresh-funding-support-covid-19-vaccination-sub-saharan>

<sup>244</sup> European Commission and Poland accelerate provision of COVID-19 vaccines to the Eastern Partnership, European Commission (Brussels). 13 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2019-2024/varhelyi/announcements/european-commission-and-poland-accelerate-provision-covid-19-vaccines-eastern-partnership\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2019-2024/varhelyi/announcements/european-commission-and-poland-accelerate-provision-covid-19-vaccines-eastern-partnership_en)

<sup>245</sup> Gavi Guarantee Facility, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 13 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.eib.org/en/projects/pipelines/all/20190247>

<sup>246</sup> 3 EU nations donate nearly 3.8M vaccine doses to PH, Philippine News Agency (Manila) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 17 December 2021. <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1162784>

<sup>247</sup> Statement by President von der Leyen on vaccine sharing in 2021 and targets for 2022, European Commission (Brussels) 6 January 2022. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/STATEMENT\\_22\\_121](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/STATEMENT_22_121)

## 2. Health: Vaccine Equity

“[Emphasising the need for equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines,] we will support manufacturing in low-income countries.”

*G7 Carbis Bay Summit Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.75 (88%)	

### Background

In the past few decades, the issue of Health has begun to play a larger role in the G7 summit global priorities. In fact, the word “health” was not used in a single communiqué until the 1994 Naples G7 Summit. Perhaps brought on by the multitude of global health crises, it is now without a doubt that global health has become a world issue.

The first time G7 leaders mentioned the need to provide resources for health, is in the 1994 Naples G7 Summit communiqué.<sup>248</sup> They stated that they will aim to reinforce capital flows to the developing world to provide resources for health. However, the idea of supporting global health was not brought up again until the 1997 Denver G8 Summit in which the G8 leaders for the first time mentioned the threat of infectious diseases to the global community.<sup>249</sup> At the Denver Summit, they committed to broad measures to combat the spread of infectious diseases such as: detecting and controlling infectious diseases globally, and efforts to explore the use of regional stocks of “essential vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics, and other materials.” They also stated that a key component of fighting against infectious diseases would be to strengthen global cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO). Leaders communicated that preventing the transmission of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) was an “urgent global health imperative.” However, in neither Summit was vaccine equity mentioned.

At the 1998 Birmingham Summit, conversations surrounding controlling infectious diseases at an international level continued. G8 leaders agreed to support and enhance mutual cooperation to deal with infectious and parasitic diseases and to support the WHO in this process. G8 members also committed to the “Roll Back Malaria” initiative, with the goal of decreasing the global number of malaria cases by the year 2010, and to reduce global cases of AIDS through vaccine development, preventive programs, appropriate therapies, as well as support for UNAIDS.<sup>250</sup>

<sup>248</sup> Summit communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 July 1994. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1994naples/communique/index.html>

<sup>249</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 June 1997. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g8final.htm>

<sup>250</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>

At the 1999 Köln Summit, AIDS continued to be a pressing global health crisis as G8 leaders reaffirmed their support to continue to fight against the global spread of AIDS through prevention, vaccine development, and appropriate therapies.<sup>251</sup> They also reaffirmed their pledge to use national and international efforts to fight against infectious and parasitic diseases such as malaria, polio, and tuberculosis (TB). Lastly, members reaffirmed their support for the WHO and the “Roll Back Malaria” initiative and affirmed new support for the “Stop TB” initiative. Still, in neither Summit was vaccine equity mentioned.

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, the tone of the importance of global health began to shift.<sup>252</sup> For the first time, G8 leaders recognized that health is related to prosperity and that good health drives good economic growth. The leaders re-committed to continuing sustained action against parasitic and infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria as well as childhood diseases. More specifically, they mentioned strengthening cooperation in the area of basic research, development on new drugs, vaccines and other international public health goods. Most notably, vaccine equity was mentioned for the first time. Leaders pledged to work to make cost-effective interventions, including vaccines, more universally available and affordable in developing countries.

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, health equity was spoken about, but not specifically vaccine equity. The G8 leaders recognized that an effective response to HIV/AIDS would require an approach “beyond the health sector” and welcomed steps by the pharmaceutical industry to make drugs more affordable. They also introduced the new “Global Fund” which would work with the pharmaceutical industry and countries affected by epidemics to help support the provision of drugs in an affordable and medically effective manner.<sup>253</sup>

At the 2003 Evian Summit, the topic of health and vaccine equity was again brought up as SARS-CoV was spreading around the world. It should also be noted that the threat of AIDS, TB and malaria still had not been controlled. At the Summit, G8 leaders agreed to strengthen the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and malaria (Global Fund) as well as to improve access to healthcare and affordable drugs and treatments in less wealthy countries.<sup>254</sup> Although vaccine equity is not explicitly mentioned, we can see a trend of leaders beginning to recognize the importance of global health equity.

At the 2004 Sea Island Summit, there was a shift in focus towards vaccines.<sup>255</sup> G8 leaders committed to endorse and establish a Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise to accelerate HIV vaccine Development.

At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, G8 leaders highlighted that the battle against infectious diseases, such as AIDS, TB, malaria and measles was still not over and that they were impeding socio-economic development in developing countries.<sup>256</sup> To address these challenges, the G8 leaders committed to actions that include improving cooperation in the monitoring of diseases, supporting countries to deal with a potential influenza pandemic, supporting the Global Fund, continuing to be able to provide as close as possible universal treatment to HIV/AIDS by 2010, expanding the Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise and supporting the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

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<sup>251</sup> G8 Communiqué Köln 1999 Final, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 June 1999. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1999koln/finalcom.htm>

<sup>252</sup> G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>

<sup>253</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2001. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommuniqu.html>

<sup>254</sup> Chair’s Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 June 2003. Access Date: 24 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/communiqu\\_en.html](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/communiqu_en.html)

<sup>255</sup> Chair’s Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 2004. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2004seaisland/summary.html>

<sup>256</sup> Chair’s Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 July 2006. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/index.html>

At the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, G8 leaders again recognized the importance of combating HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria and committed to strengthening global healthcare.<sup>257</sup> The leaders reaffirmed their commitment of universal access to healthcare, fighting HIV/AIDS and strengthening health care systems by providing USD60 billion over the coming years, and supporting the Global Fund and WHO.

At the 2008 Hokkaido Summit, G8 leaders continued to support the fight against infectious diseases with a focus on malaria, TB, polio and ending HIV/AIDS.<sup>258</sup> In regard to health equity, leaders reaffirmed their commitment to universal health access. Additionally, leaders emphasized the importance of comprehensive approaches to deal with infectious diseases, such as vaccines, but did not mention vaccine equity.

At the 2009 L'Aquila Summit, despite the global economic crisis taking a toll, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to address the health needs of people all over the world, with a specific focus on women and children.<sup>259</sup> In addition, leaders reaffirmed their existing commitments, including the USD60 billion investment to fight infectious diseases and strengthen health systems by the year 2012. However, vaccine equity was not mentioned at this Summit.

At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to universal access, care, prevention and treatment in regard to HIV/AIDS and continue to support the Global Fund.<sup>260</sup> They also stated that they would continue to support polio eradication and the elimination of high-burden Neglected-Tropical diseases (NTDs), however vaccine equity remained unmentioned.

At the 2011 Deauville Summit, G8 leaders recognized the importance of the GAVI alliance and welcomed its efforts to expand access to vaccines in poorer countries through “tiered pricing and innovative mechanisms” such as the International Finance Facility for Immunisation. They also reaffirmed their commitment to the eradication of polio.<sup>261</sup>

At the 2014 Brussels Summit, vaccine equity commitments were brought up again as the Ebola virus became a global health concern. At the Summit, the G7 leaders recognized the impact of the GAVI Alliance and supported its efforts to expand access to vaccines to another 300 million children from 2016-2020.<sup>262</sup> The G7 leaders also acknowledged that the battle against HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria was still not over and reaffirmed their commitment to an AIDS free generation and the Global Fund.

At the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit, G7 leaders recognized the Ebola crisis and committed to preventing future pandemics and assisting countries to implement the WHO's International Health Regulations.<sup>263</sup> In regard to vaccines, leaders committed to increasing research on “epidemiology, infection prevention and control, and the development of new antibiotics, alternative therapies, vaccines and rapid point-of-care diagnostics.” They also committed to developing easily usable and affordable vaccines for neglected tropical diseases (NTDs).

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<sup>257</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2007. Access Date: 24 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-summary.pdf>

<sup>258</sup> G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/index.html>

<sup>259</sup> Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.pdf>

<sup>260</sup> Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2010. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>

<sup>261</sup> G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html>

<sup>262</sup> G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>

<sup>263</sup> Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders focused on promoting universal health care access but did not give attention to vaccine equity.<sup>264</sup> They applauded the GAVI Alliance but did not provide commitments in regard to promoting access to vaccines.

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, vaccine equity was once again left off the discussion table as G7 leaders broadly stated that they were committed to promoting global health security.<sup>265</sup> This pattern continued at the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, where there was no mention of vaccine equity.<sup>266</sup> However, the G7 leaders did commit to promoting access to quality and affordable healthcare and recognized the WHO's role in health emergencies (specifically through the Contingency Fund for Emergencies and the World Bank's Pandemic Emergency Finance Facility).

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, there were no commitments made towards health nor vaccine equity.<sup>267</sup> Then in 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic began, the rise in infections accelerated and overwhelmed national and global health systems.<sup>268</sup> The G7 leaders called a Virtual USA Leaders' Summit to address the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>269</sup> At the Summit, leaders committed to "marshalling the full power of government" to coordinate on necessary health measures to protect people who were at risk of COVID-19 and to encourage science, research and technology cooperation. Although vaccine equity is not explicitly mentioned, leaders did commit to launching joint research projects to manufacture and develop a COVID-19 vaccine and to adhering to accessibility.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the world has come a long way and vaccines have been developed to combat COVID-19.<sup>270</sup> The WHO has made it clear that the only way to move into a post-pandemic world will be through vaccines.

### **Commitment Features**

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders committed that, "[emphasising the need for equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines,] we will support manufacturing in low-income countries." In this commitment there is one target: supporting the manufacturing of vaccines in low-income countries.

"Support" is understood as promoting the interests or the cause of an individual or group.<sup>271</sup> In the case of this commitment, it is understood as promoting low-income countries to manufacture COVID-19 vaccines through two areas that are technical and monetary: 1) knowledge sharing and/or 2) a financial contribution.

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<sup>264</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

<sup>265</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

<sup>266</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

<sup>267</sup> G7 Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 1 November 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-of-leaders.html>

<sup>268</sup> In WHO global pulse survey, 90% of countries report disruptions to essential health services since COVID-19 pandemic, World Health Organization (Geneva), 31 August 2020. <https://www.who.int/news/item/31-08-2020-in-who-global-pulse-survey-90-of-countries-report-disruptions-to-essential-health-services-since-covid-19-pandemic>

<sup>269</sup> G7 Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 1 November 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-of-leaders.html>

<sup>270</sup> COVID-19 Vaccines, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/covid-19-vaccines>

<sup>271</sup> Support, Merriam Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 1 November 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/support>

“Manufacturing” is understood as the production of goods through the use of labor, machines, tools, and chemical or biological processing or formulation.<sup>272</sup> In this context, the product that must be manufactured is COVID-19 vaccines.

“Low-Income Countries” are understood as countries that the World Bank categorizes in its 2020 “low-income” bracket.<sup>273</sup> Some examples include but are not limited to: Afghanistan, Mali, and Rwanda.

Full compliance, or a score of +1, with this commitment requires a G7 member to take strong action to support a low-income country in the manufacturing of the COVID-19 vaccine in both areas: 1) knowledge sharing and 2) a financial contribution. Knowledge sharing is understood as actions that support the exchange of technology or information surrounding the COVID-19 vaccine. Examples of strong actions include but are not limited to discussions with the World Trade organization on intellectual property rights, technology transfers, non-profit production and sharing by manufacturers, tiered licensing, and patent sharing.

A financial contribution is understood as actions in which G7 members provide monetary assistance tied to an activity that fosters the manufacturing of COVID-19 vaccines in the recipient low-income country. Examples of strong actions include but are not limited to, supplying aid money for a low-income country to purchase a factory, technological equipment, or for the training of workers to facilitate the creation of a manufacturing centre for vaccines.

Partial, or a score of 0, with this commitment requires a G7 member to take a strong action to support a low-income country in the manufacturing of the COVID-19 vaccine in one of two areas: 1) knowledge sharing or 2) a financial contribution. This is because support is defined as both technical and monetary. Therefore, a member that does not take strong action in both is not fully supporting a low-income country in the manufacturing of COVID-19 vaccines.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, occurs if a G7 member takes no strong actions to support a low-income country in the manufacturing of the COVID-19 vaccine in both areas: 1) knowledge sharing or 2) a financial contribution.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member takes no strong action to support a low-income country in the manufacturing of the COVID-19 vaccine in both areas: 1) knowledge sharing AND 2) a financial contribution.
0	The G7 member takes a strong action to support a low-income country in the manufacturing of the COVID-19 vaccine in one of two areas: 1) knowledge sharing OR 2) a financial contribution.
+1	The G7 member takes strong action to support a low-income country in the manufacturing of the COVID-19 vaccine in both areas: 1) knowledge sharing AND 2) a financial contribution.

*Compliance Director: Isabel Davis  
Lead Analyst: Sian Persad*

### Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to emphasizing the need for equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines by supporting vaccine manufacturing in low-income countries.

On 30 October 2021, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced that Canada would provide an investment of up to CAD15 million to COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) Manufacturing Task Force

<sup>272</sup> Manufacture, Merriam Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 1 November 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/manufacturing>.

<sup>273</sup> The World by Income and Region, The World Bank (Washington) n.d. Access Date: 1 November 2021. <https://datatopics.worldbank.org/world-development-indicators/the-world-by-income-and-region.html>



partners.<sup>274</sup> The financial contribution goes towards the establishment of the South Africa Technology Transfer Hub, an initiative that will support the development of vaccine production and vaccine technologies in the region.<sup>275</sup>

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to emphasize the need for equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines by supporting vaccine manufacturing in low-income countries through a financial contribution to COVAX Manufacturing Task Force partners. Canada took no action to exchange technology or information as a part of the knowledge sharing component of the commitment.

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Elisa Pugliese*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to emphasize the need for equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines by supporting manufacturing and knowledge sharing in low-income countries.

On 9 July 2021, the Government of France, at a ceremony at the Presidential Palace in Dakar, confirmed details of its support to accelerate project preparation, expand manufacturing capacities and undertake technical feasibility work through Team Europe to unlock large-scale investments.<sup>276</sup> These investments include building and equipping a new plant in Senegal that will produce authorized COVID-19 vaccines. France announced a financial contribution of EUR1.8 million through Team Europe that will go towards constructing the new plant that aims to produce 25 million vaccine doses each month by the end of 2022.

On 8 December 2021, France announced that they would support the strengthening of vaccine production capacities in Africa by contributing to the transfer of messenger RNA technology to the African continent, particularly South Africa, Rwanda and Senegal.<sup>277</sup>

France has fully complied with supporting the manufacturing of vaccines in low-income countries. France has taken action to promote knowledge sharing by contributing the transfer of messenger RNA technology and has financially contributed to supporting vaccine manufacturing capacities in low-income countries.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Joy Chan*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to emphasize the need for equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines by supporting manufacturing and knowledge sharing in low-income countries.

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<sup>274</sup> Canada's aid and development assistance in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2021. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues\\_development-enjeux\\_developpement/global\\_health-sante\\_mondiale/response\\_covid-19\\_reponse.aspx?lang=eng#shr-pg0](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/global_health-sante_mondiale/response_covid-19_reponse.aspx?lang=eng#shr-pg0)

<sup>275</sup> Canada's aid and development assistance in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2021. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues\\_development-enjeux\\_developpement/global\\_health-sante\\_mondiale/response\\_covid-19\\_reponse.aspx?lang=eng#shr-pg0](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/global_health-sante_mondiale/response_covid-19_reponse.aspx?lang=eng#shr-pg0)

<sup>276</sup> Republic of Senegal and Team Europe agree to build a manufacturing plant to produce vaccines against COVID-19 and other endemic diseases, European Commission (Brussels) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 28 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3562](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3562)

<sup>277</sup> Covid-19 - France delivers 10 million vaccine doses to the African Union (Dec. 8, 2021), France Diplomacy (Paris) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 28 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/covid-19-france-delivers-10-million-vaccine-doses-to-the-african-union-dec-8>

On 24 June 2021, the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that Germany will contribute EUR2.2 billion for vaccines, diagnostic tools and medicines through the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A) an initiative of Gavi, the vaccine alliance, the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations and the World Health Organization.<sup>278</sup> ACT-A, of which Germany is a founding member, facilitates rapid development, scale up and equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines globally through training and funding.<sup>279</sup>

On 9 July 2021, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development through Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), the German Development Bank, provided a grant of EUR20 million to support a vaccine manufacturing facility led by Institut Pasteur in Dakar, Senegal, under the Team Europe Initiative on Manufacturing and Access to Vaccines.<sup>280</sup> The initiative aims to reduce Africa's 99 per cent dependence on imported vaccines.<sup>281</sup>

Germany has fully complied with supporting COVID-19 vaccine manufacturing in low-income countries through knowledge sharing through ACT-A and financially contributing to supporting vaccine manufacturing in Senegal.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Tisya Rain*

### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to emphasize the need for equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines by supporting manufacturing and knowledge sharing in low-income countries.

On 23 June 2021, Prime Minister Mario Draghi, at the EU-US Summit, reaffirmed the common commitment to achieve more equitable distribution of vaccines on a global scale.<sup>282</sup> Through the European Commission, Italy is contributing EUR1 billion in investments to support the African continent in local production and accessibility to the COVID-19 vaccine.<sup>283</sup>

On 22 September 2021, Prime Minister Mario Draghi at the Global COVID-19 Summit, organised by the 76th General Assembly of the United Nations, announced Italy's support to the European Union plan for

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<sup>278</sup> Fighting together and in solidarity against the coronavirus pandemic: Germany supports the global fight against Covid-19 to the tune of €2.2 billion, Federal Ministry Foreign Affairs (Berlin) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/fr/newsroom/-/2468992>

<sup>279</sup> Global immunisation campaign offers a way out of the crisis, Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) n.d. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.bmz.de/en/development-policy/covid-19-pandemic/global-immunisation-campaign>

<sup>280</sup> Republic of Senegal and Team Europe support agree to build a manufacturing plant to produce vaccines against COVID-19 and other endemic diseases, European Commission (Brussels) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/growth/news/republic-senegal-and-team-europe-support-agree-build-manufacturing-plant-produce-vaccines-against-2021-07-09\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/growth/news/republic-senegal-and-team-europe-support-agree-build-manufacturing-plant-produce-vaccines-against-2021-07-09_en)

<sup>281</sup> Minister Müller and Institut Pasteur fire starter pistol for the establishment of COVID-19 vaccine production capacity in Africa (Dakar) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/archive-press-releases/establishment-vaccine-production-capacity-in-africa-84350>

<sup>282</sup> European Council: PM Draghi's address to the Chamber of Deputies, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/european-council-pm-draghi-s-address-chamber-deputies/17392>

<sup>283</sup> European Council: PM Draghi's address to the Chamber of Deputies, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/european-council-pm-draghi-s-address-chamber-deputies/17392>

devoting EUR1 billion in developing regional manufacturing hubs and fostering COVID-19 manufacturing technology transfer in Africa.<sup>284</sup>

On 24 September 2021, Prime Minister Draghi, at the 76th UN General Assembly, announced Italy's support of the free circulation of vaccines and the raw materials required to produce vaccines.<sup>285</sup> He also reiterated Italy's support for COVAX both politically and financially.

On 30 October 2021, Prime Minister Draghi, at the G20 Rome Summit Opening Address, announced Italy would continue investing in research, eliminating trade barriers affecting COVID-19 vaccines and strengthening supply chains for low-income countries.<sup>286</sup> Additionally, he stated that efforts to foster manufacturing in low-income countries should persist.

Italy has partially complied with supporting the manufacturing of vaccines in low-income countries. Italy has only reiterated their commitment to knowledge sharing by supporting measures to eliminate trade barriers affecting COVID-19 vaccines and by fostering technology transfer and raw materials circulation particularly in Africa. Italy has also provided financial contributions by donating EUR1 billion towards developing regional manufacturing hubs and fostering technology transfer in Africa.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Joy Chan*

#### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to emphasize the need for equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines by supporting manufacturing and knowledge sharing in low-income countries.

On 16 July 2021, the Government of Japan announced that it would extend the Emergency Grant Aid of approximately USD4.66 million to support the logistics of vaccine manufacturing and delivery to the United Nations Office for Project Services for distribution through the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access Facility (COVAX).<sup>287</sup> This funding will help low-income nations in the Indo-Pacific work towards the goal of manufacturing at least 1 billion vaccine doses by the end of 2022.

On 24 September 2021, the United States announced that it will continue to aid in vaccine manufacturing capacity in the Indo-Pacific region through the Quadrilateral Partnership consisting of the United States, Australia, India and Japan.<sup>288</sup> The Quad Partnership will be further collaborating to bolster advancements in science and technology relating to COVID-19 therapies and clinical trials as part of the partnership's 100-Day Mission.

On 22 October 2021, the Government of Japan announced that it would be supporting cold chain system development as "Last One Mile Support" for developing countries through a partnership with the United

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<sup>284</sup> PM Draghi addresses Global Covid-19 Summit, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/media/pm-draghi-addresses-global-covid-19-summit/18011>

<sup>285</sup> Prime Minister Draghi's speech at the 76th UN General Assembly, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 24 September 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/general-debate-76th-session-un-general-assembly/17994>

<sup>286</sup> G20 Rome Summit, Prime Minister Draghi's opening address, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 30 October 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/g20-rome-summit-prime-minister-draghi-s-opening-address/18389>

<sup>287</sup> Emergency Grant Aid for logistical support including transportation of the vaccines manufactured in Japan to be donated through the COVAX facility, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 16 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e\\_000311.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000311.html)

<sup>288</sup> Fact Sheet: Quad Leaders' Summit, The White House (Washington, D.C.) 24 September 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/09/24/fact-sheet-quad-leaders-summit/>

Nations Children's Fund including countries such as Mali, Haiti and Venezuela.<sup>289</sup> This is part of the overarching Japanese Emergency Grant Aid that consists of about USD41 million to 25 countries in Asia and the Pacific.<sup>290</sup>

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to emphasizing the need for equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines by supporting vaccine manufacturing through extending access to grants for low-income nations through the United Nations and knowledge sharing through COVAX.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Niharika Burugapalli*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to emphasize the need for equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines and supporting manufacturing and knowledge sharing in low-income countries.

On 7 July 2021, Public Health England and the UK Health Security Agency announced the first group of countries to receive support from the New Variant Assessment Platform (NVPA), a genomic sequencing program with the means to assess new COVID-19 variant capabilities.<sup>291</sup> The first countries to receive technical advice, training and bioinformatics aid to support the introduction of this program will be Brazil, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria and Pakistan.<sup>292</sup>

On 7 July 2021, the British High Commission Kuala Lumpur called for Expressions of Interest for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations vaccine development and manufacturing research project.<sup>293</sup> A primary goal of this project is addressing current and future pandemic responses, to increase understanding of capacity within to develop, test, manufacture and distribute vaccines.

On 25 August 2021, the British Embassy of Havana through the Official Development Assistance of the British Government invited organizations to submit "small-scale project intervention proposals" targeting COVID-19 vaccine recovery and global health security among other Cuban priority areas.<sup>294</sup> Chosen projects will be granted funding up to GBP10,000.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with supporting COVID-19 vaccine manufacturing in low-income countries and knowledge sharing through financial contributions and facilitation of projects in Malaysia and Cuba, and the dissemination of knowledge in low-income countries through the establishment of the New Variant Assessment Platform.

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<sup>289</sup> Bringing the COVID-19 Vaccine to All Corners of the World, The Government of Japan (Tokyo) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. [https://www.japan.go.jp/kizuna/2021/10/covid-19\\_vaccine-related\\_support.html](https://www.japan.go.jp/kizuna/2021/10/covid-19_vaccine-related_support.html)

<sup>290</sup> Japan and UNICEF partnership to support cold chain for efficient deployment of COVID-19 vaccines in Vanuatu, The United Nations Children's Fund (Vanuatu) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.unicef.org/pacificislands/press-releases/japan-and-unicef-partnership-support-cold-chain-efficient-deployment-covid-19>

<sup>291</sup> PHE to provide genomic sequencing support to partners across the world, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 7 July 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/phe-to-provide-genomic-sequencing-support-to-partners-across-the-world>

<sup>292</sup> UK offers genomic sequencing capacity and capability to Pakistan, Government of the United Kingdom (Islamabad) 7 July 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-offers-genomic-sequencing-capacity-and-capability-to-pakistan>

<sup>293</sup> Call for expression of interest: supporting COVID-19 response in ASEAN, Government of the United Kingdom (Kuala Lumpur) 7 July 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/call-for-expression-of-interest-supporting-covid-19-response-in-asean>

<sup>294</sup> Official Development Assistance funds of the British Government for projects in Cuba, Government of the United Kingdom (Havana) 25 August 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/official-development-assistance-funds-of-the-british-government-for-cuban-projects>

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

*Analyst: Tisya Raina*

### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to emphasize the need for equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines and supporting manufacturing and knowledge sharing in low-income countries.

On 30 June 2021, Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, Samantha Power, announced that the United States International Development Finance Corporation will work with the World Bank Group along with France and Germany to scale-up vaccine manufacturing capacity in Africa with the goals of producing upwards of 500 million doses of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine by the end of 2022.<sup>295</sup>

On 24 September 2021, the Biden-Harris administration announced that it will continue to aid in vaccine manufacturing capacity in the Indo-Pacific region through the Quadrilateral Partnership consisting of the United States, Australia, India and Japan.<sup>296</sup> The Quad Partnership will be further collaborating to bolster advancements in science and technology relating to COVID-19 therapies and clinical trials as part of the partnership's 100-Day Mission.

On 10 November 2021, Secretary of State Antony Blinken announced United States support in the Global COVID Corps, an initiative that consists of independent companies who can lend their knowledge and capabilities to help vaccination logistics in low-income countries.<sup>297</sup>

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to emphasizing the need for equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines by making financial contributions to aid in vaccine manufacturing and supporting knowledge sharing through the Quad Partnership and the Global COVID Corps.

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

*Analyst: Niharika Burugapalli*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to emphasizing the need for equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines by supporting vaccine manufacturing in low-income countries.

On 9 July 2021, the European Union, under the Team Europe initiative, formally agreed to support a financial investment in vaccine manufacturing led by the Institut Pasteur in Dakar, Senegal.<sup>298</sup> Team Europe has agreed to provide EUR6.75 million in grants to enable technical feasibility studies and project preparation for the new facility at the Institut Pasteur in Dakar. This amount includes EUR4.75 million from the European Commission and the European Investment Bank. The initiative supports technology transfer, as

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<sup>295</sup> Joint Investment Plan to Boost Vaccine Manufacturing Capacity in Africa, USAID (Washington, D.C.) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jun-30-2021-joint-investment-plan-boost-vaccine-manufacturing-capacity-africa>

<sup>296</sup> Fact Sheet: Quad Leaders' Summit, The White House (Washington, D.C.) 24 September 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/09/24/fact-sheet-quad-leaders-summit/>

<sup>297</sup> Chair's Statement by U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken following the COVID-19 Ministerial, US Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.state.gov/chairs-statement-by-u-s-secretary-of-state-antony-blinken-following-the-covid-19-ministerial>

<sup>298</sup> Republic of Senegal and Team Europe agree to build a manufacturing plant to produce vaccines against COVID-19 and other endemic diseases, European Commission (Brussels) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3562](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3562)

well as establishing manufacturing centres for vaccines in Africa, in accordance with the African Union and the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention's Partnerships for African Vaccine Manufacturing.<sup>299,300</sup>

On 22 July 2021, the European Commission announced that, in partnership with Team Europe, that they are providing support for the manufacturing of vaccines, medicines and health technologies in Africa.<sup>301</sup> This initiative is backed by EUR1 billion from the EU budget and the European Investment Bank. The purpose is to help low-income countries in Africa foster the right conditions to manufacture their own vaccines.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to emphasizing the need for equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines by supporting vaccine manufacturing in low-income countries through financial contributions and knowledge sharing under the Team Europe initiative.

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

*Analyst: Elisa Pugliese*

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<sup>299</sup> €1 billion Team Europe initiative on manufacturing and access to vaccines, medicines and health technologies in Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 21 May 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2022.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_2594](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_2594)

<sup>300</sup> Council conclusions on intellectual property policy, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/50529/st-9932-2021-init.pdf>

<sup>301</sup> Vaccinating the world: 'Team Europe' to share more than 200 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines with low and middle-income countries by the end of 2021, European Commission (Brussels) 22 July 2021. Access Date: 4 February 2022.

[https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/vaccinating-world-team-europe-share-more-200-million-doses-covid-19-vaccines-low-and-middle\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/vaccinating-world-team-europe-share-more-200-million-doses-covid-19-vaccines-low-and-middle_en)

### 3. Health: Disease Prevention

“We pledge to lead the way in building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease, and to detect emerging health threats quickly.”

*G7 Carbis Bay Health Declaration*

#### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
United Kingdom		0	
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.75 (88%)	

#### Background

The continuous challenge of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has increased the necessity for health systems that can effectively respond to large scale pandemics. The importance of health systems and the prevention of emerging infectious diseases has been a consistent subject at the G7 Summits. The earliest health commitment on a Summit agenda was the response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic at the 1987 Venice Summit.<sup>302</sup> The priority of this Summit was to prevent further escalation of the disease by “strengthening existing organizations by giving them full political support and by providing them with the necessary financial, personnel and administrative resources.” The G7 also looked to the World Health Organization (WHO), stating that “the World Health Organization (WHO) is the best forum for drawing together international efforts on a worldwide level to combat AIDS.” Since then, the WHO has worked with the G7 to establish quicker and more effective responses to emerging health threats.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the discrepancies in treatment and healthcare among different socioeconomic groups, with the United Nations declaring that “while the impact of the pandemic will vary from country to country, it will most likely increase poverty and inequalities at a global scale.”<sup>303</sup> This has required more emphasis from the G7 to commit to facilitating a more inclusive and diversified health system as “attention will need to be placed on populations for whom this emergency compounds pre-existing marginalization, inequalities and vulnerabilities.”<sup>304</sup> Accomplishing this will require learning from the current pandemic to better handle future infectious diseases in terms of being able to identify them and respond to them appropriately.

At the 2003 Evian summit, G8 leaders emphasized the importance of strengthening health systems as a framework for increasing access of the neediest populations of developing countries to health care, drugs and

<sup>302</sup> Chairman’s Statement on AIDS, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 1987. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1987venice/aids.html>

<sup>303</sup> Introduction, A UN Framework for the immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19, United Nations (New York) April 2020. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <https://unsdg.un.org/sites/default/files/2020-04/UN-framework-for-the-immediate-socio-economic-response-to-COVID-19.pdf>

<sup>304</sup> The People We Must Reach, A UN Framework for the immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19, United Nations (New York) April 2020. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <https://unsdg.un.org/sites/default/files/2020-04/UN-framework-for-the-immediate-socio-economic-response-to-COVID-19.pdf>

treatments.<sup>305</sup> The G8 leaders committed to supporting and financing health care, stating that “these efforts are essential to improving access and quality of health care in poor countries.”

At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, G8 leaders formed a response to the threat of infectious diseases due to the emergence of highly pathogenic avian influenza, with the accompanying possibility of a human pandemic.<sup>306</sup> The Summit also focused on least developed countries, particularly in Africa where there is limited access to healthcare resources, information, and workforce, as well as basic needs such as food, water, and sanitation. The G8 leaders thus committed to strengthening the Global Network for Surveillance and Monitoring of Infectious Diseases as well as increasing global preparedness for a human pandemic.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, the G7 leaders committed to take “concrete actions for advancing global health.”<sup>307</sup> In response to the emerging Ebola and Zika viruses, the G7 leaders agreed to improve prevention of, detection of and response to public health emergencies. This involved recognizing that the WHO should play a key leading and coordinating role in the event of an outbreak, for prompt detection, containment and control of public health emergencies particularly in the early stage.

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, the G7 leaders committed to “strengthening health systems, preparedness for, and a prompt, effective and coordinated response to public health emergencies and long-term challenges.”<sup>308</sup> They called for Health Ministers to follow up on these issues during the 2017 G7 Health Ministers’ meeting in November.

Following the G7 Taormina Summit, the G7 Health Ministers met in Milan to better prepare health systems to respond collectively to present and future threats.<sup>309</sup> This included “encouraging health service delivery systems to be diversity-, gender- and age-sensitive,” as well as taking into consideration “cultural background without discrimination.” G7 Health Ministers aimed to “reduce global inequalities and to improve the health of all individuals throughout their life course through inclusive health services.”

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders committed to “supporting strong, sustainable health systems that promote access to quality and affordable healthcare.”<sup>310</sup> G7 leaders also recognized the role of the WHO in health emergencies, as well as the need for further development and sustainable financing through the Contingency Fund for Emergencies and the World Bank’s Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility.

At the 2020 US Virtual Summit, G7 leaders met virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic and pledged “to protect the health and safety of everyone in our countries.”<sup>311</sup> This included enhancing efforts to strengthen health systems globally as well as supporting the WHO’s global mandate to “lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences, leaving no geographical vacuum, and encouraging all countries,

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<sup>305</sup> Health: A G8 Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2 June 2003. Access Date: 20 September 2021.

[http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/health\\_en.html](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/health_en.html)

<sup>306</sup> Fight Against Infectious Disease, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 2006. Access Date: 20 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/infdis.html>

<sup>307</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 20 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/health.html>

<sup>308</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 20 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

<sup>309</sup> United towards Global Health: Common Strategies for Common Challenges, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 November 2017. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/healthmins/2017-milan.html>

<sup>310</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

<sup>311</sup> G7 Leaders’ Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 21 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html>



international organizations, and the private sector to assist global efforts such as the Global Preparedness and Response Plan.”

### **Commitment Features**

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, the G7 leaders committed to take action on disease prevention. This commitment can be broken down into three parts and to receive full compliance, G7 members must take action in all aspects of the commitment. These parts are: 1) “building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system,” 2) this global health system needs to be “prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease,” and 3) this system must “detect emerging health threats quickly.”

The WHO suggests that “global health systems” should be based upon the core principles of primary health care as defined at the International Conference on Primary Health Care- Alma-Ata in 1978.<sup>312</sup> These principles include: “universal access and coverage on the basis of need; health equity as part of development oriented to social justice; community participation in defining and implementing health agendas; and intersectoral approaches to health.” Issues and topics related to global health systems are: financing of the healthcare system, the global health workforce, providing adequate health information, and implementing pro-equity health policies. The benefits of such a system would be so all people have access to needed health services, when and where they need them, without financial hardship, thus ensuring better health outcomes for all members of society.<sup>313</sup> Furthermore, research undertaken by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and McKinsey & Company have shown that global health systems produce synergistic benefits for countries including attracting attention and funding for diseases, improving policy planning for the future, and strengthening program monitoring and accountability.<sup>314</sup>

The term “building” is defined as: “to form by ordering and uniting materials by gradual means into a composite whole” and “to develop according to a systematic plan, by a definite process, or on a particular base.”<sup>315</sup> In reference to building global health systems, we understand this to mean putting into place actions which will improve and/or reshape existing healthcare systems, both domestically and internationally. Building these global healthcare systems can be achieved by: “stronger prevention, public health, and pandemic preparedness capabilities; and addressing health disparities and the systemic inequalities that underlie them.”<sup>316</sup>

The term “resilient” is understood to mean “able to become strong, healthy, or successful again after something bad happens” and “able to return to an original shape.”<sup>317</sup> The term “integrated” as it refers to healthcare is defined by the WHO as “management and delivery of health services so that clients receive a continuum of preventive and curative services, according to their needs over time and across different levels of the health system.”<sup>318</sup> Finally, the term “inclusive” is understood to mean “including everyone, especially allowing and accommodating people who have historically been excluded (as because of their race, gender,

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<sup>312</sup> Chapter 7- Health Systems: Principled Integrated Care, The World Health Report, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 16 September 2021. <https://www.who.int/whr/2003/en/Chapter7.pdf>

<sup>313</sup> Universal Health Coverage, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2021. [https://www.who.int/health-topics/universal-health-coverage#tab=tab\\_1](https://www.who.int/health-topics/universal-health-coverage#tab=tab_1)

<sup>314</sup> Global Health Partnerships: Assessing Country Consequences, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.who.int/healthsystems/gf16.pdf>

<sup>315</sup> Build-verb, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/build>

<sup>316</sup> Building A Better Health Care System Post-Covid-19: Steps for Reducing Low-Value and Wasteful Care, New England Journal of Medicine Catalyst (Boston) 21 August 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://catalyst.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/cat.20.0368>

<sup>317</sup> Resilient-adjective, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/resilient>

<sup>318</sup> Integrated Health Services- What and Why?, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2021. [https://www.who.int/healthsystems/service\\_delivery\\_techbrief1.pdf](https://www.who.int/healthsystems/service_delivery_techbrief1.pdf)

sexuality, or ability).<sup>319</sup> The segments in society, in this context, will comprise the general populace and vulnerable groups namely women, children or youth, the elderly, people with disabilities, low-income peoples or homeless, migrants, refugees or undocumented peoples and those who have been discriminated against including Indigenous peoples, prison populations, LGBTQ2+, BIPOC, etc.<sup>320</sup>

Examples of strong compliance for “building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system” can include increases in funding to the healthcare system, specifically for the vulnerable groups listed above. The funding should specifically be targeted to improve access to preventative healthcare, community-based care, and health education. Another strong example of compliance would be expanding or initiating healthcare programs which operate under the principle of universal care and access, as described above. Thirdly, funding and programs that are aimed at diversifying and expanding the healthcare workforce will also be considered strong compliance. This can include doctors, nurses, physician assistants, physiotherapists, pharmacists, researchers, and hospital administrators. Examples of compliance can be actions taken both at the domestic and international level (can be in collaboration with other international organizations or countries).

Examples of weaker compliance would be pledges of financial support for the initiatives listed above, verbal affirmations of support for increasing diversity and equity within healthcare without any concrete plans initiated or supporting international legislation without committing to specific actions.

The term “prevent” is understood to mean “to keep from happening or existing; to hold or to keep back.”<sup>321</sup> Specifically, this refers to the causes (origins) and escalation (worsening) of disease. “Disease” is understood to mean “an illness that affects a person: a condition that prevents the body or mind from working normally.”<sup>322</sup> This includes both communicable and non-communicable diseases. Communicable diseases include infectious diseases of pathogenic origins (ie. SARS-CoV-2, hepatitis, HIV, tuberculosis etc.).<sup>323</sup> Non-communicable diseases include “heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes and chronic lung disease, as well as mental health disorders.”<sup>324</sup>

Examples of strong compliance for the second aspect of this commitment concerning global health systems which are “prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease” would be actions which address and investigate the causes and escalation of both communicable and non-communicable diseases. To do so, G7 members can invest in global programs for data sharing or assemble investigative teams when/if new communicable diseases emerge. Furthermore, investment in domestic and international programs to prevent the increase in incidence of non-communicable diseases would constitute strong compliance. Finally, investment in strengthening existing preventative programs such as immunization and screening programs to alleviate the burden on the healthcare system, as well taking actions to prepare for future pandemics such as building up stockpiles of necessary healthcare resources (masks, ventilators, medications, etc.). Compliance would be for domestic and international actions.

Examples of weaker compliance actions include G7 members taking actions listed above in ways that address either communicable OR non-communicable diseases rather than both. Additionally, as before, if G7

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<sup>319</sup> Inclusive-adjective, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/resilient>

<sup>320</sup> Vulnerable Populations. Who are they? American Journal of Managed Care (Cranbury) n.d. Access Date: 25 October 2021. <https://www.ajmc.com/view/nov06-2390ps348-s352>

<sup>321</sup> Prevent-verb, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/prevent>

<sup>322</sup> Disease-noun, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/disease>

<sup>323</sup> Communicable diseases, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/communicable-diseases>

<sup>324</sup> Non-communicable diseases, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2021. [https://www.who.int/health-topics/noncommunicable-diseases#tab=tab\\_1](https://www.who.int/health-topics/noncommunicable-diseases#tab=tab_1)

members only make announcements or sign declarations, but do not take direct action, then they will only receive partial compliance.

The term to “detect” is defined as “to discover or determine the existence, presence, or fact of” and it is relevant in the context of emerging health threats in this commitment.<sup>325</sup> The concept of “emerging health threats” are understood to mean communicable and non-communicable diseases which pose a risk to the general population and the healthcare system. More specifically, emerging infectious diseases which fall under the umbrella of communicable diseases are defined as: “infections that newly appear in a population, or have existed but are [rapidly] increasing in incidence or geographic range.”<sup>326</sup> The increase in incidence of non-communicable diseases such as heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes and chronic lung disease, particularly in low and middle-income countries are also considered emerging health threats.

Examples of strong compliance for this third part of the commitment: systems which “detect emerging health threats quickly,” would include investing and expanding research initiatives to study emerging health threats, entering into research and data sharing partnerships with other countries, or contributing to developing a global surveillance mechanism which can identify when a particular communicable pathogen may pose a global threat. Compliance actions can be aimed at detecting emerging threats that are both communicable and non-communicable in nature, but it is anticipated given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, that most efforts will surround communicable diseases.

In order to be in full compliance, the G7 member must take action to build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system, to be prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to be able to detect emerging health threats quickly. The absence of action in one or two of these three categories constitutes partial compliance. Examples of strong compliance are provided throughout these interpretive guidelines but are not an exhaustive list given the scope of this commitment. Non-compliance would mean that the G7 member did not take any action in any of the three parameters which make up this commitment.

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	The G7 member has NOT taken ANY action to build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system OR is prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease OR has taken action to be able to detect emerging health threats quickly.
0	The G7 member has taken action in at least ONE of three areas: to build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system OR is prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease OR has taken action to be able to detect emerging health threats quickly.
+1	The G7 member has taken action in ALL three areas: to build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system AND is prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease AND has taken action to be able to detect emerging health threats quickly.

*Compliance Director: Dorota Borovskya  
Lead Analyst: Eisha Khan*

**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats quickly.

<sup>325</sup> Detect-verb, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/detect>

<sup>326</sup> Emerging Health Issues, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (Bangkok) 5 March 2013. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/TS4-4.pdf>

On 14 July 2021, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Chrystia Freeland announced a CAD5 billion payment to provinces and territories, split evenly per population, to finance immunization efforts in order to ensure that Canadian healthcare systems remain strong and responsive to the needs of Canadians.<sup>327</sup> The Government of Canada is allocating CAD4 billion in a one-time top up to the Canada Health Transfer. This money will go toward helping provinces and territories deal with urgent health-care demands, including clearing a backlog of medical operations, patient care, and primary-care access that has been halted due to the pandemic. Furthermore, the Canadian government is committing CAD1 billion to fund vaccine rollout efforts across the country, ensuring that Canadians receive their first and second doses as soon as possible. The funding supports a variety of vaccine-related costs, including recruiting and training immunizers, establishing herd immunity clinics, establishing mobile immune units, engaging Indigenous communities to promote vaccine adoption and reaching vulnerable populations through community-based immunization efforts.

On 16 July 2021, Minister of Health Patty Hajdu announced an investment of CAD7.5 million for 13 projects to support the health of substance users across Canada.<sup>328</sup> The programmes will improve the number of qualified health and social professionals available to assist drug users. They will give peer-to-peer training, as well as produce and disseminate information and resources on harm reduction and treatment for people working in the health profession. These initiatives will work together to ensure that Canadians who use drugs have access to appropriate, timely and effective treatment during and after the pandemic.

On 28 July 2021, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry François-Philippe Champagne and Minister Hajdu announced the launch of the Biomanufacturing and Life Sciences Strategy.<sup>329</sup> The strategy will invest CAD2.2 billion over seven years from the 2021 Budget to ensure that Canada continues to build a robust and competitive sector, as well as ensuring that Canada is prepared for future pandemics. The strategy is motivated by two goals: building a robust, competitive domestic life sciences industry with cutting-edge biomanufacturing capabilities, while providing decent opportunities for Canadians, and ensuring that Canada is prepared for future pandemics and other health emergencies. This involves developing local ability to manufacture life-saving vaccines and treatments through investments and collaborations.

On 24 November 2021, Minister of International Development Harjit Sajjan announced a CAD325 million investment towards 11 initiatives involving Canadian health partners.<sup>330</sup> With a focus on Sub-Saharan Africa, this investment will assist important partners enhance access to basic services, promote gender equality and alter decision-making institutions that reinforce and perpetuate inequality over the course of five to seven years. Moreover, the policy prioritises women and girls in its development initiatives, including ensuring that health systems are equipped to fulfil their needs by promoting comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). Women, adolescents, and children will benefit from the funded initiatives, which will focus on SRHR and enhancing the quality of and access to integrated health care.

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<sup>327</sup> Federal government delivers \$5 billion in pandemic support to provinces and territories for vaccines and health care, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2021/07/federal-government-delivers-5-billion-in-pandemic-support-to-provinces-and-territories-for-vaccines-and-health-care.html>

<sup>328</sup> Government of Canada is investing nearly \$7.5 million to support the health of people who use substances across Canada, Health Canada (Ottawa) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2021/07/government-of-canada-is-investing-nearly-75-million-to-support-the-health-of-people-who-use-substances-across-canada.html>

<sup>329</sup> The Government of Canada announces biomanufacturing and life sciences strategy, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Vancouver) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/07/the-government-of-canada-announces-biomanufacturing-and-life-sciences-strategy.html>

<sup>330</sup> Canada announces support aimed at improving the health and rights of women and girls, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/11/canada-announces-support-aimed-at-improving-the-health-and-rights-of-women-and-girls.html>

On 16 December 2021, Minister of Health Jean-Yves Duclos announced a Canada-Québec agreement for virtual health care services with a focus on the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>331</sup> Quebec will receive more than CAD28 million as part of this deal to enhance its virtual health care services. Quebec will use the federal funds to fund two projects: a virtual ophthalmology solution that uses artificial intelligence to diagnose and treat diabetic retinopathy in type 2 diabetes patients, and a virtual care and services platform that will administrate and integrate requests for all types of teleconsultations in Quebec.

On 14 January 2022, Minister Duclos announced the establishment of the Centre for Research on Pandemic Preparedness and Health Emergencies, which will get an annual funding of CAD18.5 million.<sup>332</sup> Other federal ministries and organizations, as well as domestic and foreign stakeholders, will work with the Research Centre, which will be situated under the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR). It will concentrate on strengthening Canada's research and knowledge mobilization capabilities in order to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from current and future pandemics and public health catastrophes.

Canada has fully complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system by investing in pandemic preparedness programs, supporting investment into research for other non-communicable diseases and addressing the needs of vulnerable populations such as women. Additionally, Canada is prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and has taken action to be able to detect emerging health threats quickly by strengthening health care systems and investing in future health threat research.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Sarah Rashid*

#### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats quickly.

On 15 June 2021, the Ministry of Solidarity and Health announced the reimbursement of rapid angina (tonsillitis) tests taking place in community pharmacies starting on 1 July 2021.<sup>333</sup> The goal of this initiative is to reduce the use of antibiotics to treat viral infections for which antibiotics do not work, thereby reducing the development of antibiotic resistance.

On 18 June 2021, France and Mexico signed a bilateral cooperation agreement that allowed for the creation of an international joint laboratory called “El Dorado,” made up of researchers from the National Autonomous University of Mexico and from the French Institute of Development Research.<sup>334</sup> France launched the agreement under President Macron's Preventing Zoonotic Diseases Emergence (PREZODE)

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<sup>331</sup> Government of Canada invests more than \$28 million to support the funding of virtual health care services in Quebec, Health Canada (Ottawa) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2021/12/government-of-canada-invests-more-than-28-million-to-support-the-funding-of-virtual-health-care-services-in-quebec.html>

<sup>332</sup> Government of Canada creates Centre for Research on Pandemic Preparedness and Health Emergencies, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Ottawa) 14 January 2022. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/institutes-health-research/news/2022/01/government-of-canada-creates-centre-for-research-on-pandemic-preparedness-and-health-emergencies.html>

<sup>333</sup> The Ministry of Solidarity and Health announces the reimbursement of rapid angina tests carried out in community pharmacies, Ministry of Solidarity and Health (Paris) 15 June 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/le-ministere-annonce-la-prise-en-charge-des-trod-angine-en-pharmacie>

<sup>334</sup> Mexico: First country to join PREZODE initiative, PREZODE Initiative (Paris) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://prezode.org/News/Mexico-First-country-to-join-PREZODE-initiative>

initiative, and the agreement seeks to research and innovate on the risk of pathogens in the region and increase the capacity to respond to pandemics.

On 21 June 2021, President Emmanuel Macron, South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa and Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus announced plans for Africa's first mRNA technology transfer hub, which aims to scale up production and access to COVID-19 vaccines for the developing world.<sup>335</sup>

On 9 July 2021, France confirmed its investment of EUR1.8 million through the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) for the Manufacturing in Africa for Disease Immunization and Building Autonomy (MADIBA) project at the Institut Pasteur in Dakar, Senegal.<sup>336</sup> The European Commission, the European Investment Bank and other European Union Member States similarly confirmed investments and signed grant agreements at this event.

On 30 July 2021, France announced that an initial batch of 750 oxygen concentrators out of a promised 3,000 units and 1.1 million surgical masks were sent to health care professions in the prior week to help Algeria deal with its recent COVID-19 outbreaks.<sup>337</sup>

On 9 August 2021, France announced a two-year, EUR24 million call for proposals for "participatory" health centres, in an effort to increase access to care for marginalized populations.<sup>338</sup> The "participatory" health model attempts to increase access by reaching out to users, setting up spaces for discussion and initiating personalized care. The goal is for 60 such centres to be created by 2023/24, to provide "prevented and adaptive response" to access to care issues for marginalized people and increase their participation in the healthcare system which is often restricted due to financial consideration.

On 22 September 2021, President Macron's PREZODE initiative and the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) Zoonotic Disease Integrated Action (ZODIAC) initiative formally agreed to collaborate on tackling zoonotic diseases.<sup>339</sup> Planned joint actions include capacity building, building a platform for sharing knowledge, a resource centre available for the One Health High-Level Expert Panel to produce recommendations for decision makers and a scientific framework to coordinate research projects. ZODIAC deploys nuclear-related techniques for the rapid detection of pathogens and will establish an information-sharing global network of national laboratories to help monitor, detect, and control animal and zoonotic diseases like COVID-19, Ebola, avian influenza and Zika virus.

On 26 September 2021, President Macron announced that France would double its COVID-19 vaccine sharing pledge to COVAX, for a grand total of 120 million doses by the end of the second quarter in 2022.<sup>340</sup>

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<sup>335</sup> WHO supporting South African consortium to establish first COVID mRNA vaccine technology transfer hub, World Health Organization (Geneva) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.who.int/news/item/21-06-2021-who-supporting-south-african-consortium-to-establish-first-covid-mrna-vaccine-technology-transfer-hub>

<sup>336</sup> Republic of Senegal and Team Europe agree to build a manufacturing plant to produce vaccines against COVID-19 and other endemic diseases, European Commission (Brussels) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3562](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3562)

<sup>337</sup> Algeria - Q&A from the press briefing, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 5 August 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/algeria/news/article/algeria-q-a-from-the-press-briefing-5-aug-2021>

<sup>338</sup> Facilitate access to city care in disadvantaged areas: launch of a call for projects for the establishment of "participatory" health centers and homes, Ministry of Solidarity and Health (Paris) 9 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/faciliter-l-acces-aux-soins-de-ville-dans-les-territoires-defavorises-lancement>

<sup>339</sup> IAEA and PREZODE Pave the Way for Future Cooperation to Prevent Zoonotic Diseases, PREZODE Initiative (Paris) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://prezode.org/News/ZODIAC>

<sup>340</sup> France to double Covid vaccine doses for poorer countries, France24 (Paris) 26 September 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20210925-france-to-double-covid-vaccine-doses-for-poorer-countries>

On 29 October 2021, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian announced that France had successfully donated 67 million doses to 45 countries (30 of which are African countries).<sup>341</sup>

On 30 October 2021, France announced a new partnership with the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) facility, through Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) to increase immunization capacity in Africa, by tackling hesitancy and mobilizing domestic and international civil society organizations.<sup>342</sup> The six-month pilot phase begins as early as November 2021, whereby the partners select two African countries with low vaccine uptake rates.

On 18 November 2021, France verbally affirmed its support for World Antimicrobial Awareness Week, organized by the WHO from 18 November 2021 to 24 November 2021, and committed to promoting essential interministerial positions on controlling antimicrobial resistance at European and international levels.<sup>343</sup>

On 1 December 2021, France announced its support for the WHO's decision by consensus to launch negotiations on a new treaty to prevent and respond to future pandemics, which would seek to improve fair access to tools combating epidemics and strengthen the WHO's inter-agency health cooperation roles.<sup>344</sup> France also announced that it supported instruments designed to more effectively financially mobilize the international community to prepare for pandemics.

On 1 December 2021, the Ministry of Solidarity and Health presented its second sexual health roadmap 2021-2024 for the implementation of the 2017 National Sexual Health Strategy.<sup>345</sup> The second roadmap deepens the commitments made for 30 priority targets and 7 versions adapted to overseas departments, including diversifying access to screening and prevention tools for sexually transmitted infections and human immunodeficiency virus and by promoting sexual health training in all settings.

On 7 December 2021, Minister Le Drian set out France's commitments on combating malnutrition for 2024 at the "Nutrition for Growth" summit, organized by Japan.<sup>346</sup> These commitments included an allocation of 15 per cent of AFD's funding towards water, hygiene and sanitation to eight priority countries in Africa, particularly in the Sahel region. Also, France dedicated 25 per cent of the French Muskoka Fund to nutrition which operates in Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Senegal, and Togo.

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<sup>341</sup> COVID-19 - France donates 67 million vaccine doses - Communiqué issued by M. Jean-Yves Le Drian, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 29 October 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2021/article/covid-19-france-donates-67-million-vaccine-doses-communique-issued-by-m-jean>

<sup>342</sup> To support vaccination against COVID-19, France joins forces with COVAX to launch "From vaccines delivery to vaccination against COVID-19" project, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 30 October 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2021/article/to-support-vaccination-against-covid-19-france-joins-forces-with-covax-to>

<sup>343</sup> World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (18-24 November 2021), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/world-antimicrobial-awareness-week-18-24-november-2021>

<sup>344</sup> WHO – France welcomes the launch of negotiations on a new treaty to prevent pandemics, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 1 December 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/news-and-events/news/news-2021/article/who-france-welcomes-the-launch-of-negotiations-on-a-new-treaty-to-prevent>

<sup>345</sup> The Ministry of Solidarity and Health presents the second sexual health roadmap 2021-2024 for the implementation of the National Sexual Health Strategy, Ministry of Solidarity and Health (1 December 2021). Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/le-ministere-des-solidarites-et-de-la-sante-presente-la-deuxieme-feuille-de>

<sup>346</sup> France combating malnutrition at the "Nutrition for Growth" Summit, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2021/article/france-combatting-malnutrition-at-the-nutrition-for-growth-summit-7-december>

On 8 December 2021, France announced 10 million doses had been successfully delivered to at least 38 African Union member-states, including recent shipments to Ghana, Botswana, Egypt, Tunisia, and Lesotho.<sup>347</sup>

On 14 December 2021, France and Cuba signed agreements to fund two new public health projects worth EUR6.1 million, during the Sixth Session of the France-Cuba Economic and Commercial Commission and the Sixth Meeting of the Strategic Orientation Committee that manages the French-Cuban Counterpart Fund.<sup>348</sup>

On 16 December 2021, France committed EUR20 million to the Medicines Patent Pool (MPP), which will help the MPP expand its regular work of technology transfers and pursuing voluntary licensing agreements, towards COVID-19 treatments, diagnostics, and vaccines.<sup>349</sup> The initial five-year project aims to address global inequities and the lack of secure supply as it pertains to COVID-19 technologies. The MPP is an UN-backed public health organization seeking to facilitate the development of life-saving medicines for developing countries.

On 23 December 2021, France enacted the Social Security Financing Act of 2022, which among other items, includes investments to reimburse contraception for all women under age 25, reimbursement of medical telemonitoring and access to free HIV screening tests without a prescription in laboratories.<sup>350</sup>

On 12 January 2022, France's PREZODE initiative announced that it will use its first budget of EUR10 million, financed by the AFD, in part to support its first operational program of preventing the emergence and spread of zoonotic diseases while ensuring food security and livelihoods in Cambodia, Cameroon, Guinea, Madagascar and Senegal.<sup>351</sup>

France has fully complied with its commitment to build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease, and to detect emerging health threats quickly. France helped build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system by, inter alia, investing in participatory health care centres and funding health projects in other countries such as Cuba and Senegal. France has helped prepare to prevent the causes and escalation of disease by, inter alia, increasing access to contraceptives to women under 25, donating vaccine supplies through COVAX and bilateral arrangements, and funding technology transfers through MPP. Finally, France has taken action to detect emerging health threats quickly by, inter alia, investing and expanding its PREZODE initiative and supporting efforts for legal instruments to prevent future pandemics.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Ashton Mathias*

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<sup>347</sup> Covid-19 - France delivers 10 million vaccine doses to the African Union, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/covid-19-france-delivers-10-million-vaccine-doses-to-the-african-union-dec-8>

<sup>348</sup> Cuba – Participation of Franck Riester in the 6th Session of the France-Cuba Economic and Commercial Commission and the 6th Meeting of the Strategic Orientation Committee that manages the French-Cuban Counterpart Fund, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/cuba/news/article/cuba-participation-of-franck-riester-in-the-6th-session-of-the-france-cuba>

<sup>349</sup> France to fund MPP for its expansion into COVID-19 health technologies, Medicines Patent Pool (Geneva) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://medicinespatentpool.org/news-publications-post/france-to-fund-mpp-for-its-expansion-into-covid-19>

<sup>350</sup> Law of 23 December 2021 on financing social security for 2022, Department of Legal Administration and Information (Paris) 23 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.vie-publique.fr/loi/281799-loi-de-financement-la-securite-sociale-2022-plfss-budget-secu>

<sup>351</sup> PREZODE celebrates its first anniversary, PREZODE Initiative (Paris) 12 January 2022. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://prezode.org/News/PREZODE-celebrates-its-first-anniversary>



## Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats quickly.

On 1 September 2021, Germany and the World Health Organization (WHO) established the Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence in Berlin.<sup>352</sup> This Hub will use extensive data and research to identify risk-inducing events and forecast potential threats, increasing global preparedness to deal with fast-spreading diseases. Aside from hosting the institute, Germany has provided initial funding of USD100 million to allow the hub to acquire the relevant analytic tools to forecast super spreader events.

On 8 September 2021, Germany delivered the first of 1.3 million vaccine doses set for developing countries to Mauritania, which received 213,600 doses.<sup>353</sup> These were followed by shipments to Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Sudan and Ethiopia in the following days. These donations were part of Germany's pledge to donate 100 million vaccine doses that year.

On 26 October 2021, Germany delivered 163,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Somalia.<sup>354</sup> At the time of the donation, only 1.85 per cent of Somalis were fully vaccinated against the virus, but the effort to protect Somalia against the virus has been aided by Germany's donation, a move to help lower income countries achieve immunity and contribute to the strength of the global system.

On 5 November 2021, Federal Minister of Health Jens Spahn agreed with regional health leaders that German citizens should receive a booster shot at least six months after their previous injections.<sup>355</sup> As Germany deals with a steep uptick in cases stemming from the fourth wave, the country decided to administer booster shots to prevent the overwhelming health system and further spread of the COVID-19 disease.

On 7 December 2021, Germany pledged to donate EUR120 million in humanitarian aid to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for 2022.<sup>356</sup> The UNHCR provides humanitarian assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons, which includes services such as the provision of clean water, adequate housing and basic healthcare.

On 28 December 2021, Germany's constitutional court established that disabled patients must still be protected by legally binding guidelines in the case that hospitals resort to triage systems due to the overwhelming of the healthcare system.<sup>357</sup> The ruling is an impactful step in ensuring Germany continues to

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<sup>352</sup> WHO, Germany open Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence in Berlin, World Health Organization (Berlin) 1 September 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.who.int/news/item/01-09-2021-who-germany-open-hub-for-pandemic-and-epidemic-intelligence-in-berlin>

<sup>353</sup> First delivery of German-donated Covid vaccines to COVAX land in Mauritania, with more donations to follow, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 8 September 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/first-delivery-german-donated-covid-vaccines-covax-land-mauritania-other-deliveries>

<sup>354</sup> In fight against COVID-19, Germany donates 163,000 COVID-19 vaccine doses to Somalia through COVAX facility, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (Mogadishu) 26 October 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.unicef.org/somalia/press-releases/fight-against-covid-19-germany-donates-163000-covid-19-vaccine-doses-somalia-through>

<sup>355</sup> With fourth wave raging, Germany agrees booster shots for all, Reuters (London) 5 November 2021. Access Date: January 16, 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/business/healthcare-pharmaceuticals/action-needed-now-avoid-lockdown-say-german-state-leaders-2021-11-05/>

<sup>356</sup> New funding for the protection of refugees: 120 million Euro for 2022, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/themen/migration/germany-unhcr-funding/2423226>

<sup>357</sup> German court rules disabled people must be protected in Covid triage cases, The Guardian (Berlin) 28 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/dec/28/german-court-disabled-people-covid-triage>

develop its inclusive healthcare system and orders legislators to create legal frameworks to prevent disabled people from unfair treatment.

On 29 December 2021, Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Svenja Schulze pledged to donate 75 million vaccine doses to various low-income and middle-income countries in 2022, in addition to the 100 million doses Germany committed in 2021.<sup>358</sup> At the time of this announcement, Germany was preparing 53 million doses for shipment. These actions have been taken by Germany without the undermining of their own vaccination program.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease, and to detect emerging health threats quickly. Within the compliance period discussed, Germany has made great financial and material contributions in ensuring that developing countries and vulnerable groups are taken care of by the global health system. Within its own borders, Germany is working to guarantee that its healthcare system is truly universal and prepared to deal with the consequences of infectious diseases. Germany also takes a leading role in researching pandemics and epidemics to enhance the detection of future threats.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Mohammad Rasoul Kailani*

### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats quickly.

On 22 June 2021, Italy's National Institute for Health, Migration and Poverty and the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) signed an agreement to boost the "safeguarding of the health of minors, women and families from the migrant community."<sup>359</sup> The goal of the agreement is to strengthen the two organization's actions aimed at training social and healthcare professionals on issues such as immigration, violence, gender-based violence, poverty and social exclusion. The agreement is intended to promote better health education with respect to the differing needs of different migrants based on age, gender, culture and country of origin.

On 24 August 2021, Prime Minister Mario Draghi announced during a G7 video conference that Italy would redirect resources to humanitarian aid that were originally for Afghan military forces.<sup>360</sup> Prime Minister Draghi also asked the other member states to join in that effort for a successful outcome.

On 22 September 2021, Prime Minister Draghi stated at the Global COVID-19 Summit, organised by the 76th General Assembly of the UN, that Italy stood by the pledges it had previously made to various vaccine programmes and that it was ready to make "more generous ones."<sup>361</sup> Italy also offered "adequate logistical support to ensure that vaccines reach those who need them the most" and tripled its efforts in vaccine donation by 30 million additional doses by the end of 2021, reaching 45 million vaccine doses in total.

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<sup>358</sup> Germany to donate 75M Covid-19 vaccines to other countries, Anadolu Agency (Berlin) 29 December 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/europe/germany-to-donate-75m-covid-19-vaccines-to-other-countries/2460421>

<sup>359</sup> A joint initiative launched in Italy to safeguard migrant health, InfoMigrants (Rome) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/33119/a-joint-initiative-launched-in-italy-to-safeguard-migrant-health>

<sup>360</sup> Afghanistan, President Draghi participates in the extraordinary meeting of the G7, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 24 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/afghanistan-il-presidente-draghi-partecipa-al-g7-del-24-agosto/17720>

<sup>361</sup> UNGA, Prime Minister Draghi's remarks to Global Covid-19 Summit, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/onu-intervento-del-presidente-draghi-al-global-covid-19-summit/18012>

On 8 October 2021, the Ministry of Health announced that Italy had given the green light for the COVID-19 vaccine booster (third dose), after at least six months after the second dose, for those over age 60 and anyone considered to be immunocompromised.<sup>362</sup>

On 1 December 2021, Italy approved COVID-19 vaccinations for children aged five to eleven.<sup>363</sup> Italian health authorities consider vaccination of children and teenagers to be an important step in responding to the COVID-19 global pandemic and in disease prevention.

On 6 December 2021, Italy tightened restrictions on the unvaccinated population with a new COVID-19 super green pass.<sup>364</sup> Italy's previous basic green health pass could be used by anyone who was vaccinated or recovered to access concerts, theaters, indoor restaurants, and major sporting events. The new COVID-19 green health pass is now needed to also access public transport.

On 14 December 2021, Italy extended its January 2020 COVID-19 state of emergency until 31 March 2022.<sup>365</sup> The country now also requires a pre-departure COVID-19 swab test to be taken by European Union visitors from 16 December 2021 to 31 January 2022. Additionally, the Health Ministry has imposed a requirement that anyone who has not been vaccinated must quarantine for five days on arrival.

On 15 December 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation announced that medical equipment were sent to Libya's Health Ministry to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.<sup>366</sup> On 14 December 2021, more than 10 tons of medical equipment including ventilators, surgical masks and personal protective garments arrived in Libya.

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats quickly. Italy has taken various measures to build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system, by investing in domestic and international initiatives, with a particular emphasis on vulnerable populations. However, Italy's focus remains on mitigating the spread of COVID-19 and has neglected to address other non-communicable diseases or put any programs in place to detect emerging health threats.

Thus, Italy has received a score of 0.

*Analyst: Miranda Bocci*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats quickly.

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<sup>362</sup> Covid-19 vaccines, green light for the third dose (booster) for over 60 and frail, Ministry of Health (Rome) 8 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 January 2022.

[https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_4\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=5835](https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_4_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=5835)

<sup>363</sup> Italy approves COVID-19 vaccination for 5-11 year olds, Reuters (Milan) 1 December 2021. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/italy-approves-covid-19-vaccination-5-11-year-olds-2021-12-01/>

<sup>364</sup> Italy tightens restrictions on the unvaccinated with new COVID pass, Euronews (Lyon) 6 December 2021. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://www.euronews.com/2021/12/06/italy-tightens-restrictions-on-the-unvaccinated-with-new-covid-pass>

<sup>365</sup> Italy extends COVID-19 state of emergency, imposes swab for EU visitors, Reuters (Rome) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/italy-extends-covid-19-state-emergency-end-march-2021-12-14/>

<sup>366</sup> The Farnesina Announces: Italy is supplying medical equipment to Libya to aid in fighting COVID-19, Italian Government (Rome) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stamp/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/12/nota-farnesina-libia-fornitura-di-materiale-sanitario-per-il-contrasto-al-covid-19/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stamp/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/12/nota-farnesina-libia-fornitura-di-materiale-sanitario-per-il-contrasto-al-covid-19/)

On 1 July 2021, Japan delivered 1 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Malaysia.<sup>367</sup>

On 23 July 2021, Japan delivered 330,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Cambodia through the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) program, as part of Japan's pledged 1 million vaccine doses.<sup>368</sup>

On 24 July 2021, the Japan International Cooperation Agency signed a grant agreement with the Government of Senegal to provide grant aid up to JPY514 million to establish an effective and safe vaccination system in Senegal, including the provision of cold chain and medical equipment.<sup>369</sup>

On 11 August 2021, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry committed JPY150 million to companies specializing in women's health products, allowing them to develop products to alleviate medical issues specific to their gender, such as menstruation, pregnancy, infertility treatment and menopause.<sup>370</sup> This is a step forward in building a more inclusive health system in general and one that serves the needs of women in particular.

On 25 August 2021, Japan committed a USD2.75 million grant to set up a grassroots project in Vietnam.<sup>371</sup> It is dedicated to strengthening Vietnam's preparedness, threat detection and response capacities to potential outbreaks including the current COVID-19 pandemic. The three-year project will be implemented in three provinces and will reach 270,000 people, including 3,500 vulnerable people. Included in the latter group are elderly people in urban areas, ethnic minorities, informal workers, people living with HIV/AIDS, drug users, and female sex workers. Japan's impactful initiative to expand the healthcare capabilities of another country is an action that covers all aspects of the commitment.

On 6 October 2021, Japan donated 23 Viral Ribonucleic Acid Test Kits valued at USD43,411, which are expected to conduct around 5,750 tests, to the Caribbean Public Health Agency.<sup>372</sup> Additionally, Japan also donated USD267,274 to the Association for Promotion of International Cooperation so that Jamaica, Suriname and Guyana can purchase test kits to conduct around 72,090 tests.

On 13 October 2021, the Japan announced a JPY500 billion economic package aimed at firms developing vaccines and new drugs for infectious diseases.<sup>373</sup> It was the first fund announced by Prime Minister Fumio Kishida's government. The "university fund" was also expanded to JPY600 billion, as Japan aims to be a lead contributor in medical research and strengthen its domestic health sector.

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<sup>367</sup> Malaysia to receive vaccines donated by Japan, U.S. this week, Reuters (Kuala Lumpur) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/malaysia-receive-vaccines-donated-by-japan-us-this-week-2021-06-30/>

<sup>368</sup> First of 1 million new doses of COVID-19 vaccine manufactured in Japan arrived in Cambodia through COVAX, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (Phnom Penh) 23 July 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.unicef.org/cambodia/press-releases/first-1-million-new-doses-covid-19-vaccine-manufactured-japan-arrive-cambodia>

<sup>369</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with the Republic of Senegal: Contributing to establishment of the effective and safe vaccination system against COVID-19 through providing cold chain and medical equipment, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 24 August 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2021/20210824\\_en\\_21.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2021/20210824_en_21.html)

<sup>370</sup> Japan Joins Efforts to Back Women's Tech Business, BNN Bloomberg (Toronto) 11 August 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2021. <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/japan-joins-efforts-to-back-women-s-health-tech-businesses-1.1639272>

<sup>371</sup> World Bank, Japan Support Strengthening Pandemic Preparedness at Grassroots Level in Vietnam, World Bank (Hanoi) 25 August 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2021/08/25/world-bank-japan-support-strengthening-pandemic-preparedness-at-grassroots-level-in-vietnam>

<sup>372</sup> CARPHA Strengthens Its COVID-19 Testing Capacity with Japan Donation, Caribbean Public Health Agency (Port of Spain), 6 October 2021. Access Date: 16 December 2021. <https://carpha.org/More/Media/Articles/ArticleID/519/CARPHA-Strengthens-Its-COVID-19-Testing-Capacity-with-Japan-Donation>

<sup>373</sup> Japan to set up \$4.4 billion 'vaccine fund' under economic package, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 13 October 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2021/10/e98df38f9572-japan-to-set-up-44-billion-vaccine-fund-under-economic-package.html>

On 24 December 2021, Japan extended an Emergency Aid Grant of USD28.95 million to refugees and internally displaced people in Syria and neighboring countries.<sup>374</sup> The assistance will be delivered through services provided by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Food Programme, the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. The expected outcomes of the aid include the provision of food to 320,000 people, provision of health services to 190,000 people, and the provision of medical services to 600,000 people.

On 31 January 2022, Japan announced grant assistance to strengthen the vaccine cold chain system in Nepal with collaboration UNICEF.<sup>375</sup> This grant includes nine walk-in coolers, 38 vaccine refrigerators, 1,109 long-range vaccine carriers and 53 cold boxes to ensure effective vaccine rollout in Nepal.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats quickly. Japan has done so through leading initiatives aimed at constructing a global health system, contributing important resources and technology to different countries to fight COVID-19 and funding relevant research to detect future threats.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Mohammad Rasoul Kailani*

### **United Kingdom: 0**

The United Kingdom has partially complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats quickly.

On 27 June 2021, the Department of Health and Social Care announced an additional GBP250 million for people in care homes or people cared for at home.<sup>376</sup> The fund consists of GBP142.5 million in infection control funding and GBP108.8 million in testing. This fund will protect British citizens in adult social care by continuing to cover the cost of stringent infection prevention and control measures as societal restrictions ease, and by supporting regular rapid testing of staff to reduce COVID-19 transmission.

On 17 July 2021, the Department of Health and Social Care and the National Health Service (NHS) launched preparations to give enhanced flu vaccinations, as well as any COVID-19 vaccine boosters, as part of a larger fall and winter plan centered on saving as many lives as possible.<sup>377</sup> Flu vaccinations will be offered to over 35 million individuals starting in September 2021, including all secondary school kids up to year 11 for the first time. Additionally, the Government of the United Kingdom is planning a COVID-19 vaccine booster program, and the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunization (JCVI) has issued interim guidance on who should be given priority for the possible third shot starting in September 2021. The JCVI's final advice

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<sup>374</sup> Emergency Grant Aid in Response to Crisis in Syria and neighboring countries, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo), 24 December 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000298.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000298.html)

<sup>375</sup> Japan and UNICEF Join Hands to Strengthen Vaccine Cold Chain in Nepal, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (Kathmandu) 31 January 2022. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.unicef.org/nepal/press-releases/japan-and-unicef-join-hands-strengthen-vaccine-cold-chain-nepal>

<sup>376</sup> Adult social care given over £250 million extra to continue coronavirus (COVID-19) protections, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 27 June 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/adult-social-care-given-over-250-million-extra-to-continue-coronavirus-covid-19-protections>

<sup>377</sup> Biggest flu programme in history to roll out for winter 2021, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 17 July 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/biggest-flu-programme-in-history-to-roll-out-for-winter-2021>

will focus on ensuring that millions of people most vulnerable to COVID-19 will continue to have the protection they need ahead of the winter and against new variants.

On 28 July 2021, Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab announced that to combat the epidemic, the UK will begin shipping 9 million COVID-19 vaccinations throughout the world this week, including to Indonesia, Jamaica, and Kenya.<sup>378</sup> The UK will donate 5 million doses directly to the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) facility. COVAX will distribute them to low-income nations as soon as possible, using an equitable allocation method that prioritizes giving vaccines to those who need them the most. Another 4 million doses will be sent directly to developing nations. Indonesia will receive 600,000 doses, Jamaica will receive 300,000 doses, and Kenya will receive 817,000 doses, among other nations.

On 6 September 2021, Prime Minister Boris Johnson and Health Secretary Sajid Javid announced that the NHS would receive an extra GBP5.4 billion over the next six months to boost its response to COVID-19 and help reduce waiting lists.<sup>379</sup> This includes GBP1 billion to deal with the COVID-19 backlog, GBP2.8 billion to cover related expenditures including improved infection control measures to keep staff and patients safe from the virus, and GBP478 million to maintain the hospital discharge programme, which frees up beds.

On 7 September 2021, Prime Minister Johnson announced a GBP36 billion investment to reform the NHS and the adult social care system.<sup>380</sup> Over the next three years, the money will go toward clearing backlogs created by the COVID-19 pandemic, reforming adult social care, and bringing the health and social care systems closer together in the long run. Patients will benefit from the NHS's largest catch-up initiative in history, ensuring that they do not have to wait long for treatment and offering more appointments, treatments and operations.

On 30 September 2021, Secretary Javid announced an extra funding of GBP388.3 million to combat infection in social care settings, including GBP25 million to help care staff get COVID-19 and flu vaccinations over the winter months.<sup>381</sup> This will guarantee that social care workers who need to travel to get their COVID-19 or flu vaccines are paid their regular salaries and are reimbursed for travel expenses.

On 8 December 2021, Secretary Javid announced that thousands of the UK's most vulnerable patients would be among the first in the world to get life-saving, cutting-edge antiviral and antibody treatments.<sup>382</sup> People who are immunocompromised, cancer patients, or those with Down's syndrome who test positive for the COVID-19 virus will be able to obtain molnupiravir or the new monoclonal antibody Ronapreve outside of the study starting on 16 December 2021. This will guarantee that the treatments can help protect those who are most vulnerable to the virus during the winter months, reducing the number of hospitalizations and thus, pressures on the NHS. This is particularly important for people with weakened immune systems, for whom immunizations may be less effective.

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<sup>378</sup> UK begins donating millions of COVID-19 vaccines overseas, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-begins-donating-millions-of-covid-19-vaccines-overseas>

<sup>379</sup> Additional £5.4 billion for NHS COVID-19 response over next 6 months, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 6 September 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/additional-54-billion-for-nhs-covid-19-response-over-next-six-months>

<sup>380</sup> Record £36 billion investment to reform NHS and Social Care, Prime Minister's Office 10 Downing Street (London) 7 September 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/record-36-billion-investment-to-reform-nhs-and-social-care>

<sup>381</sup> Additional funding to help adult social care this winter, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 30 September 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/additional-funding-to-help-adult-social-care-this-winter>

<sup>382</sup> UK's most vulnerable people to receive life-saving COVID-19 treatments in the community, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uks-most-vulnerable-people-to-receive-life-saving-covid-19-treatments-in-the-community>

On 9 December 2021, the Department of Health and Social Care announced the Workforce Recruiting and Retention Fund, which will help local governments manage adult social care workforce capacity issues in their region through recruitment and retention activities.<sup>383</sup> This is a GBP162.5 million grant that will be given to local governments in two installments. The first installment, worth GBP97.5 million (60 per cent), will be processed as quickly as possible and paid out in November 2021. The second installment, costing GBP65 million (40 per cent), will be paid in January 2022, subject to local governments submitting a report to the Department of Health and Social Care by 14 January 2022.

On 29 December 2021, the UK Government announced an extra GBP60 million top-up to local authorities to benefit the adult social care sector in 2022.<sup>384</sup> This is on top of the GBP388 million funding already being provided to prevent infections and provide testing. The additional GBP60 million will help protect both those who receive care, the family and friends who support those receiving care as well as the adult social care workforce. Additionally, local authorities can use the funding to support the sector and protect people from COVID-19 infections. This includes investing in improved ventilation, increasing the use of direct payments, which are offered to people with eligible social care needs so they have choice and control over their care and support arrangements or paying for COVID-19 sickness and self-isolation pay for staff.

On 30 December 2021, Foreign Secretary Liz Truss announced a UK emergency aid grant of up to GBP105 million to help vulnerable countries to combat the Omicron COVID-19 variant, with a special focus on African countries.<sup>385</sup> The funding will help the world's poorest nations combat Omicron and other COVID-19 variations, benefiting millions of people by supporting steps to decrease transmission, scale up testing and increase oxygen supply.

On 13 January 2022, the UK Government extended the provision of free personal protective equipment (PPE) for another year for England's frontline health and social care workers.<sup>386</sup> The UK Government is also working on a new platform for procuring personal protective equipment that would be faster and easier to use. Health and social care providers have been asked to try out the new platform and contribute to the creation of a service that is tailored to their needs. Quick ordering options and status updates will be possible thanks to the new and upgraded features.

The United Kingdom has partially complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system by funding healthcare systems and resources for vulnerable populations and frontline workers. Additionally, the United Kingdom is prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease by investing in pandemic preparedness and disease prevention through boosting vaccinations and medical equipment domestically and internationally. However, the United Kingdom has failed to take any action to detect emerging health threats quickly.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Sarah Rashid*

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<sup>383</sup> Workforce Recruitment and Retention Fund for adult social care, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 9 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/workforce-recruitment-and-retention-fund-for-adult-social-care/workforce-recruitment-and-retention-fund-for-adult-social-care>

<sup>384</sup> An extra £60 million for adult social care over January 2022, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 29 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/an-extra-60-million-for-adult-social-care-over-january-2022>

<sup>385</sup> New support to help vulnerable countries tackle Omicron, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 9 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-support-to-help-vulnerable-countries-tackle-omicron>

<sup>386</sup> Free PPE for frontline extended for another year, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 13 January 2022. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/free-ppe-for-frontline-extended-for-another-year>

## United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats quickly.

On 3 September 2021, President Joe Biden released a plan for transforming the United States' capabilities to prepare for and respond rapidly and effectively to future pandemics and other high consequence biological threats.<sup>387</sup> This plan, titled "American Pandemic Preparedness: Transforming our Capabilities," is a core element of the larger strategy to bolster and resource pandemic readiness and biodefense. In addition, President Biden reaffirmed the need to strengthen the American public health system, reinvigorate the public health workforce and prevent the public health inequities exposed by COVID-19 pandemic.

On 13 September 2021, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued an additional USD25.5 billion for COVID-19 relief funding.<sup>388</sup> This relief funding includes USD8.5 billion for rural providers from the American Rescue Plan. The remaining USD17 billion goes to providers who can prove revenue losses associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 20 September 2021, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) awarded USD15 million in planning grants to 20 states to aid expansions of community-based mobile crisis intervention services for Medicaid beneficiaries.<sup>389</sup> Grant funds can be used to support states' assessments of their current services; strengthen capacity and information systems; ensure that services can be accessed 24 hours a day, seven days a week; provide behavioral health care training for multi-disciplinary teams; or seek technical assistance to develop State Plan Amendments, demonstration applications and waiver program requests under the Medicaid program.

On 5 October 2021, United States Agency for International Development launched a new project working with partner countries and the international community to build better preparedness for global health threats in the future.<sup>390</sup> The five-year USD125 million project, called the Discovery & Exploration of Emerging Pathogens - Viral Zoonoses (DEEP VZN) project, is expected to strengthen the current global capacity to better withstand another pandemic by helping to identify unknown viral threats.

On 21 October 2021, the House of Representatives passed the Strengthening America's Strategic National Stockpile Act of 2021 (H.R. 3635), which alters how the Strategic National Stockpile is administered and managed.<sup>391</sup> This bill temporarily authorizes the HHS to transfer supplies from the national stockpile to any federal department or agency, until 30 September 2024. The HHS must also keep track and maintain domestic reserves of certain supplies by entering into cooperative agreements or partnerships with producers of such supplies. The HHS may also temporarily award grants to states to maintain stockpiles of certain medical equipment for use during any public health emergency.

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<sup>387</sup> Fact Sheet: Biden Administration to Transform Capabilities for Pandemic Preparedness, The White House (Washington D.C.) 3 September 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/09/03/fact-sheet-biden-administration-to-transform-capabilities-for-pandemic-preparedness/>

<sup>388</sup> HHS issues \$25.5B in COVID-19 relief funding aimed at rural, small providers, Healthcare Finance (Washington D.C.) 13 September 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.healthcarefinancenews.com/news/hhs-issues-255b-covid-19-relief-funding-aimed-rural-small-providers>

<sup>389</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Awards \$15 Million to 20 States for Mobile Crisis Intervention, United States Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (Baltimore) 20 September 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/biden-harris-administration-awards-15-million-20-states-mobile-crisis-intervention>

<sup>390</sup> USAID Announces New \$125 Million Project to Detect Unknown Viruses with Pandemic Potential, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 5 October 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/oct-5-2021-usaid-announces-new-125-million-project-detect-unknown-viruses>

<sup>391</sup> H.R. 3635: Strengthening America's Strategic National Stockpile Act of 2021, GovTrack (Washington D.C.) 20 October 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/117/hr3635/summary>



On 19 November 2021, the Food and Drug Administration amended emergency use authorizations for the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines.<sup>392</sup> Booster doses of both vaccines are now authorized for use for individuals aged 18 and older, at least six months after completion of the primary vaccination series of the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine or Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, or at least two months after completion of primary vaccination with the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 Vaccine.

On 30 November 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) asked labs around the United States to start tracking the Omicron variant of the COVID-19 virus.<sup>393</sup> Various labs in the country have ramped up their efforts in genetic sequencing to better track the variant, as well as potential breakthrough infections.

On 7 December 2021, the HHS announced that it was “taking steps to improve maternal health and support the delivery of equitable, high-quality care for pregnancy and postpartum care” through the CMS.<sup>394</sup> The CMS is also encouraging states to take advantage of the American Rescue Plan’s option to provide 12 months postpartum coverage to pregnant individuals who are enrolled in Medicaid or the Children’s Health Insurance Program. These two programmes are designed to address ongoing disparities that exist in pregnancy-related morbidity and mortality.

On 7 December 2021, the CDC awarded a total of USD22 million to 27 organizations around the world to combat antimicrobial resistance and other healthcare threats through the launch of two new networks: the Global Action in Healthcare Network and the Global AR Laboratory and Response Network.<sup>395</sup> These two networks will collaborate to tackle threats identified in the CDC’s Antibiotic Resistance Threats in the United States 2019 Report and other healthcare-related infections. The organizations that will be receiving funding include: American Society for Microbiology; American Type Culture Collection; American University of Beirut; Association of Public Health Laboratories); Columbia University; Duke University; Family Health International; FIOTEC; Global Scientific Solutions for Health; Health Security Partners; Johns Hopkins University; Koperasi Jasa Institut Riset Eijkman; Northwestern University; Pakistan National Institute of Health; Pan American Health Organization; The Ohio State University; U.S. Civilian Research & Development Foundation; Universidad de Desarrollo; University of Campinas; University of Cantabria; University of Nairobi; University of Oxford; University of Pennsylvania; Vanderbilt University; Washington State University; Washington University in St. Louis; and World Health Organization.

On 20 December 2021, the HHS announced USD282 million in investments for suicide prevention and crisis care services, through its Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.<sup>396</sup> This funding is for assisting the transition of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline exit disclaimer icon from its current 10-

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<sup>392</sup> Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: FDA Expands Eligibility for COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters, Food and Drug Administration (Silver Spring) 19 November 2021. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-expands-eligibility-covid-19-vaccine-boosters>

<sup>393</sup> U.S. races to detect and track omicron, hampered by an unwieldy surveillance system, National Public Radio (Washington D.C.) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2021/11/30/1059917469/omicron-variant-us-detect-track>

<sup>394</sup> HHS Announces Efforts to Help Expand Nationwide Access and Coverage for High-quality Maternal Health Services, Department of Health & Human Services (Washington D.C.) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/12/07/hhs-announces-efforts-help-expand-nationwide-access-coverage-high-quality-maternal-health-services.html>

<sup>395</sup> CDC Launches Two Global Networks, Awards \$22 Million to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance and Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Atlanta) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/p1207-global-action-healthcare-network.html>

<sup>396</sup> HHS Announces Critical Investments to Implement Upcoming 988 Dialing Code for National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (Rockville) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/202112201100>

digit number to a three-digit dialing code: 988. Around USD105 million of this funding will be used to increase staffing across states' local crisis call centres.

On 20 December 2021, the HHS announced that 15 digital health startups are joining the 2022 PandemicX Accelerator cohort, specifically to address health inequities and send resources to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>397</sup> The HHS advised that “throughout the program, champions in government, mentors, judges, and other stakeholders will listen and offer public information for startups as they develop targeted action plans to address each challenge statement” and put plans into action.

On 28 December 2021, the HHS announced that it was working with states to encourage access to Medicaid services for people with mental health and substance use disorder crises.<sup>398</sup> This commitment was part of the Biden-Harris Administration's priorities to make major investments in behavioral health and crisis care services.

On 28 December 2021, the HHS announced that the Biden-Harris Administration would make health coverage more accessible and affordable for millions of Americans in 2023 through the Notice of Benefit and Payment Parameters 2023 Proposed Rule.<sup>399</sup> The commitment was part of the Administration's “ongoing efforts to ensure an equitable health care system” by helping to improve access to healthcare for low-income and medically underserved consumers, particularly through essential community providers.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats. The new DEEP VZN project promises much in the global effort to develop better means of identifying unknown viral threats, which should help to prevent another pandemic. Additionally, the Biden-Harris Administration's decision to provide more affordable and accessible coverage for low-income and medically underserved Americans is another significant step in the fight against global disease and inequity. Finally, the CDC's move to award USD22 million to various health research organizations around the world will prove to be pivotal in combating healthcare threats.

Thus, the United States has received a score of +1.

*Analyst: Miranda Bocci*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats quickly.

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<sup>397</sup> HHS Announces PandemicX Accelerator with Health IT Cohort to Address COVID-19 Health Disparities, Department of Health & Human Services (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022.

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/12/20/hhs-announces-pandemicx-accelerator-with-health-it-cohort-address-covid-19-health-disparities.html>

<sup>398</sup> New Medicaid Option Promotes Enhanced Mental Health, Substance Use Crisis Care, Department of Health & Human Services (Washington D.C.) 28 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/12/28/new-medicaid-option-promotes-enhanced-mental-health-substance-use-crisis-care.html>

<sup>399</sup> HHS to Make Coverage More Accessible and Affordable for Millions of Americans in 2023, Department of Health & Human Services (Washington, D.C.) 28 December 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/12/28/hhs-to-make-coverage-more-accessible-and-affordable-for-millions-of-americans-in-2023.html>

On 22 June 2021, the European Commission endorsed the European Parliament and the Council of the EU's political agreement on the Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Regulation.<sup>400</sup> The Regulation would increase the availability of novel health technologies for patients in the European Union, such as innovative medicines and certain medical equipment, while also ensuring resource efficiency and improving HTA quality throughout the EU. Medicinal items, medical equipment, and diagnostics are examples of health technology. The Regulation will need to be formally adopted by the Council and the European Parliament before it enters into force.

On 23 June 2021, the European Commission launched the Coronavirus Global R&I Collaboration Portal, a new research and innovation site that connects scholars and research projects working on the socioeconomic elements of the COVID-19 pandemic from across the world.<sup>401</sup> The portal reaffirms Europe's commitment to a degree of global openness that is required to foster excellence, pool resources for scientific advancement and create thriving innovation ecosystems.

On 30 June 2021, the European Commission launched the first flagship initiative executed under Europe's Beating Cancer Plan, called the Knowledge Centre on Cancer.<sup>402</sup> The Knowledge Centre is a new online platform that collects evidence and coordinates initiatives to combat Europe's leading cause of death among people under the age of 65. It will compile the most up-to-date cancer research, offer healthcare recommendations and quality assurance schemes and track and forecast cancer incidence and death trends across the EU. It is also a platform where everyone fighting cancer can exchange best practices, communicate and organize to maximize collective knowledge and evidence-based research.

On 9 July 2021, Team Europe and Senegal launched along with other assistance measures, the Institut Pasteur in Dakar, to support large-scale vaccine manufacturing.<sup>403</sup> The new production unit is expected to lessen Africa's 99 per cent reliance on imported vaccines and boost the continent's future pandemic resilience. The agreement is part of a major package of investment in vaccine and pharmaceuticals production in Africa announced by Team Europe in May 2021, which brings together the European Commission, EU Member States, the European Investment Bank, and other financial institutions, in accordance with the EU's Africa Strategy, the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's strategy and the Partnerships for African Vaccine Manufacturing's strategy.

On 22 July 2021, the European Commission shortlisted 11 new projects worth EUR120 million from Horizon Europe, the largest European research and innovation initiative (2021-2027), for assisting and allowing critical research on the COVID-19 virus and its variations.<sup>404</sup> This funding is part of a broad range of research and innovation efforts to combat the coronavirus, and it supports the European Commission's overall strategy to prevent, mitigate and react to the virus and its variants' impact, as outlined in the HERA Incubator, a new European bio-defense preparedness plan. 312 research teams from 40 countries are involved in the 11 short-listed projects, including 38 members from 23 countries outside the EU.

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<sup>400</sup> Commission welcomes the move towards more innovative health technologies for patients, European Commission (Brussels) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3142](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3142)

<sup>401</sup> Coronavirus: Commission launches the Coronavirus Global R&I Collaboration Portal, European Commission (Brussels) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/coronavirus-commission-launches-coronavirus-global-ri-collaboration-portal-2021-jun-23\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/coronavirus-commission-launches-coronavirus-global-ri-collaboration-portal-2021-jun-23_en)

<sup>402</sup> Europe's Beating Cancer Plan: Commission launches Knowledge Centre to fight cancer, European Commission (Brussels) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3263](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3263)

<sup>403</sup> Republic of Senegal and Team Europe agree to build a manufacturing plant to produce vaccines against COVID-19 and other endemic diseases, European Commission (Brussels) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3562](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3562)

<sup>404</sup> Coronavirus: Commission steps up research funding with €120 million for 11 new projects to tackle the virus and its variants, European Commission (Brussels) 22 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_3803](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_3803)

On 16 September 2021, the European Commission launched the European Health Emergency preparedness and Response Authority (HERA) to recognize, prevent and respond quickly to public health emergencies.<sup>405</sup> HERA will gather intelligence and establish the required reaction capabilities to predict threats and possible health emergencies. When a disaster strikes, HERA will oversee the research, manufacture and distribution of medications, vaccinations and other medical countermeasures like personal protective equipment that were frequently absent during the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 14 October 2021, the European Commission launched the gradual implementation of the new In Vitro Diagnostic (IVD) Medical Devices Regulation, to avoid disruptions in the supply of these critical healthcare devices.<sup>406</sup> The IVD Regulation alters the regulatory landscape for in vitro diagnostic medical devices such as human immunodeficiency virus testing, pregnancy tests and SARS-CoV-2 tests. Conformity assessment bodies or “notified bodies,” will play a bigger role in the EU market, as they will independently evaluate whether IVD medical devices meet the safety and performance criteria.

On 22 October 2021, the European Commission established a portfolio of 10 possible COVID-19 medicines.<sup>407</sup> The list was compiled using independent scientific advice and focuses on COVID-19 therapy options that are expected to be approved and hence available on the European market in the near future. If the European Medicines Agency (EMA) confirms their safety and effectiveness, these treatments will be available to patients across the EU as soon as feasible.

On 28 October 2021, the European Parliament and the Council of the EU reached a political agreement on the EMA’s strengthened role in preparing for and responding to health crises.<sup>408</sup> The revised EMA mandate will enable the agency to closely monitor and mitigate medicine and medical device shortages during major events and public health emergencies, as well as play a key role in facilitating the development and faster approval of medicines that could treat or prevent diseases that cause public health crises.

On 24 November 2021, the European Commission announced the allocation of Recovery Assistance for Cohesion and the Territories of Europe (REACT-EU) resources for 2022.<sup>409</sup> All 27 EU Member States currently have around EUR11 billion available for Cohesion policy programming. These funds will be added to the almost EUR40 billion set aside in 2021. EU Member States will be able to continue implementing recovery measures through improving healthcare, business resilience, and assistance for the most vulnerable populations, while also contributing to green and digital initiatives for a smart, sustainable, and coherent recovery. REACT-EU resources are aimed at addressing the evolving socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 30 November 2021, the European Parliament and the Council of the EU agreed on the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control’s (ECDC) expanded mission mandate.<sup>410</sup> The expanded ECDC mission

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<sup>405</sup> European Health Emergency preparedness and Response Authority (HERA): Getting ready for future health emergencies, European Commission (Brussels) 16 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_4672](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4672)

<sup>406</sup> Public health: Commission proposes a progressive roll-out of the new In Vitro Diagnostic Medical Devices Regulation, European Commission (Brussels) 14 October 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_5209](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5209)

<sup>407</sup> European Health Union: Commission establishes portfolio of 10 most promising treatments for COVID-19, European Commission (Brussels) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_5366](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5366)

<sup>408</sup> European Health Union: Commission welcomes agreement on a stronger European Medicines Agency, European Commission (Brussels) 28 October 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_5599](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5599)

<sup>409</sup> €11 billion REACT-EU funds allocation now available for 2022, European Commission (Brussels) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_6103](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6103)

<sup>410</sup> European Health Union: Commission welcomes agreement on a stronger European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, European Commission (Brussels) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_6435](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6435)

will enable the agency to play a more active role in assisting the EU and its Member States in the prevention and control of communicable disease risks, as well as improving European readiness for future health issues.

On 13 December 2021, the European Commission adopted the Regulation on HTA, a deliverable of the EU Pharmaceutical Strategy.<sup>411</sup> The new laws will make essential and novel health technologies more readily available, such as innovative medications, certain medical devices, medical equipment and preventative and treatment strategies. This Regulation will also ensure resource efficiency, improve the quality of HTA throughout the EU, prevent national HTA organizations and industry from duplicating efforts, reassure businesses and secure the long-term viability of EU HTA cooperation.

On 17 December 2021, the European Commission proposed to safeguard the long-term supply of pharmaceuticals from the United Kingdom to Northern Ireland, as well as to address ongoing supply issues in Cyprus, Ireland and Malta.<sup>412</sup> This implies that, in the case of the Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland, the same medications will be accessible in Northern Ireland at the same time as they are in the rest of the UK, but particular criteria will prevent UK-approved medicines from entering the European Single Market.

On 20 December 2021, the Council of the EU obtained a political agreement on the Regulation authorizing the HERA to activate immediate and targeted medical countermeasures during public health emergencies in the EU.<sup>413</sup> The procurement and purchase of crisis-relevant medical countermeasures and raw materials, the activation of reserved industrial facilities for flexible vaccine and therapeutic manufacturing, the formation of a Health Crisis Board with Member States and the formation of rapid monitoring mechanisms are among these measures.

On 12 January 2022, the European Commission proposed to turn the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction into the European Union Drugs Agency in order to improve the mission of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction.<sup>414</sup> The proposed reforms will allow the agency to play a greater role in detecting and resolving existing and future illicit drug concerns in the EU. This involves providing notifications when harmful chemicals are intentionally supplied for illegal use, monitoring the addictive use of substances taken alongside illegal narcotics and establishing EU-wide preventive efforts. The EU Drugs Agency will also take on a larger international role.

The European Union has fully complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system and is prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease by investing in both domestic and international pandemic preparedness, medical and pharmaceutical programs. Additionally, the European Union has taken strong action to be able to detect emerging communicable and non-communicable health threats quickly by expanding research and investments for emergency preparedness, health technology and medical resources.

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

*Analyst: Sarah Rashid*

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<sup>412</sup> EU-UK relations: Commission delivers on promise to ensure continued supply of medicines to Northern Ireland, as well as Cyprus, Ireland and Malta, European Commission (Brussels) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_6911](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6911)

<sup>413</sup> European Health Union: An empowered HERA in future health emergencies, European Commission (Brussels) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement\\_21\\_7024](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_21_7024)

<sup>414</sup> Commission proposes stronger mandate for EU Drugs Agency as illicit market proliferates, European Commission (Brussels) 12 January 2022. Access Date: 17 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_22\\_302](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_302)

#### 4. Health: Indirect Impacts of COVID-19

“We agree to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19, ensuring that countries are able to effectively address the indirect impacts on physical and mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.”

*G7 Carbis Bay Health Declaration*

##### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France		0	
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.75 (88%)	

##### Background

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic as a global health crisis and the need for a coordinated global response was first introduced at the 2020 US Virtual Summit.<sup>415</sup> At the Summit, G7 leaders emphasized their commitment to coordinating on necessary public health measures, supporting the economy and global trade, and cooperating in sharing knowledge and data for further research and technology. The leaders affirmed full backing of the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the global alliance Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness and Innovation (CEPI) to manufacture and equitably distribute treatments and vaccines for COVID-19. The Summit set the stage for a strong recovery and began the process of restoring economic confidence through monetary and fiscal actions in support of the workers, companies, and sectors impacted. The leaders called upon the G20 to follow suit in these endeavors.

On 19 February 2021, at the G7 leaders’ virtual meeting hosted by the United Kingdom, the G7 leaders met to coordinate efforts “to beat COVID-19 and build back better.”<sup>416</sup> The G7 leaders discussed working with the WHO to accelerate COVID-19 vaccine development and deployment and improve information sharing in the wake of new COVID-19 variants. They also reaffirmed support for COVAX, co-led by CEPI, Gavi, and WHO, in its efforts to ensure equitable vaccine access across the world. The G7 leaders recognized the unprecedented economic support which had been allocated in response to COVID-19, totalling USD6 trillion, and remained committed to further action to ensure a “strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive recovery.” They also made clear ambitions to promote economic resiliency for the future through climate action, clean energy job transitions, and advocating for a fairer, more digital, and mutually beneficial global economy.

On 13 June 2021, at the Cornwall Summit, the G7 leaders agreed to intensify international efforts to boost the international supply of COVID-19 tools to end the pandemic and minimize the rise of new variants.<sup>417</sup>

<sup>415</sup> G7 Leaders' Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 May 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html>

<sup>416</sup> Joint Statement of G7 Leaders, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 February 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210219-leaders.html>

<sup>417</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communication.html>

G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to distribute safe vaccines to as many people as possible across the world, acknowledging the two billion vaccine doses already provided and pledging another billion over the next year. They also called to advance recovery plans beyond the USD12 trillion to date by creating jobs, investing in infrastructure, and encouraging innovation in a manner that “no place or person, irrespective of age, ethnicity or gender is left behind.” The leaders also recognized the continued work of the G7 Panel on Economic Resilience in addressing the inequalities, market imbalances, and distortions exacerbated by COVID-19, particularly in the context of other key risks like climate change. To this end, G7 leaders also discussed the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on women and girls and reaffirmed their commitment to future plans and policies under the following three priorities: educating girls, empowering women and ending violence against women and girls. The statement from the summit also described the impacts of COVID-19 on the poorest countries who are also most burdened by conflict, climate change, socio-economic shocks, and a lack of resources. To ensure no country is left behind, the leaders reaffirmed their commitment to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 and considered future policy recommendations from the Financing for Development in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond Initiative.

### **Commitment Features**

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders committed to “support a robust global recovery from COVID-19, ensuring that countries are able to effectively address the indirect impacts on physical and mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.”<sup>418</sup> The G7 Carbis Bay Health Declaration makes note of the “disproportionate impact on women and girls and on vulnerable and marginalised populations,” and calls for international collaboration between “multilateral institutions, governments and the private sector” to achieve its commitment to remedying indirect impacts in all three spheres (physical health, mental health and wider socio-economic consequences).

“Support” is understood to mean “the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity.”<sup>419</sup>

“Robust” is understood to describe strong, decisive, inclusive action.<sup>420</sup>

“Recovery” is understood to describe “the act [or] process ... of recovering” from a crisis, in this instance, the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>421</sup>

“Indirect impacts” is understood to describe results or effects “happening not as the main... result” of the COVID-19 pandemic, but “in addition” to it.<sup>422</sup> As part of this commitment, G7 members must take actions mitigating negative indirect impacts in three spheres: physical health, mental health, and wider socio-economic consequences.

“Physical health” is understood to describe “a state of physical ... well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.”<sup>423</sup> The commitment seeks to address the COVID-19 pandemic’s impact on physical

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<sup>418</sup> G7 Carbis Bay Health Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-carbis-bay-health-declaration.html>

<sup>419</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 26 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>420</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>421</sup> Recovery, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) 18 February 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.merriamwebster.com/dictionary/recovery>

<sup>422</sup> Indirect, Oxford Advanced American Dictionary (Oxford). Access Date: 26 September 2021. [https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/american\\_english/indirect](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/american_english/indirect)

<sup>423</sup> Constitution, World Health Organization (New York) 15 September 2005. Access Date: 26 September 2021. [https://www.who.int/governance/eb/who\\_constitution\\_en.pdf](https://www.who.int/governance/eb/who_constitution_en.pdf)

health beyond the diagnosis and initial treatment of COVID-19.<sup>424</sup> The long-term effects of COVID-19, and effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on equitable provision of quality health-care beyond the treatment of COVID-19 are examined as part of this commitment.

“Mental health” is understood to describe “a state of well-being in which an individual realizes [their] own abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and is able to make a contribution to [their] community.”<sup>425</sup> The commitment seeks to address the mental health crisis driven by the COVID-19 pandemic. Individual experiences with isolation and loneliness, grief and trauma, economic uncertainty and precarity, inaccessibility of mental health supports, and fears for one’s physical and mental wellbeing and that of their loved ones are significant psychosocial factors of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>426</sup>

“Socio-economic consequences” is understood to describe a broad “combination of social and economic factors” influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>427</sup> This commitment seeks to address the exacerbation of global poverty, inequality, and societal divisions by the COVID-19 pandemic, with particular attention to how these factors disproportionately impact already marginalized groups.<sup>428</sup>

“Pandemic” is understood to refer to the COVID-19 crisis.

This commitment has a depth component examining the strength of actions taken by each G7 member. A G7 member must take strong action in multiple spheres to achieve full compliance.

Strong domestic actions may include, but are not limited to policy action; domestic legislation designed to safeguard citizens from the socio-economic consequences of COVID-19 or to expand the provision of physical and mental health care; increased funding toward physical and mental health care (particularly with respect to disabled and immunocompromised people, and those from marginalized groups); establishment of a committee, task force, or other institutional mechanism to examine the indirect impacts of COVID-19; funding of research into the indirect impacts of COVID-19; or increased funding and benefits for unemployed or underemployed people. Weak actions on the domestic level include verbal reaffirmation of the commitment or attending meetings that discuss the long-term impacts of COVID-19.

Strong international actions include the provision of international financial support (either directly or through international institutions), or participating in, voting, joining, or financing organizations addressing the indirect physical, mental, and socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Weak actions at the international level include information sharing and development of international legislation.

To achieve full compliance, the G7 member must take strong actions in at least two spheres and less than strong action in one sphere to support a robust global recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic: physical health, mental health, and wider socio-economic consequences. Taking strong action in each of the three spheres will also fulfill compliance.

For a score of partial compliance, the G7 member must take strong action in at least one sphere to support a robust global recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic: physical health, mental health, and/or wider socio-

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<sup>424</sup> G7 Carbis Bay Health Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-carbis-bay-health-declaration.html>

<sup>425</sup> Mental Health: strengthening our response, World Health Organization (Geneva) 30 March 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/mental-health-strengthening-our-response>

<sup>426</sup> Mental health and COVID-19, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/health-emergencies/coronavirus-covid-19/publications-and-technical-guidance/mental-health-and-covid-19>

<sup>427</sup> Socioeconomic, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) 18 February 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/socioeconomic>

<sup>428</sup> G7 Carbis Bay Health Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-carbis-bay-health-declaration.html>



economic consequences. Even if a G7 member takes less than strong action in two spheres in addition to taking strong action in one of the aforementioned spheres, they will still only receive partial compliance.

For a score of non-compliance, the G7 member has completed fewer than the aforementioned criteria.

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	The G7 member has NOT taken strong steps to support a robust global recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic in ANY of the following three spheres: physical health, mental health, OR wider socio-economic consequences, OR the G7 member has taken weak steps in only ONE of the three spheres.
0	The G7 member has taken strong steps to support a robust global recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic in at least ONE of the following three spheres: physical health, mental health, OR wider socio-economic consequences, OR the G7 member has taken strong steps in ONE sphere and weak steps in the other TWO spheres.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong steps to support a robust global recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic in ALL of the following three spheres: physical health, mental health, AND wider socio-economic consequences, OR the G7 member has taken strong steps in at least TWO spheres and weak steps in ONE other sphere.

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Lead Analyst: Grace Parish*

**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 and effectively address the indirect impacts on physical and mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.

On 14 June 2021, Member of Parliament for Charlottetown Sean Casey reported Canada invested CAD4.1 million to support infrastructure maintenance to health facilities on the frontline of the COVID-19 pandemic in Prince Edward Island.<sup>429</sup> This infrastructure investment supports health facilities and the post-pandemic physical health of individuals in Prince Edward Island.

On 14 June 2021, Minister Catherine McKenna announced Canada invested CAD4 million toward the construction of a new youth clubhouse in Ontario through the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure plan.<sup>430</sup> A new youth clubhouse in Ontario will support the mental health of youth and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 15 June 2021, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau committed to work with President of the European Council Charles Michel and President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen to enhance their engagement under the Canada-EU Digital Dialogue and the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence to “help strengthen a post-pandemic recovery of businesses.”<sup>431</sup> Prime Minister Trudeau with President Michel and President von der Leyen advanced the Authorized Economic Operator Mutual Recognition Agreement to facilitate the flow of trade between Canada and the European Union, benefitting socio-economic recovery.

<sup>429</sup> Canada and Prince Edward Island invest in Charlottetown healthcare and recreation facilities, Infrastructure Canada (Charlottetown) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/06/canada-and-prince-edward-island-invest-in-charlottetown-healthcare-and-recreation-facilities.html>

<sup>430</sup> Canada and Ontario invest \$5 million in new clubhouse for BGC Ottawa, Infrastructure Canada (Ottawa) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/06/canada-and-ontario-invest-5-million-in-new-clubhouse-for-bgc-ottawa.html>

<sup>431</sup> Prime Minister concludes productive Canada-European Union Summit, Prime Minister of Canada (Brussels) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/06/15/prime-minister-concludes-productive-canada-european-union-summit>

Prime Minister Trudeau also launched a new bilateral Dialogue on Health to enhance cooperation on priority health commitments, including mental health, between Canada and the European Union.<sup>432</sup>

On 15 June 2021, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities Catherine McKenna reported Canada contributed CAD22.2 million through the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream of the Investing in Canada plan to fund municipal infrastructure in response to the impacts of COVID-19 in Ontario.<sup>433</sup> Municipal infrastructure investments will protect the health and well-being of residents and support post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 15 June 2021, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Chrystia Freeland met with the Minister of Families Children and Social Development, Ahmed Hussen, to affirm mutual priorities which include reducing the cost of living and increasing access to affordable housing.<sup>434</sup> Reducing the cost of living and increasing access to affordable housing will benefit the mental health of individuals and enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 16 June 2021, Minister of Indigenous Services Marc Miller declared Canada renewed the Indigenous Community Business Fund and allocated CAD117 million to provide “non-repayable financial contributions to Indigenous microbusinesses and community- or collectively owned businesses.”<sup>435</sup> This initiative will support post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 17 June 2021, Minister McKenna declared Canada will invest in projects to “improve people’s quality of life now and following the pandemic.”<sup>436</sup> Minister McKenna highlighted Canada will allocate CAD10,000 toward the Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum, CAD28,000 toward the launch a mobile library branch, CAD13,000 toward adaptation of community spaces to allow social-distancing, CAD24,000 to “promote the participation and inclusion of seniors and persons with disabilities in outdoor nature activities” and CAD11,000 to fund virtual concerts from the Gallery of Players of Niagara. These investments will benefit the mental health of individuals and enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 21 June 2021, Minister of International Trade, Export Promotion, Small Business and Economic Development Mary Ng declared Canada will invest CAD33 million toward Shop Local to promote local shopping across Canada.<sup>437</sup> Minister Ng emphasised how the promotion of local shopping will support local businesses and benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Canada. Minister Ng emphasised CAD9 million of this investment will be allocated for Ontario.

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<sup>432</sup> Prime Minister concludes productive Canada-European Union Summit, Prime Minister of Canada (Brussels) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/06/15/prime-minister-concludes-productive-canada-european-union-summit>

<sup>433</sup> Canada and Ontario invest more than \$22.2 million in municipal infrastructure to respond to the impacts of COVID-19 in eastern Ontario, Infrastructure Canada (Kingston) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/06/canada-and-ontario-invest-more-than-222-million-in-municipal-infrastructure-to-respond-to-the-impacts-of-covid-19-in-eastern-ontario.html>

<sup>434</sup> Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Families, Children and Social Development host roundtable on housing affordability, Deputy Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://deputyprime.minister.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/06/15/deputy-prime-minister-and-minister-families-children-and-social>

<sup>435</sup> Government of Canada renews the Indigenous Community Business Fund through Budget 2021, Indigenous Services Canada (Ottawa) 16 June 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2021/06/government-of-canada-renews-the-indigenous-community-business-fund-through-budget-2021.html>

<sup>436</sup> Infrastructure Canada and Community Foundations of Canada announce funding in support of Niagara Region communities, Infrastructure Canada (Ontario) 17 June 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/06/infrastructure-canada-and-community-foundations-of-canada-announce-funding-in-support-of-niagara-region-communities.html>

<sup>437</sup> Minister Ng announces Shop Local investment benefiting Canada’s small businesses, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Markham) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 1 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/06/minister-ng-announces-shop-local-investment-benefiting-canadas-small-businesses.html>

On 21 June 2021, Member of Parliament for Kings Kody Blois announced Canada invested CAD1.1 million in the construction of a new facility for the Flower Cart Group, who provide vocational service to adults with intellectual disabilities.<sup>438</sup> A new facility for the Flower Cart Group will help them to implement projects to support individuals with disabilities. Increasing access to support for individuals with disabilities benefits the mental and physical health of individuals and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 23 June 2021, Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages Minister Mélanie Joly declared Canada will invest CAD500 million over two years through the new Canada Community Revitalization Fund to finance projects that promote post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.<sup>439</sup>

On 23 June 2021, Minister Joly announced Canada invested CAD593,880 to support the Centre d'innovation en microélectronique du Québec and benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.<sup>440</sup> The Centre d'innovation en microélectronique du Québec will use funds to mentor “businesses through their applied research and innovation projects in microelectronics.”

On 23 June 2021, Minister Ng reaffirmed Canada’s commitment to collaborating with partners to achieve global post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.<sup>441</sup> Minister Ng highlighted increased collaboration between Canada and Infrastructure Asia will enhance global post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 23 June 2021, Minister and Special Representative for the Prairies Jim Carr announced Canada invested CAD44.3 million to support 23 green and recreation infrastructure projects across the province.<sup>442</sup> The institution of 23 green and recreation infrastructure projects across the province will support the physical and mental health of individuals and benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 24 June 2021, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages Larry Bagnell reaffirmed Canada’s support for local business and reported Canada will allocate CAD1.65 million to increase local shopping in Yukon, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories and CAD7.2 million to Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.<sup>443</sup> Additionally, Minister Carr highlighted how the promotion of local shopping will benefit the post-pandemic reopening of business and socio-economic recovery for Canada.

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<sup>438</sup> Canada and Nova Scotia invest in the construction of a new facility for The Flower Cart Group, Infrastructure Canada (Kings) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/06/canada-and-nova-scotia-invest-in-the-construction-of-a-new-facility-for-the-flower-cart-group.html>

<sup>439</sup> Government of Canada launches \$500 million Canada Community Revitalization Fund to drive post-COVID-19 recovery, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/06/government-of-canada-launches-500-millioncanada-community-revitalization-fund-to-drive-post-covid-19-recovery.html>

<sup>440</sup> Mélanie Joly announces \$593,880 in Government of Canada support for the Centre d'innovation en microélectronique du Québec, Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions (Sainte-Thérèse) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/economic-development-quebec-regions/news/2021/08/melanie-joly-announces-593880-in-government-of-canada-support-for-the-centre-dinnovation-en-microelectronique-du-quebec.html>

<sup>441</sup> Minister Ng discusses opportunities in Southeast Asia for Canada’s infrastructure sector, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/06/minister-ng-discusses-opportunities-in-southeast-asia-for-canadas-infrastructure-sector.html>

<sup>442</sup> Canada and Saskatchewan announce 23 green and recreation infrastructure projects across the province, Infrastructure Canada (Regina) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/06/canada-and-saskatchewan-announce-23-green-and-recreation-infrastructure-projects-across-the-province.html>

<sup>443</sup> Minister Carr and PS Duguid announce Shop Local investment benefiting small businesses across the Prairies, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Winnipeg) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 1 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/06/minister-carr-and-ps-duguid-announce-shop-local-investment-benefiting-small-businesses-across-the-prairies.html>

On 24 June 2021, Minister of Digital Government Joyce Murray announced Canada will contribute CAD5.5 million from the initial CAD33 million investment toward Shop Local to help British Columbia to promote local shopping.<sup>444</sup> Minister Murray emphasised how the promotion of local shopping will benefit businesses and Canada's post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 25 June 2021, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard Bernadette Jordan affirmed Canada's commitment to support local businesses and declared Canada will allocate CAD2.7 million towards Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to assist local businesses.<sup>445</sup> Minister Jordan highlighted how this investment will benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 28 June 2021, Minister of Canadian Heritage Steven Guilbeault declared Canada will allocate CAD300 million over two years to the Recovery Fund for Arts, Culture, Heritage and Sport Sectors.<sup>446</sup> Minister Guilbeault highlighted Canada will allocate CAD200 million over two years toward the Reopening Fund. Minister Guilbeault indicated Canada will also invest CAD200 million over two years towards the Major Festivals and Events Support Initiative. These initiatives will benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 29 June 2021, Minister of Diversity and Inclusion and Youth Bardish Chagger announced investment of CAD40.9 million toward municipal infrastructure to respond to the impacts of COVID-19 in Southwestern, Midwestern and Central Ontario.<sup>447</sup> This initiative will benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Canada.

On 29 June 2021, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Marie-Claude Bibeau announced Canada contributed CAD150,000 to support new research at the Ontario Crops Research Centre.<sup>448</sup> New research will support Canada's agricultural sector and benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 29 June 2021, Minister of Health Patty Hajdu and Minister Miller announced Canada will allocate CAD126.7 million over three years to increase access to health services and "culturally relevant mental health and wellness" programs.<sup>449</sup> Increasing access to health services and "culturally relevant mental health and wellness" programs will support the mental and physical health of Indigenous communities.

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<sup>444</sup> Minister Murray announces Shop Local investment benefiting small businesses in British Columbia, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Vancouver) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 1 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/06/minister-murray-announces-shop-local-investment-benefiting-small-businesses-in-british-columbia.html>

<sup>445</sup> Minister Bernadette Jordan announces Shop Local investment in Atlantic Canada, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Lunenburg) 25 June 2021. Access Date: 1 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/06/minister-bernadette-jordan-announces-shop-local-investment-in-atlantic-canada.html>

<sup>446</sup> Continued Support for Arts, Culture, Heritage and Sport Sector Organizations, Canadian Heritage (Montréal) 28 June 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/news/2021/06/continued-support-for-arts-culture-heritage-and-sport-sector-organizations.html>

<sup>447</sup> Canada and Ontario invest more than \$51.2 million in municipal infrastructure to respond to the impacts of COVID-19 in Southwestern, Midwestern and Central Ontario, Infrastructure Canada (Region of Waterloo) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/06/canada-and-ontario-invest-more-than-512-million-in-municipal-infrastructure-to-respond-to-the-impacts-of-covid-19-in-southwestern-midwestern-and-ce.html>

<sup>448</sup> Funding to Support Research and Innovation in Ontario's Vegetable Farming Sector, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (King) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2021/06/funding-to-support-research-and-innovation-in-ontarios-vegetable-farming-sector.html>

<sup>449</sup> Minister of Health and Minister of Indigenous Services Announce Funding & Federal Response to support efforts to address racism in health systems, Indigenous Services Canada (Ottawa) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2021/06/minister-of-health-and-minister-of-indigenous-services-announce-funding--federal-response-to-support-efforts-to-address-racism-in-health-systems.html>

On 30 June 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau reported the allocation of CAD180 million to advance gender equality internationally.<sup>450</sup> Priorities of this initiative include creating a post-pandemic global socio-economic recovery “that creates jobs and opportunity for women and girls.” Prime Minister Trudeau contributed an additional CAD100 million to support women and girls in low and middle income “participate in the economy, in education, and in public life.” Canada will also join the Global Alliance for Care to assist women participate in international post-pandemic socio-economic recovery. Canada will allocate CAD10 million towards UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme initiatives to strengthen rights of women and girls internationally and support their mental and physical health, and CAD18.45 million to projects that “address inequality and discrimination faced by LGBTQ2 communities.”

On 30 June 2021, Minister Freeland declared the federal passage of Bill C-30.<sup>451</sup> Bill C-30 extends the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy program, the Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy program, and Lockdown Support program until September 25, 2021. Bill C-30 expands eligibility requirements for the Canada Recovery Benefit program and the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit program. Bill C-30 will institute a new Canada Recovery Hiring Program and increase Old Age Security (OAS) by 10 per cent for seniors aged 75 and older. Bill C-30 will strengthen the Canada Workers Benefit program and deepen the benefits distributed through Employment Insurance sickness program and instituted a new federal minimum hourly wage of CAD15. To address immediate health care system pressures indirectly caused by COVID-19, Bill C-30 allocates an additional CAD4 billion to Canadian provinces and territories. Through these initiatives, Bill C-30 supports benefits post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 2 July 2021, Minister Freeland met with the United States Treasury Secretary, Janet Yellen, to discuss mutual priorities which include “post-pandemic recovery, including support for workers and businesses, and ensuring the recovery is inclusive and equitable,”<sup>452</sup> These priorities will benefit mental health for individuals and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Canada and the United States.

On 3 July 2021, Minister of Foreign Affairs Marc Garneau met with the new Government of Israel to reaffirm mutual priorities, including post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.<sup>453</sup> Minister Garneau announced Canada has allocated an additional CAD3 million every year to advance mutual priorities through the Canada-Israel Agreement on Bilateral Cooperation in Industrial Research and Development.

On 7 July 2021, Minister McKenna reported Canada invested CAD144.3 toward 209 infrastructure projects to modernise health, social services and long-term care facilities in Quebec.<sup>454</sup> Financial support for health, social services and long-term care infrastructure will support the mental and physical health of individuals and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

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<sup>450</sup> Prime Minister announces measures to advance gender equality worldwide, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/06/30/prime-minister-announces-measures-advance-gender-equality-worldwide>

<sup>451</sup> Budget focused on jobs and growth receives Royal Assent, Deputy Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://deputypm.canada.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/06/30/budget-focused-jobs-and-growth-receives-royal-assent>

<sup>452</sup> Deputy Prime Minister Freeland meets virtually with U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen, Deputy Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 2 July 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://deputypm.canada.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/07/02/deputy-prime-minister-freeland-meets-virtually-us-treasury-secretary-janet>

<sup>453</sup> Minister Garneau concludes official visit with the Government of Israel, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 4 July 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/07/minister-garneau-concludes-official-visit-with-the-government-of-israel.html>

<sup>454</sup> Canada and Quebec are investing in 209 infrastructure projects to modernize health, social services and long-term care facilities, Infrastructure Canada (Quebec City) 7 July 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/07/canada-and-quebec-are-investing-in-209-infrastructure-projects-to-modernize-health-social-services-and-long-term-care-facilities.html>

On 9 July 2021, Minister Bibeau declared Canada will allocate an additional CAD10 million towards the Local Food Infrastructure Fund.<sup>455</sup> The Local Food Infrastructure Fund will address pandemic-related food security pressures which will benefit Canada's post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 9 July 2021, Minister Bibeau and Quebec's Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Andrée Laforest confirmed Canada invested CAD13.7 million to modernise health, social services and post-secondary education establishments in Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean.<sup>456</sup> Modernising health, social services and post-secondary education establishments benefits mental and physical health of individuals and supports post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 9 July 2021, Minister of Middle Class Prosperity Mona Fortier announced investment of CAD3.1 million to support municipal infrastructure in Ottawa to respond to the impacts of COVID-19.<sup>457</sup> Additional municipal infrastructure investment will support the post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 12 July 2021, Minister Joly announced Canada's allocation of CAD500 million to invest in a new Tourism Relief Fund.<sup>458</sup> The new Tourism Relief Fund will contribute toward post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada. Out of the CAD500 million contribution, at least CAD50 million will fund Indigenous tourism projects.

On 12 July 2021, Minister Bibeau declared Canada will allocate CAD2.5 million to support non-profit projects that "facilitate access to safe and nutritious food for at-risk populations and strengthen the local food system" in Montreal.<sup>459</sup> This contribution will support mental health for individuals and benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Canada.

On 13 July 2021, Minister Joly announced Canada will allocate CAD700 million to initiate the Jobs and Growth Fund.<sup>460</sup> The Jobs and Growth Fund will create jobs and benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 15 July 2021, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry François-Philippe Champagne confirmed Canada will invest CAD39.6 million to support 236 researchers complete projects about the post-pandemic

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<sup>455</sup> Minister Bibeau re-opens the Local Food Infrastructure Fund with over double the funding this year for projects to improve food security in communities across Canada, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Ottawa) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2021/07/minister-bibeau-re-opens-the-local-food-infrastructure-fund-with-over-double-the-funding-this-year-for-projects-to-improve-food-security-in-communi.html>

<sup>456</sup> \$19 million to modernize health, social services and post-secondary education establishments in Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean, Infrastructure Canada (Lac-Saint-Jean) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/07/19-million-to-modernize-health-social-services-and-post-secondary-education-establishments-in-saguenaylac-saint-jean.html>

<sup>457</sup> Canada and Ontario invest more than \$3.8 million in municipal infrastructure to respond to the impacts of COVID-19 in the City of Ottawa, Infrastructure Canada (Ottawa) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/07/canada-and-ontario-invest-more-than-38-million-in-municipal-infrastructure-to-respond-to-the-impacts-of-covid-19-in-the-city-of-ottawa.html>

<sup>458</sup> Federal government launches Tourism Relief Fund to help tourism businesses and organizations recover and grow, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ontario) 12 July 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/07/federal-government-launches-tourism-relief-fund-to-help-tourism-businesses-and-organizations-recover-and-grow.html>

<sup>459</sup> Minister Bibeau announces over \$2.5 million to help improve food security in Montreal, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Montreal) 12 July 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2021/07/minister-bibeau-announces-over-25-million-to-help-improve-food-security-in-montreal.html>

<sup>460</sup> Government of Canada launches Jobs and Growth Fund to create jobs and foster economic activity in Canada's communities, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ontario) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/07/government-of-canada-launches-jobs-and-growth-fund-to-create-jobs-and-foster-economic-activity-in-canadas-communities.html>

opioid crisis and health of individuals in Africa among other topics.<sup>461</sup> These projects will support the mental and physical health of individuals in Canada and abroad.

On 22 July 2021, Minister Freeland declared Canada allocated CAD48.5 million from the Tourism Relief Fund to provide direct support to tourism businesses and organisations in Atlantic Canada.<sup>462</sup> This initiative will support post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 26 July 2021, Minister Hajdu announced Canada and Nunavut signed the Canada-Nunavut Bilateral Agreement for Pan-Canadian Virtual Care Priorities in Response to COVID-19.<sup>463</sup> Through the Canada-Nunavut Bilateral Agreement for Pan-Canadian Virtual Care Priorities in Response to COVID-19, the federal government allocates CAD3.1 million to support virtual health services in Nunavut. Additional virtual services will support the physical health of individuals in Nunavut.

On 29 July 2021, Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Rural Economic Development Maryam Monsef declared Canada will invest CAD100 million to implement 237 projects through the Feminist Response and Recovery Fund.<sup>464</sup> Minister Monsef highlighted how this initiative will help promote an “inclusive recovery from the social and economic impacts of the pandemic.”

On 30 July 2021, Minister Freeland announced an extension of the eligibility requirements for key employment benefit programs including: the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy program, the Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy and Lockdown Support program, the Canada Recovery Benefit program, the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit program, and the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit program.<sup>465</sup> Extending eligibility for these programs benefits mental health of individuals and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Canada.

On 2 August 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau met with the President of the United States of America Joe Biden to reaffirm mutual priorities, including the post-pandemic socio-economic recovery, with particular attention towards women.<sup>466</sup> Investments in physical and human infrastructure will help achieve their mutual goal of post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 6 August 2021, Minister Hajdu declared Canada, Newfoundland and Labrador signed the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Bilateral Agreement for Pan-Canadian Virtual Care Priorities in Response to

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<sup>461</sup> Government of Canada invests in the next generation of world-class scientists, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 1 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/07/government-of-canada-invests-in-the-next-generation-of-world-class-scientists.html>

<sup>462</sup> Deputy Prime Minister Highlights Tourism Relief Fund Support for Atlantic Canada, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (Charlottetown) 22 July 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/atlantic-canada-opportunities/news/2021/07/deputy-prime-minister-highlights-tourism-relief-fund-support-for-atlantic-canada.html>

<sup>463</sup> Government of Canada Invests over \$3.1 Million to Expand Virtual Health Care Services in Nunavut, Health Canada (Ottawa) 26 July 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2021/07/government-of-canada-invests-over-31-million-to-expand-virtual-health-care-services-in-nunavut.html>

<sup>464</sup> Government of Canada announces recipients of \$100-million Feminist Response and Recovery Fund, Women and Gender Equality Canada (Ottawa) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2021/07/government-of-canada-announces-recipients-of-100-million-feminist-response-and-recovery-fund.html>

<sup>465</sup> Government extends COVID-19 benefits and business supports to support stronger economic recovery, Deputy Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 30 July 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://deputypm.canada.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/07/30/government-extends-covid-19-benefits-and-business-supports-support>

<sup>466</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaks with the President of the United States of America Joe Biden, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 2 August 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/08/02/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-speaks-president-united-states-america-joe>

COVID-19.<sup>467</sup> Through the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Bilateral Agreement for Pan-Canadian Virtual Care Priorities in Response to COVID-19, Canada allocates CAD4.5 million to support Newfoundland and Labrador institute virtual health services. Additional virtual services will support the physical health of individuals in Newfoundland and Labrador.

On 6 August 2021, Minister Hajdu announced Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador have signed the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Home and Community Care and Mental Health and Addictions Services Funding Agreement.<sup>468</sup> Through the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Home and Community Care and Mental Health and Addictions Services Funding Agreement Canada will allocate CAD15 million to “increase infection prevention and control in long term care facilities and seniors’ residences.” This agreement will benefit the mental and physical health of individuals in Newfoundland and Labrador.

On 9 August 2021, Leader of the Government in the House of Commons Pablo Rodriguez announced Canada will contribute CAD7.2 million from the initial CAD33 million investment toward Shop Local to assist Quebec promote local shopping.<sup>469</sup> Minister Rodriguez highlighted how the promotion of local shopping will benefit the post-pandemic reopening of business and socio-economic recovery for Canada.

On 11 August 2021, Minister of International Development Karina Gould declared Canada will contribute CAD18.9 million over the next five years to fund seven new post-pandemic recovery projects in the Philippines.<sup>470</sup> Increasing funding for post-pandemic recovery projects benefits post-pandemic socio-economic recovery internationally.

On 12 August 2021, Minister Hajdu announced Canada and the Northwest Territories signed the Canada-Northwest Territories Home and Community Care and Mental Health and Addictions Services Funding Agreement.<sup>471</sup> Through the Canada-Northwest Territories Home and Community Care and Mental Health and Addictions Services Funding Agreement Canada allocates CAD3.1 million to support Safe Long-term Care. Additional funding for Safe Long-term Care will benefit the physical and mental health of individuals in the Northwest Territories.

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<sup>467</sup> Government of Canada invests over \$4.5 million to expand virtual health care services in Newfoundland and Labrador, Health Canada (Ottawa) 6 August 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-invests-over-45-million-to-expand-virtual-health-care-services-in-newfoundland-and-labrador.html>

<sup>468</sup> Government of Canada Invests \$15 million to Support Canadians Living in Long-Term Care in Newfoundland and Labrador, Health Canada (Ottawa) 6 August 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-invests-15-million-to-support-canadians-living-in-long-term-care-in-newfoundland-and-labrador.html>

<sup>469</sup> Minister Rodriguez announces Shop Local investment in Quebec, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Montréal) 9 August 2021. Access Date: 2 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/08/minister-rodriguez-announces-shop-local-investment-in-quebec.html>

<sup>470</sup> Canada announces support for multiple development projects in Philippines, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 1 August 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/08/canada-announces-support-for-multiple-development-projects-in-philippines.html>

<sup>471</sup> Government of Canada Invests more than \$3.1 million to Support Canadians Living and Working in Long-Term Care in the Northwest Territories, Health Canada (Ottawa) 12 August 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-invests-more-than-31-million-to-support-canadians-living-and-working-in-long-term-care-in-the-northwest-territories.html>



On 12 August 2021, Minister Bibeau declared Canada will contribute CAD430,000 to support the mental health for farming and rural communities.<sup>472</sup> Supporting the mental health for farming and rural communities benefits Canada's post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in addition to the mental health of individuals.

On 13 August 2021, Minister Gould reported Canada has allocated CAD155 million to support the distribution of emergency food provisions to countries in need through organisations including: the World Food Programme, UNICEF, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs' Country-Based Pooled Funds and the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.<sup>473</sup> Increased funding to provide emergency food provisions will support the mental and physical health of individuals internationally.

On 13 August 2021, Minister Hajdu announced Canada and Manitoba signed the Canada-Manitoba Bilateral Agreement for Pan-Canadian Virtual Care Priorities in Response to COVID-19.<sup>474</sup> Through the Canada-Manitoba Bilateral Agreement for Pan-Canadian Virtual Care Priorities in Response to COVID-19, Canada allocates CAD7 million to support Manitoba institute virtual health services. Additional virtual services will support the physical health of individuals in Manitoba.

On 13 August 2021, Minister Monsef announced Canada invested CAD1.2 million to implement municipal infrastructure projects in six communities across Ontario which respond to the impacts of COVID-19.<sup>475</sup> This investment in infrastructure benefits the safety of individuals and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 13 August 2021, Minister of Northern Affairs Dan Vandal confirmed Canada will allocate CAD1.4 million over the next four years towards Manitoba Building Trades to fund a project to increase employment in Manitoba through the Union Training and Innovation Program.<sup>476</sup> Increasing employment in Manitoba will benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 14 August 2021, Minister Miller, Minister Vandal and Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations Carolyn Bennett met to announce that Canada will allocate CAD4.3 billion over four years to "support immediate demands, as prioritised by Indigenous partners."<sup>477</sup> This initiative will benefit the mental and physical health of Indigenous individuals and benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

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<sup>472</sup> Governments Supporting Mental Health for Farming and Rural Communities, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Blyth) 12 August 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2021/08/governments-supporting-mental-health-for-farming-and-rural-communities.html>

<sup>473</sup> Canada announces emergency support to respond to global food crises, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/08/canada-announces-emergency-support-to-respond-to-global-food-crises.html>

<sup>474</sup> Government of Canada invests over \$7 million to expand virtual health care services in Manitoba, Health Canada (Ottawa) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-invests-over-7-million-to-expand-virtual-health-care-services-in-manitoba.html>

<sup>475</sup> Canada and Ontario invest more than \$1.6 million in municipal infrastructure to respond to the impacts of COVID-19, Infrastructure Canada (Peterborough) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/08/canada-and-ontario-invest-more-than-16-million-in-municipal-infrastructure-to-respond-to-the-impacts-of-covid-19.html>

<sup>476</sup> Government of Canada invests in training to help workers in Manitoba become certified in the skilled trades, Employment and Social Development Canada (Winnipeg) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-invests-in-training-to-help-workers-in-manitoba-become-certified-in-the-skilled-trades.html>

<sup>477</sup> Government of Canada highlights funding for Indigenous communities to support critical infrastructure, Indigenous Services Canada (Ottawa) 14 August 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-highlights-funding-for-indigenous-communities-to-support-critical-infrastructure.html>

On 17 October 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau affirmed Canada’s commitment to support small businesses owners to address the negative impacts of COVID-19 on their businesses.<sup>478</sup> This initiative will contribute to post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 30 October 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau met with Prime Minister of the United Kingdom Boris Johnson.<sup>479</sup> In this meeting, Prime Minister Trudeau and Prime Minister Johnson reaffirmed their commitment to cooperate on mutual priorities of post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 30 October 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau highlighted Canada will contribute CAD3.7 billion from Canada’s allocated International Monetary Fund Special Drawing Rights to help address post-pandemic socio-economic and health concerns for countries seeking support.<sup>480</sup> From this CAD3.7 billion contribution, CAD982 million will be allocated towards the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust. Through these measures, Canada supports the global socio-economic recovery from COVID-19.

On 31 October 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau met with Prime Minister of Spain, Pedro Sánchez, to discuss mutual priorities which include post-pandemic socio-economic recovery prioritising “the needs of vulnerable and low- and middle-income countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.”<sup>481</sup> Leaders committed to advancing post-pandemic socio-economic recovery by enhancing cooperation through international forums.

On 18 November 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau met with the United States President Biden to affirm mutual priorities which include increasing employment rates and achieving post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.<sup>482</sup> Prime Minister Trudeau and President Biden committed to strengthening the medical supply chain internationally.

On 23 November 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau verbally reaffirmed Canada’s commitment to support a stronger domestic health care system by prioritising the medical procedures delayed due to COVID-19, “strengthening long-term care and improving access to mental health and addiction treatment.”<sup>483</sup> These initiatives will allow Canada to benefit from domestic post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 29 November 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau met with Nunavut Premier P.J. Akeeagok to discuss mutual priorities particularly on strengthening housing and mental health support in Nunavut.<sup>484</sup> Strengthening housing and mental health support will benefit the mental and physical health of individuals in Nunavut.

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<sup>478</sup> Statement by the Prime Minister on Small Business Week, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 17 October 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/statements/2021/10/17/statement-prime-minister-small-business-week>

<sup>479</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with Prime Minister Boris Johnson of the United Kingdom, Prime Minister of Canada (Rome) 30 October 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/10/30/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-prime-minister-boris-johnson-united>

<sup>480</sup> Global Health and Economy: Prime Minister concludes productive first day of G20 Leaders’ Summit in Italy, Prime Minister of Canada (Rome) 30 October 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/10/30/global-health-and-economy-prime-minister-concludes-productive-first>

<sup>481</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with President of Argentina Alberto Fernández, Prime Minister of Canada (Rome) 31 October 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/10/31/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-prime-minister-pedro-sanchez-spain>

<sup>482</sup> Prime Minister concludes productive North American Leaders’ Summit, Prime Minister of Canada (Washington, D.C.) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/11/18/prime-minister-concludes-productive-north-american-leaders-summit>

<sup>483</sup> Statement by the Prime Minister on the Speech from the Throne, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 23 November 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/statements/2021/11/23/statement-prime-minister-speech-throne>

<sup>484</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaks with Nunavut Premier P.J. Akeeagok, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 29 November 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/11/29/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-speaks-nunavut-premier-pj-akeeagok>

On 1 December 2021, Member of Parliament Sean Casey reported Canada will invest CAD50,000 toward the Prince Edward Island Arts Guild.<sup>485</sup> The Prince Edward Island Arts Guild will use this investment to support workers in the local cultural sector in Prince Edward Island. This initiative will benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 6 December 2021, Minister of International Development Harjit Sajjan declared Canada will allocate CAD75 million over the next three years to help address the global food crisis exacerbated as an indirect result of COVID-19.<sup>486</sup> Increased funding to address food insecurity benefits the mental and physical health of individuals and international post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 7 December 2021, Minister Sajjan stated Canada will contribute CAD195 million toward projects that support emergency food service programs.<sup>487</sup> Minister Sajjan highlighted Canada will also contribute CAD50 million toward the Global Financing Facility to “restore and sustain primary health care, including nutrition services, for the most vulnerable.” These initiatives will support mental and physical health for individuals and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 9 December 2021, Minister of Health Jean-Yves Duclos announced Canada has allocated CAD13.7 million towards 89 new research projects on COVID-19.<sup>488</sup> These new research projects will deepen insights on the direct and indirect impacts of COVID-19 particularly for children, youth and families.

On 13 December 2021, Minister Ng reported the Government of Canada allocated CAD5 million towards the Black Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub to support the “long-term success of Black entrepreneurs and business owners” and address “systemic barriers, many of which have been greatly increased by the pandemic.”<sup>489</sup> This investment will enhance the mental health of Black entrepreneurs and business owners and benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 14 December 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau met with Nunavut Premier Akeegok to reaffirm mutual priorities which include the increased institution of affordable housing and additional support for elder care in Nunavut.<sup>490</sup> Increased access to affordable housing and additional support for elder care will benefit the mental and physical health of individuals and enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

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<sup>485</sup> Supporting Cultural Sector Workers in Prince Edward Island, Canadian Heritage (Charlottetown) 1 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/news/2021/12/supporting-cultural-sector-workers-in-prince-edward-island.html>

<sup>486</sup> Canada renews support for Canadian Foodgrains Bank to help provide food to people affected by humanitarian crises, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 6 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/canada-renews-support-for-canadian-foodgrains-bank-to-help-provide-food-to-people-affected-by-humanitarian-crises.html>

<sup>487</sup> Canada announces support for global nutrition efforts, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/canada-announces-support-for-global-nutrition-efforts.html>

<sup>488</sup> Health researchers across Canada launch projects to mitigate impacts of COVID-19 pandemic on children, youth and families, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Ottawa) 9 December 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/institutes-health-research/news/2021/12/health-researchers-across-canada-launch-projects-to-mitigate-impacts-of-covid-19-pandemic-on-children-youth-and-families0.html>

<sup>489</sup> Minister Ng announces partners to establish Black Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 13 December 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/12/minister-ng-announces-partners-to-establish-black-entrepreneurship-knowledge-hub.html>

<sup>490</sup> G7 Leaders Statement Partnership for Infrastructure and Investment, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/12/14/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-nunavut-premier-pj-akeegok>

On 14 December 2021, Minister Freeland announced Canada will allocate CAD60 million to support workers in the live performance sector.<sup>491</sup> She verbally reaffirmed Canada's commitment to continue implementing "targeted support programs" to benefit individuals and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 16 December 2021, Minister Duclos announced Canada and Québec signed the Canada-Québec Bilateral Agreement for Pan-Canadian Virtual Care Priorities in Response to COVID-19.<sup>492</sup> Through the Canada-Québec Bilateral Agreement for Pan-Canadian Virtual Care Priorities in Response to COVID-19, Canada allocates CAD28 million to support Québec institute virtual health services. Additional virtual services will support the physical health of individuals in Québec.

On 17 December 2021, Minister Freeland commended the Royal Assent in Parliament of Bill C-2.<sup>493</sup> Deputy Prime Minister Freeland highlighted Bill C-2 will support the Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit program, the Local Lockdown Program, the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit program, the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit program, the Tourism and Hospitality Recovery Program, the Hardest-Hit Business Recovery Program and the Canada Recovery Hiring Program. The contribution of additional funds for these programs will support the mental health of workers and their families while benefiting post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 17 December 2021, the Government of Canada announced the federal minimum wage will be raised to CAD15 per hour on 29 December 2021.<sup>494</sup> A federal minimum wage will support workers and their families recover from the indirect impacts of COVID-19. A federal minimum wage will help reduce poverty and enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 22 December 2021, Minister Bibeau announced Canada has allocated an additional CAD30 million to support the Emergency Food Security Fund.<sup>495</sup> The Emergency Food Security Fund provides necessary resources to ensure food banks and local food organisations can fulfil the post-pandemic increased demand. These funds will benefit the mental and physical health of individuals and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Canada.

On 30 December 2021, Minister of National Revenue Diane Lebouthillier announced Canada will expand eligibility of the Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit program.<sup>496</sup> The Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit program provides workers who are prevented from working due to the extended COVID-19 lockdown with CAD300 per week. The Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit program will now apply to workers affected by

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<sup>491</sup> Government of Canada releases Economic and Fiscal Update 2021, Deputy Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. <https://deputyprime.minister.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/12/14/government-canada-releases-economic-and-fiscal-update-2021>

<sup>492</sup> Government of Canada invests more than \$28 million to support the funding of virtual health care services in Quebec, Health Canada (Burnaby) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2021/12/government-of-canada-invests-more-than-28-million-to-support-the-funding-of-virtual-health-care-services-in-quebec.html>

<sup>493</sup> Legislation to create jobs and implement targeted COVID-19 support receives Royal Assent, Deputy Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. <https://deputyprime.minister.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/12/17/legislation-create-jobs-and-implement-targeted-covid-19-support>

<sup>494</sup> Federal minimum wage to rise to \$15 per hour on December 29, Employment and Social Development Canada (Gatineau) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/12/federal-minimum-wage-to-rise-to-15-per-hour-on-december-29.html>

<sup>495</sup> Minister Bibeau announces an extra \$30 million to help vulnerable people in Canada access food, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Ottawa) 22 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2021/12/minister-bibeau-announces-an-extra-30-million-to-help-vulnerable-people-in-canada-access-food.html>

<sup>496</sup> The Government of Canada launches applications for the expanded Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit, Canada Revenue Agency (Ottawa) 30 December 2021. Access Date: 11 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/news/2021/12/the-government-of-canada-launches-applications-for-the-expanded-canada-worker-lockdown-benefit.html>

increased capacity restrictions. Expanding eligibility for the Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit program will benefit the physical and mental health of workers and enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Canada.

On 14 January 2022, Minister Duclos declared Canada is establishing a new Centre for Research on Pandemic Preparedness and Health Emergencies.<sup>497</sup> To support the operation of the Centre Canada has committed CAD18.5 million every year. The Centre for Research on Pandemic Preparedness and Health Emergencies will produce research regarding direct and indirect impacts of COVID-19 to benefit the mental and physical health of individuals and enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Canada.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19, ensuring that countries are able to effectively address the indirect impacts on physical and mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic. Canada has taken strong action to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 by allocating funds and establishing programs to support mental and physical health for individuals in Canada and internationally. Canada has taken strong action to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 by enacting domestic legislation, implementing strategic infrastructure projects, increasing funding toward employment projects and programs to enhance socio-economic recovery.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Natasha Vosky*

#### **France: 0**

France has partially complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 and effectively address the indirect impacts on physical health, mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.

On 27 September 2021, Minister of the Economy Bruno Le Maire introduced the launch of a EUR3 billion transition fund.<sup>498</sup> The stated purpose of the fund is to support medium and large companies (beyond the financial sector) affected by the COVID-19 pandemic by providing loans and quasi-equity instruments.

On 28 September 2021, President Emmanuel Macron announced psychological consultations will be reimbursed by Health Insurance “up to [EUR40] for the first session and [EUR20] for subsequent sessions, from the age of 3 by 2022.”<sup>499</sup> Additionally, the initiative will create 800 new positions and distribute EUR80 million to centers for psychiatric care. This will help citizens access mental health resources.

On 5 October 2021, Minister for Solidarity and Health Olivier Véran and Minister for European and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian held the “Mind Our Rights, Now!” summit in Paris.<sup>500</sup> The global summit

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<sup>497</sup> Government of Canada creates Centre for Research on Pandemic Preparedness and Health Emergencies, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Ottawa) 14 January 2022. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/institutes-health-research/news/2022/01/government-of-canada-creates-centre-for-research-on-pandemic-preparedness-and-health-emergencies.html>

<sup>498</sup> Companies in difficulty: launch of the 3 billion euro transition fund, Ministry of Economy, Finances and Recovery (Paris) 27 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/covid19-soutien-entreprises/entreprises-difficultes-lancement-fonds-transition>

<sup>499</sup> Consultations with psychologists will be reimbursed on medical prescription, Government of France (Paris) 29 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/les-consultations-de-psychologues-seront-remboursees-sur-prescription-medicale>

<sup>500</sup> World Mental Health Summit “Mind Our Rights, Now!”, Ministry of Solidarity and Health (Paris) 5 July 2021. Access Date: 19 March 2022. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/ministere/europe-et-international/sommet-mondial-sante-mentale/global-mental-health-summit-english-version/>

included international organisations, health professionals, academics, high-level policy makers and civil society actors all seeking to strengthen international mental health support.

On 8 November 2021, President Macron announced the investment of EUR400 million to support athletes and sporting industries negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>501</sup> The investment aims to support part and full-time staff, players, sports organizations, clubs/arenas and event organizers who were left effectively unemployed due to the cancelling of many events. This will help remedy the economic consequences of the pandemic and aid the sporting industry in its recovery.

On 18 November 2021, the Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Recovery introduced “rent and rental charges” aid for businesses.<sup>502</sup> This aid targets retail businesses and services affected by COVID-19 restrictions in early 2021, particularly those whose losses were not fully covered by the solidarity fund or by other financial assistance mechanisms.

France has partially complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. France has taken strong action to support those whose mental health has negatively been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and in remedying the negative socioeconomic consequences by supporting businesses and workers in impacted sectors. However, France has failed to take strong or partial action with respect to the indirect impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on physical health.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Ga Vin Park*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 and effectively address the indirect impacts on physical health, mental health and the broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.

On 14 June 2021, Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development Gerd Müller met with Togo’s Foreign Minister Robert Dussey, Prime Minister Victoire Tomegah Dogbé and President Faure Gnassingbé to sign an agreement for a reform partnership between the two countries.<sup>503</sup> Minister Müller stated that the partnership will boost sustainable industrial development, foster good governance and strengthen Togo’s health system to promote economic growth and help Togo emerge from the COVID-19 crisis.

On 17 June 2021, Minister of State at the Federal Foreign Office Niels Annen recognized the harsh socio-economic situation of the majority of Venezuelan refugees because of the ongoing political crisis and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the job market.<sup>504</sup> Upon the recognition of this humanitarian crisis, Germany pledged EUR35.4 million for humanitarian assistance and EUR23.6 million for development funding.

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<sup>501</sup>€400 million in aid, Ministry of Sports (Paris) 8 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.sports.gouv.fr/pratiques-sportives/covid19/400-millions-d-eur-d-aides/>

<sup>502</sup> Implementation of “rent and rental charges” assistance for businesses, Ministry of Economy, Finances and Recovery (Paris) 18 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 January 2022. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/covid19-soutien-entreprises/aide-loyers-charges-locatives-entreprises#>

<sup>503</sup> Minister Müller signs reform partnership agreement with Togo, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/minister-mueller-signs-reform-partnership-agreement-with-togo-83646>

<sup>504</sup> Venezuelan refugee crisis: Germany increases assistance to 70 million euro, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 17 June 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/venezuela-node/venezuela-donor-conference/2466742>

On 23 June 2021, the federal government adopted the draft for the 2022 federal budget and fiscal plan to 2025.<sup>505</sup> The budget includes a “broad-based investment initiative” totalling EUR51.8 billion in “investment spending” to counter the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The government also included EUR10 billion in “precautionary funding” to cover any unanticipated pandemic related costs and EUR7 billion for “business assistance programmes.”

On 12 July 2021, Minister Müller stated that Germany is in close contact with Namibian authorities to organize “fast assistance” in the fight against and recovery from the COVID-19 crisis.<sup>506</sup> Germany is preparing to deliver “support goods” worth more than EUR11 million, including 50 ventilators, hospital beds, test kits, protective clothing, masks and vaccines.

On 4 August 2021, during an international donor’s conference organised by France and the United Nations, Minister of Foreign Affairs Heiko Maas pledged EUR40 million in support for Lebanon.<sup>507</sup> EUR13 million from the total will go to humanitarian assistance programs, EUR7 million to stabilization, crisis prevention and peace building measures and EUR20 million to help Lebanon tackle the COVID-19 pandemic and recover from the consequences of the 2020 Beirut explosion.

On 27 August 2021, Chancellor Angela Merkel emphasized the importance of collaboration between international organizations to promote fair global economic recovery.<sup>508</sup> Chancellor Merkel highlighted fair vaccine distribution, specific interest protections and debt moratoriums for developing and emerging countries in need as potential avenues for international collaboration.

On 25 October 2021, Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy Peter Altmaier announced that the government is providing up to EUR600 million to assist in the recovery of live in-person trade fairs.<sup>509</sup> The government also allocated an amount of up to EUR20 million in subsidies to help and encourage small and medium-sized businesses to attend trade fairs.

On 15 November 2021, Chancellor Merkel stressed the importance of cooperation and networking in science, in politics and between science and politics, funding of the World Health Organization and the consolidation of trust to “successfully counter the horrors of pandemics.”<sup>510</sup>

On 2 December 2021, the government extended the “temporary aid programme for companies” until March 2022.<sup>511</sup> The “Temporary Aid Programme IV” will support self-employed individuals and business owners with EUR1,500 per month. The government will also provide an “additional equity injection” to businesses affected by lockdowns and closures, including the cancellation of Christmas markets.

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<sup>505</sup> Emerging from the crisis with sound fiscal policy and optimism, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 10 January 2022. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2021/2021-06-23-government-draft-of-the-2022-federal-budget.html>

<sup>506</sup> Minister Müller says: “We will not leave Namibia alone in the fight against COVID-19,” Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 12 July 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/mueller-we-will-not-leave-namibia-alone-fight-against-covid-19-86518>

<sup>507</sup> Germany pledges support for people in need in Lebanon, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 4 August 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/libanon-node/support-lebanon/2473996>

<sup>508</sup> Boosting a fair economic recovery, The Federal Government (Berlin) 27 August 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/economic-recovery-1954758>

<sup>509</sup> Germany Offers Corona Insurance for Reopening Trade Fairs, Germany Trade & Invest (Berlin) 25 October 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. <https://www.gtai.de/gtai-en/meta/press/germany-trade-fairs-corona-insurance-738774>

<sup>510</sup> “Pandemics know no national borders,” The Federal Government (Berlin) 15 November 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/service/who-science-summit-1981812>

<sup>511</sup> Comprehensive pandemic assistance programmes for companies and self-employed individuals, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 11 January 2022. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Topics/Priority-Issues/Corona/comprehensive-pandemic-crisis-support.html>

On 10 January 2022, Finance Minister Christian Lindner stated that he wants the EU to implement the EUR750 billion debt-financed euro recovery fund “Next Generation EU” and stressed the new coalition government’s desire to play a “constructive role” in the debate on how to develop further the EU’s fiscal rules through the Stability and Growth Pact.<sup>512</sup> The recovery fund and the development of the fiscal rules will help the EU focus on recovery from the pandemic and aim to promote growth and maintain debt sustainability.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic in the spheres of physical health and wider socio-economic consequences through its consistent promotion of fair economic recovery, vaccine distribution and the extension of financial aid programmes.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Arees Chooljian*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 and effectively address the indirect impacts on physical health, mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.

On 15 June 2021, Minister for Youth Policies Fabiana Dadone met with Slovenia’s Minister of Science and Sports Education to discuss objectives of the future Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the European Union.<sup>513</sup> Minister Dadone emphasised how the COVID-19 pandemic aggravated inequalities for young people. Therefore, Minister Dadone recommended the future Slovenian Presidency should focus on the removal of administrative barriers faced by programs like Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps to facilitate the mobility of young people and the movement of volunteers within the European Union.

On 15 June 2021, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Marina Sereni met with Executive Director of the Global Fund Peter Sands to discuss mutual priorities.<sup>514</sup> Vice Minister Sereni affirmed mutual priorities include combating the indirect health impacts caused by COVID-19 “which has caused a setback in the fight against HIV, tuberculosis and malaria.” Vice Minister Sereni emphasised Italy’s commitment to continue cooperating at the multilateral level to enhance post-pandemic health and socio-economic recovery internationally.

On 18 June 2021, during the Spain-Italy Dialogue Forum Prime Minister Mario Draghi reaffirmed Italy’s commitment to post-pandemic socio-economic recovery and the creation of jobs through instituting environmentally sustainable initiatives.<sup>515</sup> In line with Italy’s commitments, Prime Minister Draghi announced Italy in partnership with the European Commission will allocate EUR75 billion from Next Generation EU to institute post-pandemic socio-economic goals. Draghi emphasised opportunities will be created for women,

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<sup>512</sup> 'We won't waste the crisis': Germany's new finance minister open to EU reforms, Reuters (Berlin) 10 January 2022. Access Date: 10 January 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/markets/europe/we-wont-waste-crisis-germanys-new-finance-minister-open-eu-reforms-2022-01-10/>

<sup>513</sup> Minister Fabiana Dadone meets Simona Kustec, Minister of Science and Sports Education of Slovenia, Minister for Youth Policies (Rome) 15 June 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.giovani.gov.it/it/comunicazione/notizie/il-ministro-fabiana-dadone-incontra-simona-kustec/>

<sup>514</sup> Cooperation; Sereni, support for Global Fund activities, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Rome) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stamp/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/06/cooperazione-sereni-sostegno-alle-attivita-del-global-fund-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stamp/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/06/cooperazione-sereni-sostegno-alle-attivita-del-global-fund-2/)

<sup>515</sup> Prime Minister Draghi’s speech at the Spain-Italy Dialogue Forum, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/prime-minister-draghi-s-speech-spain-italy-dialogue-forum/17328>



youth and those who have lost their jobs during the pandemic which will enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 21 June 2021, Prime Minister Draghi acknowledged the COVID-19 pandemic served to intensify gender inequality.<sup>516</sup> To help promote gender equality and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery, Prime Minister Draghi announced Italy will aim to contribute EUR7 billion to these goals until 2026.

On 22 June 2021, Prime Minister Draghi met with President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen to announce the approval of Italy's National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) as a part of Next Generation EU.<sup>517</sup> Italy in partnership with the European Commission will allocate funds through Next Generation EU to implement measures and programs to support mental health, physical health and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery among other priorities, including EUR300 million Next Generation EU funds to train the youth for future careers in the audiovisual sector.

On 23 June 2021, Minister of Foreign Affairs Luigi Di Maio announced that Italy in partnership with the European Commission will allocate EUR1.2 billion through Next Generation EU towards Italy's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to support Small and Medium Enterprises and other initiatives which enhance global post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.<sup>518</sup>

On 25 June 2021, Prime Minister Draghi affirmed Italy's support for the institution of Green Pass, the common COVID-19 certificate among European Union member states.<sup>519</sup> Prime Minister Draghi outlined that Green Pass will help drive post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Italy and throughout the European Union.

On 28 June 2021, Prime Minister Draghi with the United States Secretary of State Antony Blinken reaffirmed Italy and the United States' corresponding priorities to achieve mutual post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.<sup>520</sup> Prime Minister Draghi highlighted Italy and the United States will build on their cooperative relationship into the future to achieve the goal of mutual post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 29 June 2021, Prime Minister Draghi and Minister of Labour and Social Policies Andrea Orlando announced a joint agreement to increase post-pandemic employment was signed by Italy and organisations respectively representing Italian trade unions, industry, cooperatives and Small and Medium Enterprises: Cgil, Cisl, Uil, Confindustria, Alleanza delle Cooperative and Confapi.<sup>521</sup> Prime Minister Draghi affirmed Italy's commitment to institute "social safety nets, as well as the launch of active policies and permanent training processes" to boost employment rates in Italy which will serve post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

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<sup>516</sup> PM Draghi's speech at the Women Political Leaders Summit 2021, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/speech-prime-minister-draghi-speaks-women-political-leaders-summit-2021/17287>

<sup>517</sup> Press conference with PM Draghi and President von der Leyen on the approval of Italy's NRRP, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/press-conference-pm-draghi-and-president-von-der-leyen-approval-italy-s-nrrp/17409>

<sup>518</sup> Approval of the NRRP: 1.2 billion for subsidised financial measures within the Pact for Export framework, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stamp/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/06/approvazione-del-pnrr-1-2-miliardi-per-la-finanza-agevolata-nell-ambito-del-patto-per-l-export-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stamp/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/06/approvazione-del-pnrr-1-2-miliardi-per-la-finanza-agevolata-nell-ambito-del-patto-per-l-export-2/)

<sup>519</sup> European Council and Euro Summit, 24 and 25 June: PM Draghi's press conference, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Brussels) 25 June 2021. Access Date: 2 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/european-council-and-euro-summit-24-and-25-june-pm-draghi-s-press-conference/17391>

<sup>520</sup> PM Draghi meets with U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 28 June 2021. Access Date: 2 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/prime-minister-draghi-meets-us-secretary-state-blinken/17278>

<sup>521</sup> PM Draghi, Labour Minister Andrea Orlando and Italy's social partners sign an agreement on employment, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 2 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/pm-draghi-labour-minister-orlando-and-italy-s-social-partners-sign-agreement-employment>

On 30 June 2021, Minister for Parliamentary Relations Federico D’Inca announced Italy’s ‘Complementary Fund’ Decree which established a national plan for implementing complementary investments to Next Generation EU.<sup>522</sup> The National Plan for complementary investments to Next Generation EU will allow Italy to expand on their partnership with the European Commission and allocate an additional 30.6 billion euros from 2021 to 2026 for Italy’s domestic priorities including post-pandemic socio-economic recovery and supporting physical and mental health resources in Italy.

On 30 June 2021, Minister Franceschini announced the allocation of EUR50 million from the Fund for emergencies for businesses and cultural institutions “to support non-state museums damaged by the forced closures.”<sup>523</sup> This investment benefits post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Italy.

On 30 June 2021, Prime Minister Draghi met with Secretary General of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Mathias Cormann to affirm mutual priorities of bilateral cooperation.<sup>524</sup> Prime Minister Draghi and Secretary-General Cormann discussed the Italian G20 Presidency emphasising their commitment to collaborate on post-pandemic global socio-economic recovery.

On 1 July 2021, Prime Minister Draghi affirmed the goal of maintaining expansionary fiscal policy to enhance economic growth for Italy.<sup>525</sup> Prime Minister Draghi highlighted enhanced economic growth will allow Italy to institute increased socio-economic benefits particularly for marginalised groups. Prime Minister Draghi announced Italy will decrease barriers of participation in the labour market for young people and women by enhancing “technical and vocational training institutes and strengthening their connections with the employment market.” Decreased barriers of participation in the labour market for young people and women will benefit Italy’s post-pandemic socio-economic recovery. Prime Minister Draghi acknowledged the need for Italy to institute more nursing schools and improve infrastructure supporting the elderly which will benefit Italy’s post-pandemic socio-economic growth.

On 2 July 2021, Minister of Culture Dario Franceschini announced Italy will allocate EUR20 million to help exhibition organisers recover from extended closures faced as a result of COVID-19.<sup>526</sup> This initiative will support post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Italy.

On 9 July 2021, Governor of the Bank of Italy Ignazio Visco and Minister for Economy and Finance Daniele Franco verbally reaffirmed Italy’s commitment to “address the adverse consequences of COVID-19, especially on the most impacted, such as women, youth and informal and low-skilled workers” internationally.<sup>527</sup> Governor Visco and Minister Franco emphasised Italy will continue to work with others to achieve global post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

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<sup>522</sup> ‘Complementary Fund’ Decree, Department for Relations with Parliament (Rome) 30 June 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 4 January 2022. <https://www.rapportiparlamento.gov.it/it/comunicazione/notizie/fondo-complementare/>

<sup>523</sup> Covid, Franceschini: 50 million euros for non-state museums, Ministry of Culture (Rome) 30 June 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 January 2022. <https://www.beniculturali.it/comunicato/covid-franceschini-50-milioni-di-euro-destinati-ai-musei-non-statali>

<sup>524</sup> PM Draghi meets with OECD Secretary-General Mathias Cormann, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 2 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/pm-draghi-meets-oecd-secretary-general-cormann/17401>

<sup>525</sup> Prime Minister Draghi’s speech at Accademia dei Lincei, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 1 July 2021. Access Date: 2 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/prime-minister-draghi-s-speech-accademia-dei-lincei/17425>

<sup>526</sup> Covid, Mic: 20 million euros for exhibitions, Ministry of Culture (Rome) 2 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 January 2022. <https://www.beniculturali.it/comunicato/covid-mic-20-milioni-di-euro-destinati-alle-mostre>

<sup>527</sup> Third G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors meeting in Venice, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Rome) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://www.mef.gov.it/en/inevidenza/Third-G20-Finance-Ministers-and-Central-Bank-Governors-meeting-in-Venice-00001/>

On 22 July 2021, Minister D'Incà declared Italy's institution of the "Sostegni Bis" decree.<sup>528</sup> Minister D'Incà outlined the Sostegni Bis decree benefits post-pandemic recovery for "businesses, work, young people, health and local services" in Italy. The Sostegni Bis decree provides funding for the health sector to recover from the strain COVID-19 caused on health resources. Italy will allocate EUR400 million to enhance the biomedical sector and provide tax credits up to EUR11 million for private businesses who invest in health related research. Emergency income provisions are also included to help individuals recover from the pandemic which will enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Italy.

On 29 July 2021, Prime Minister Draghi announced that Italy in partnership with the European Commission will allocate EUR7 billion to support Italy's travel and tourism industry through Next Generation EU.<sup>529</sup> Prime Minister Draghi declared this investment in the domestic travel and tourism industry will enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery by increasing employment rates in Italy.

On 29 July 2021, Vice Minister Sereni announced the allocation of EUR25 million over the next five years toward the Global Partnership for Education.<sup>530</sup> Vice Minister Sereni highlighted Italy's investment in the Global Partnership for Education will enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery internationally.

On 5 August 2021, Minister Franceschini declared Italy will allocate EUR5 million to help businesses and cultural institutions that suffered financial losses due to government mandated closures as a result of COVID-19.<sup>531</sup> This contribution will help businesses and cultural institutions recover from the losses they faced and benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Italy.

On 6 August 2021, Minister Franceschini announced Italy has contributed EUR5 million through the entertainment, cinema and audiovisual emergency fund to support Italian businesses in the audiovisual and entertainment sectors recover from pandemic related impacts.<sup>532</sup> This investment enhances post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Italy.

On 17 August 2021, Minister Bianchi met with Minister Franco to sign a decree which allocated EUR350 million to support a safe transition back to school after COVID-19 mandated closures.<sup>533</sup> This decree supports the mental health of students and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Italy.

On 1 October 2021, Minister Patuanelli announced Italy in partnership with the European Commission will allocate EUR1.6 billion to help businesses from the agricultural, food and forestry sectors in Italy recover

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<sup>528</sup> 'Sostegni Bis' decess, Department for Relations with Parliament (Rome) 22 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 4 January 2022. <https://www.rapportiparlamento.gov.it/comunicazione/notizie/decreto-sostegni-bis/>

<sup>529</sup> PM Draghi's speech at the G20 Culture Ministers' Meeting, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 2 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/pm-draghi-s-speech-g20-culture-ministers-meeting/17572>

<sup>530</sup> Foreign Affairs Note – Global Education Summit; Sereni, Italy will contribute 25 million in the next 5 years to the Global Partnership for Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/07/global-education-summit-sereni-dall-italia-25-milioni-nei-prossimi-5-anni-alla-global-partnership-for-education-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/07/global-education-summit-sereni-dall-italia-25-milioni-nei-prossimi-5-anni-alla-global-partnership-for-education-2/)

<sup>531</sup> Covid, MiC: 5 million euros to support logistics and transport for art exhibitions, Ministry of Culture (Rome) 5 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 January 2022. <https://www.beniculturali.it/comunicato/covid-mic-5-milioni-di-euro-a-sostengo-della-logistica-e-dei-trasporti-per-le-mostre-darte>

<sup>532</sup> Covid, MiC: 5 million euros in communication to support the reopening of cinemas and theaters in safety, Ministry of Culture (Rome) 6 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 January 2022. <https://cultura.gov.it/comunicato/21116>

<sup>533</sup> 350 million to schools for safe start-up: Minister Bianchi signed the distribution decree, Ministry of Education, Ministry of University and Research (Rome) 17 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 January 2022. <https://www.miur.gov.it/web/guest/-/in-arrivo-alle-scuole-350-milioni-per-l-avvio-in-sicurezza-il-ministro-bianchi-ha-firmato-il-decreto-di-ripartizione>

from COVID-19 related impacts.<sup>534</sup> This initiative will contribute to post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Italy.

On 7 October 2021, Prime Minister Draghi chaired the first steering committee meeting for Italy's NRRP which he established to help Italy and the European Commission allocate Italy's Next Generation EU funds.<sup>535</sup> Italy in partnership with the European Commission is allocating EUR17 billion as a part of Next Generation EU to assist post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Italy by strengthening domestic physical and digital infrastructure and enhancing skills of the youth and women. Of this EUR17 billion investment, Italy will allocate EUR3 billion to institute new nursing schools, EUR700 million for existing public infrastructure projects, EUR900 million to institute educational reforms, EUR800 million to implement new school infrastructure and EUR9 billion to develop research and enhance existing research partnerships. Prime Minister Draghi affirmed these Next Generation EU investments will strengthen Italy's innovation capacity and boost post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 7 October 2021, the Minister for Regional Affairs and Autonomies Mariastella Gelmini announced that Italy, in partnership with the European Commission, allocated funds through Next Generation EU to initiate the new Employability Guarantee Program in Italy.<sup>536</sup> The Employability Guarantee Program will support individuals maintain employment and benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Italy.

On 26 October 2021, Minister of Health Roberto Speranza and Minister Daniele Franco declared Italy acknowledged the ongoing direct and indirect impacts of the pandemic at the G20 Joint Finance and Health Ministers' Meeting.<sup>537</sup> Minister Franco and Minister Speranza verbally reaffirmed Italy's commitment to continue cooperating with other G20 members to achieve global post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 29 October 2021, Prime Minister Draghi met with the Secretary General of the United Nations Antonio Guterres to discuss mutual priorities.<sup>538</sup> Prime Minister Draghi reaffirmed mutual priorities including cooperation during Italy's G20 Presidency and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery "with special attention to the most vulnerable Countries."

On 11 November 2021, Minister Di Maio declared that Italy, in partnership with the European Commission, will allocate EUR800 million in subsidised funding and non-repayable grants through Next Generation EU to support Small and Medium Enterprises in Italy.<sup>539</sup> Support for Small and Medium Enterprises will benefit post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Italy.

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<sup>534</sup> Irrigation infrastructures: the first list of projects eligible for PNRR funds approved. 1.6 billion euros of investments, Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies (Rome) 1 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/17398>

<sup>535</sup> First NRRP steering committee meeting: press release (Rome) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/first-nrrp-steering-committee-meeting-press-release/18168>

<sup>536</sup> Report dated 21/10/2021, Permanent Conference for relations between the State, the regions and the Autonomous Provinces of Trento and Bolzano (Rome) 21 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.statoregioni.it/it/conferenza-stato-regioni/sedute-2021/seduta-del-21102021/report/>

<sup>537</sup> First G20 Joint Finance and Health Ministers' Meeting under the Italian Presidency, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Rome) 26 October 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://www.mef.gov.it/en/inevidenza/First-G20-Joint-Finance-and-Health-Ministers-Meeting-under-the-Italian-Presidency-00001/>

<sup>538</sup> G20, PM Draghi meets with UN Secretary-General Guterres, Presidency of the Council Ministers (Rome) 29 October 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/g20-pm-draghi-meets-un-secretary-general-guterres/18374>

<sup>539</sup> PNRR: until 3 December, subsidised funding for export-oriented SMEs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 11 November 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/11/pnrr-fino-al-3-dicembre-finanziamenti-agevolati-per-pmi-orientate-allexport/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/11/pnrr-fino-al-3-dicembre-finanziamenti-agevolati-per-pmi-orientate-allexport/)

On 18 November 2021, Minister Colao established a platform called PA Digital 2026 which allows administrations to apply for digital Next Generation EU funds, report on projects and receive assistance.<sup>540</sup> PA Digital 2026 will ensure Next Generation EU funds contributed by Italy in partnership with the European Commission are allocated according to established plans and requirements.

On 25 November 2021, Prime Minister Draghi met with the President of the Chadian Transitional Military Council, Mahamat Idriss Déby Itno.<sup>541</sup> Prime Minister Draghi highlighted priorities discussed in the meeting centred around post-pandemic “socio-economic development of Chad and of the entire region.”

On 30 November 2021, Minister Bianchi confirmed Italy in partnership with the European Commission will allocate EUR5.2 billion through Next Generation EU to build new nursery schools and preschools, innovative schools, canteens, and gyms.<sup>542</sup> Investing in school infrastructure will support education for youth and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Italy.

On 9 December 2021, Prime Minister Draghi declared that Italy in partnership with the European Commission will allocate EUR235 billion from Next Generation EU funds in part to “reverse long-standing inequalities” created by the pandemic.<sup>543</sup> Prime Minister Draghi reaffirmed Italy’s commitment to protect human rights for the most vulnerable and marginalised groups. Italy in partnership with the European Commission will build “better services for Italian citizens, from healthcare to schooling” through Next Generation EU funds. Prime Minister Draghi reaffirmed that Italy’s National Action Plan includes priorities of gender equality and socio-economic prosperity. Prime Minister Draghi reiterated Italy’s mission to combat all forms of discrimination.

On 10 December 2021, Minister Orlando declared Italy in partnership with the European Commission will support Italy’s adoption of the National New Skills Plan through Next Generation EU funds.<sup>544</sup> The adoption of the National New Skills Plan will help youth gain experience and benefit Italy’s post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 13 December 2021, Prime Minister Draghi acknowledged COVID-19 intensified the difficulties faced by individuals with disabilities.<sup>545</sup> Italy in partnership with the European Commission allocated EUR6 billion to enhance measures of accessibility in Italy. Prime Minister Draghi announced Italy will simplify the Italian disability assessment system to account for principles of the United Nations convention and Italy will establish a “national authority tasked specifically to protect and promote the rights of people with disabilities.”

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<sup>540</sup> Digital PA 2026 is born, the access point to resources for the digital transition of the PA, Ministry for Innovation, Technology and the Digital Transition (Rome) 18 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://innovazione.gov.it/notizie/articoli/nasce-pa-digitale-2026-il-punto-di-accesso-risorse-transizione-digitale-pa-pnrr/>

<sup>541</sup> PM Draghi’s call with President of the Chadian Transitional Military Council, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 25 October 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/pm-draghis-call-president-chadian-transitional-military-council/18654>

<sup>542</sup> PNRR, the first calls for the education sector presented: 5.2 billion for kindergartens, new schools, canteens, gyms, extraordinary maintenance, Ministry of Education, Ministry of University and Research (Rome) 30 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 January 2022. <https://www.miur.gov.it/web/guest/-/pnrr-presentati-i-primi-bandi-per-il-settore-istruzione-5-2-miliardi-per-asili-scuole-nuove-mense-palestre-manutenzione-straordinaria>

<sup>543</sup> Summit for Democracy, Prime Minister Draghi’s video message, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 9 December 2021. Access Date: 1 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/summit-democracy-prime-minister-draghi-s-video-message/18759>

<sup>544</sup> National New Skills Plan: Orlando signed the adoption decree, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome) 10 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/stampa-e-media/Comunicati/Pagine/Piano-Nazionale-Nuove-Competenze-Orlando-ha-firmato-il-Decreto-di-adozione.aspx>

<sup>545</sup> Prime Minister Mario Draghi’s speech at the National Disability Conference, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 13 December 2021. Access Date: 1 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/prime-minister-mario-draghi-s-speech-national-disability-conference/18799>

On 14 December 2021, Minister Colao announced that Italy, in partnership with the European Commission, are allocating funds toward the Digital Civil Service's implementation of 45 youth projects as a part of Next Generation EU.<sup>546</sup> These funds will support 1,007 youth volunteers participating in the Digital Civil Service to gain skills favourable for digital transformation and their future careers which will enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Italy.

On 23 December 2021, Minister D'Incà declared Italy's institution of the 'Recovery' Decree.<sup>547</sup> Minister D'Incà highlighted Italy's 'Recovery' Decree establishing measures to guarantee Italy's rapid implementation of Next Generation EU funds in partnership with the European Commission. Italy's 'Recovery' Decree includes guarantees for Italy's tourism sector and applies economic measures to support businesses and encourage investment to assist Italy's post-pandemic socio-economic recovery. Italy's 'Recovery' Decree establishes the National Strategic Pole to bridge the gap in Italy's technological transition by preparing youth and adults with necessary digital skills to benefit employment rates and support Italy's post-pandemic socio-economic recovery. Italy's 'Recovery' Decree institutes Special Economic Zones to provide additional financial support to benefit businesses and enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery in Italy.<sup>548</sup>

On 30 December 2021, the Government of Italy declared its allocation of EUR500,000 to finance psychological assistance projects.<sup>549</sup> Increased investment toward the implementation of psychological assistance projects supports the mental health of individuals in Italy.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19, ensuring that countries are able to effectively address the indirect impacts on physical and mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic. Italy has taken strong action to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 by increasing funding for targeted programs to support the physical and mental health of individuals. Additionally, Italy has taken strong action to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 by increasing investments toward economic, infrastructure and employment projects and programs to enhance broader socio-economic post-pandemic recovery.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Natasha Vosky*

### **Japan: 0**

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 and effectively address the indirect impacts on physical and mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.

On 17 August 2021, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida stated that the government will disburse an additional JPY300 billion to prefectures and municipal governments to assist businesses.<sup>550</sup> This financial support will help diminish the negative economic consequences stemming from the pandemic on businesses.

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<sup>546</sup> The civil service goes digital: the call for more than 1000 young volunteers is online, Ministry of Innovation, Technology and the Digital Transition (Rome) 14 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 January 2022.

<https://innovazione.gov.it/notizie/articoli/servizio-civile-digitale-bando-per-oltre-1000-giovani-volontari/>

<sup>547</sup> Recovery Decree, Department for Relations with Parliament (Rome) 23 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 4 January 2022. <https://www.rapportiparlamento.gov.it/it/comunicazione/notizie/decreto-recovery/>

<sup>548</sup> Recovery Decree, Department for Relations with Parliament (Rome) 23 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 4 January 2022. <https://www.rapportiparlamento.gov.it/it/comunicazione/notizie/decreto-recovery/>

<sup>549</sup> Notice published for the financing of psychological assistance projects, Department of Family Policy (Rome) 30 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://famiglia.governo.it/it/politiche-e-attivita/comunicazione/notizie/pubblicato-avviso-per-il-finanziamento-di-progetti-di-assistenza-psicologica/>

On 14 October 2021, Prime Minister Kishida issued a statement announcing increased and prolonged funds for “push-mode” benefits, the Sustainability Subsidy program and Employment Adjustment Subsidies.<sup>551</sup> These programs would expand financial support to those experiencing economic hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 8 November 2021, the Government of Japan created the New Form of Capitalism Realization Headquarters within the Cabinet as a council to discuss and implement regulations and subsidies to promote economic stability in a world coexisting with COVID-19.<sup>552</sup> This will help to diminish the economic consequences due to COVID.

On 6 December 2021, the Government of Japan released a statement of intent to raise salaries of frontline workers in the areas of medical nursing, nursing care, child care and preschool education in order to recognize valued labour through the pandemic. Starting in February 2022, the government intends to increase those salaries by three per cent.<sup>553</sup>

On 7 December 2021, Prime Minister Kishida acknowledged the effect of COVID-19 on food insecurity. Prime Minister Kishida also pledged to promote and fund JPY300 billion over three years to the global cause of improved nutrition.<sup>554</sup>

On 28 December 2021, the Ministry of Loneliness acknowledged the mental health challenges of a large population that is physically or socially isolated.<sup>555</sup> The Ministry stated in tandem with several non-profit organizations that they will work toward an environment where it is easier to raise concerns via hotlines, education to destigmatize mental illness and a communicative outreach program for those in need.<sup>556</sup>

Japan has partially complied with acknowledging and remedying the indirect socio-economic and mental-health-related impacts of COVID-19 by providing financial benefits to citizens and sectors facing economic hardship due to the pandemic and by working with non-profit groups to increase access to mental health resources. However, Japan has failed to take any action on issues of physical health related to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Erica Matsui*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 and effectively address the indirect impacts on physical and mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.

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<sup>550</sup> Press Conference by the Prime Minister regarding the Novel Coronavirus, Japan Kantei (Tokyo) 17 August 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/99\\_suga/statement/202108/\\_00009.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/99_suga/statement/202108/_00009.html)

<sup>551</sup> Press Conference by Prime Minister Kishida, Japan Kantei (Tokyo) 14 October 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/100\\_kishida/statement/202110/\\_00012.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/100_kishida/statement/202110/_00012.html)

<sup>552</sup> Outline of Emergency Proposal Toward the Launch of a "New Form of Capitalism" that Carves Out the Future, Japan Kantei (Tokyo) 8 November 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/ongoingtopics/\\_00001.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/ongoingtopics/_00001.html)

<sup>553</sup> Policy Speech by Prime Minister KISHIDA Fumio to the 207th Session of the Diet, Japan Kantei (Tokyo) 6 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101\\_kishida/statement/202112/\\_00002.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101_kishida/statement/202112/_00002.html)

<sup>554</sup> Opening speech by Prime Minister KISHIDA Fumio at the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit 2021, Japan Kantei (Tokyo) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101\\_kishida/statement/202112/\\_00004.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101_kishida/statement/202112/_00004.html)

<sup>555</sup> Opening speech by Prime Minister KISHIDA Fumio at the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit 2021, Japan Kantei (Tokyo) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101\\_kishida/statement/202112/\\_00004.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101_kishida/statement/202112/_00004.html)

<sup>556</sup> Priority plan for measures against loneliness, Cabinet Secretariat (Tokyo) 28 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://www.cas.go.jp/jp/seisaku/juten\\_keikaku/pdf/jutenkeikaku\\_gaiyo.pdf](https://www.cas.go.jp/jp/seisaku/juten_keikaku/pdf/jutenkeikaku_gaiyo.pdf)

On 27 October 2021, the Office of the Secretary of State for Wales and Her Majesty's Treasury announced the Autumn Budget 2021 would offer the Welsh Government a GBP18 billion per year in addition to "UK-wide support" received to assist local communities and businesses.<sup>557</sup> The additional funding will support post-pandemic recovery, specifically through targeted funding in Wales to support "road and infrastructure improvements, investment in local communities and funding for businesses."

On 30 October 2021, Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau met with Prime Minister Boris Johnson.<sup>558</sup> In this meeting, Prime Minister Trudeau and Prime Minister Johnson reaffirmed their commitment to cooperate on mutual priorities of post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 26 November 2021, the Department of Health and Social Care introduced a grant of GBP5 million to support suicide prevention services in response to increased demand during the pandemic, especially people with "pre-existing mental illness" and younger population seeking for help.<sup>559</sup> The fund will be directed to voluntary, community and social enterprise organizations and allow them to expand ongoing programs and provide additional services.

On 16 December 2021, the Department for Education reintroduced the COVID-19 workforce fund to help colleges and institutions with staffing and financial challenges resulting from workforce absences.<sup>560</sup> The fund's stated purpose is to cover the cost for bringing part-time employees and educators to manage absences and further support their wellbeing and workload.

On 29 December 2021, Minister for Care Gilian Keegan announced an additional GBP60 million in funding to support the adult social care sector.<sup>561</sup> This initiative includes more investment in personal protective equipment, testing and improved ventilation to protect workers, residents and their families.

On 7 January 2022, the Treasury delivered over GBP700 million in funding to local councils to support businesses most affected by the Omicron variant.<sup>562</sup> Businesses in the hospitality, leisure, and accommodation sectors that are highly affected by the pandemic are able to apply for grants up to GBP6,000. Additional financial support will help keep businesses open and secure jobs against further challenges due to the Omicron variant of COVID-19.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to support a robust global socio-economic, physical, and mental health recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The United Kingdom has made efforts

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<sup>557</sup> Record GBP18 billion a year of Wales in Budget, Office of the Secretary of State for Wales and Her Majesty's Treasury (London) 27 October 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/record-18-billion-a-year-for-wales-in-budget#history>

<sup>558</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with Prime Minister Boris Johnson of the United Kingdom, Prime Minister of Canada (Rome) 30 October 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/10/30/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-prime-minister-boris-johnson-united>

<sup>559</sup> GBP5 million launched to support suicide prevention services, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 26 November 2021. Access Date: 10 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/5-million-launched-to-support-suicide-prevention-services>

<sup>560</sup> COVID-19 workforce fund to support colleges and special post-16 institutions, Department for Education (London) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 10 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-workforce-fund-for-colleges/covid-19-workforce-fund-to-support-colleges-and-special-post-16-institutions>

<sup>561</sup> An extra GBP60 million for adult social care over January 2022, Department of Health and Social Care, HM Treasury, and Department for Leveling Up, Housing and Communities (London) 29 December 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/an-extra-60-million-for-adult-social-care-over-january-2022>

<sup>562</sup> Business most impacted by Omicron variant to benefit from over GBP700 million as government delivers funding to local authorities, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, HM Treasury, The Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng MP, and The Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP (London) 7 January 2022. Access Date: 13 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/businesses-most-impacted-by-omicron-variant-to-benefit-from-over-700-million-as-government-delivers-funding-to-local-authorities>



to recognize the challenges of vulnerable populations and has offered financial support to local communities, businesses, and education, social and healthcare sectors.

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

*Analyst: Ga Vin Park*

### **United States: +1**

United States has fully complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 and effectively address the indirect impacts on physical and mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.

On 25 June 2021, the fifth COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force was held by Dr. Marcella Nunez-Smith.<sup>563</sup> This meeting addressed the impact of long-COVID and access to personal protective equipment, testing and therapeutics. The task force voted to create inclusive disability policies to recognize long-COVID as a health condition, create a national coordination of research standards, execute a national communication and education campaign to educate the public on long-COVID, maintain an adequate stockpile of PPE and create data transparency.

On 28 June 2021, Prime Minister of Italy Mario Draghi, in cooperation with the United States Secretary of State Antony Blinken, reaffirmed Italy and the United States' corresponding priorities to achieve mutual post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.<sup>564</sup> Prime Minister Draghi highlighted Italy and the United States will build on their cooperative relationship into the future to achieve the goal of mutual post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 2 July 2021, Deputy Prime Minister of Canada Chrystia Freeland met with the United States Treasury Secretary, Janet Yellen, to discuss mutual priorities which include "post-pandemic recovery, including support for workers and businesses, and ensuring the recovery is inclusive and equitable."<sup>565</sup> These priorities will benefit mental health for individuals and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery for Canada and the United States.

On 13 July 2021, the Department of Health and Human Services provided USD398 million to fund the Small Rural Hospital Improvement program.<sup>566</sup> This provided funding to 1,540 small rural hospitals to do COVID-19 testing and prevention. The purpose of this action is to close the equity gap felt by Americas in rural communities where access to healthcare poses additional barriers and is under undue strain due to the pandemic.

On 22 July 2021, the Department of Health and Human Services announced an investment of more than USD1.6 billion from the American Rescue Plan to support COVID-19 testing and mitigation measures in

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<sup>563</sup> Readout of the Fifth COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force Meeting, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C) 2 July 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2021. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/07/02/readout-fifth-covid-19-health-equity-task-force-meeting.html>

<sup>564</sup> PM Draghi meets with U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 28 June 2021. Access Date: 2 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/prime-minister-draghi-meets-us-secretary-state-blinken/17278>

<sup>565</sup> Deputy Prime Minister Freeland meets virtually with U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen, Deputy Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 2 July 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://deputypm.canada.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/07/02/deputy-prime-minister-freeland-meets-virtually-us-treasury-secretary-janet>

<sup>566</sup> HHS Provides \$398 Million to Small Rural Hospitals for COVID-19 Testing and Mitigation, Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/07/13/hhs-provides-398-million-to-small-rural-hospitals-for-covid-testing.html>

high-risk congregate settings and vulnerable communities.<sup>567</sup> Specifically increasing testing and mitigation resources for people with mental health and substance abuse disorders, people experiencing homelessness or residents of congregate settings, local prison populations and local domestic violence shelters and tribal shelters.

On 28 July 2021, the Department of Education provided nearly USD600 million to the American Rescue Plan Act's Homeless Children and Youth program.<sup>568</sup> This will help students who are experiencing homelessness as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 29 July 2021, the Department of Education announced USD3.2 billion in additional emergency grants under the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund to support students who attend over 1,8000 institutions of higher education and provide resources to help these institutions recover from the impacts of the pandemic.<sup>569</sup>

On 2 August 2021, Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau met with President Joe Biden, to reaffirm mutual priorities, including the post-pandemic socio-economic recovery, with particular attention towards women.<sup>570</sup> Investments in physical and human infrastructure will help achieve their mutual goal of post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

On 16 August 2021, the Department of Education and Department of Labor launched an initiative to connect unemployed Americans with postsecondary education, particularly those who lost their job during the pandemic.<sup>571</sup> This initiative aims to help unemployed Americans seek educational opportunities or training that will lead to good jobs.

On 31 August 2021, Deputy Secretary of Commerce Don Graves acknowledged how COVID-19 has impacted the tourism in Alaska and the economic impact of this.<sup>572</sup> To support Alaska, the Department of Commerce has met with airline industry executives to discuss challenges and concerns, lead coordination between the cruise industry and the CDC and held discussions with the Department of Homeland Security and working groups to revamp international travel.

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<sup>567</sup> Biden Administration to Invest More Than \$1.6 Billion to Support COVID-19 Testing and Mitigation in Vulnerable Communities, Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 22 July 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/07/22/biden-administration-invest-more-than-1-billion-support-covid-19-testing-mitigation-vulnerable-communities.html>

<sup>568</sup> Department of Education Releases \$600 Million in American Rescue Plan Funds to Support Students Experiencing Homelessness, Department of Education (Washington D.C.) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/department-education-releases-600-million-american-rescue-plan%E2%80%Affunds-support-students-experiencing-homelessness>

<sup>569</sup> U.S. Department of Education Announces \$3.2 Billion in Additional Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds to Support Students at Historic and Under-Resourced Institutions, Department of Education (Washington D.C.) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 15 November 2021. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-department-education-announces-32-billion-additional-higher-education-emergency-relief-funds-support-students-historic-and-under-resourced-institutions>

<sup>570</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaks with the President of the United States of America Joe Biden, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 2 August 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/08/02/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-speaks-president-united-states-america-joe>

<sup>571</sup> Education, Labor Departments Renew Efforts to Help Unemployed Americans Pursue Postsecondary Education, Department of Education (Washington D.C.) 16 August 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2021. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/education-labor-departments-renew-efforts-help-unemployed-americans-pursue-postsecondary-education>

<sup>572</sup> Remarks by U.S. Deputy Secretary of Commerce Don Graves at the Travel and Tourism Roundtable with U.S. Senator Don Sullivan in Ketchikan, Alaska, Department of Commerce (Washington) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/speeches/2021/08/remarks-us-deputy-secretary-commerce-don-graves-travel-and-tourism-roundtable>

On 30 September 2021, COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force Chair Dr. Nunez-Smith held the seventh public meeting of the task force.<sup>573</sup> This meeting was held to vote on recommendations on ways to mitigate health inequities caused or exacerbated by COVID-19. The Task Force suggested five actions for the Biden-Harris Administration: invest in community-led interventions, create a data ecosystem that promotes equity-driven decisions, increase accountability for health equity outcomes, invest in a representative health care workforce and increase equitable access to quality health and coordinate the implementation of the COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force's recommendations from a permanent health equity infrastructure in the White House.

On 13 October 2021, the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights and the Department of Justice issued a joint fact sheet to support students with mental health disabilities during COVID-19.<sup>574</sup> The Office for Civil Rights also released a letter to educators emphasizing schools' obligation to students with mental disabilities.

On 4 November 2021, the Economic Development Administration awarded USD1 million America Rescue Plan grants to 30 states and territories.<sup>575</sup> This grant aims to bolster economic recovery from the pandemic and help local economies be resilient to future economic shocks.

On 18 November 2021, Prime Justin Trudeau met with President Biden to affirm mutual priorities which include increasing employment rates and achieving post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.<sup>576</sup> Prime Minister Trudeau and President Biden committed to strengthening the medical supply chain internationally.

On 7 December 2021, Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy issued a Surgeon General's Advisory underscoring the urgency of addressing the youth mental health crisis.<sup>577</sup> This advisory highlights the unprecedented impacts of COVID-19 on youth mental health and outlines paths to addressing the youth mental health crisis at various levels of governance.

On 21 December 2021, Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo announced the Economic Development Administration will award American Rescue Plan statewide planning grants to five territories.<sup>578</sup> The initiative aims to support communities in accelerating their economic recovery from COVID-19.

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<sup>573</sup> Readout of the Seventh COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force Meeting, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 12 October 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2021. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/10/12/readout-seventh-covid-19-health-equity-task-force-meeting.html>

<sup>574</sup> Education, Justice Departments Issue Fact Sheet on Supporting Students at Risk of Self Harm During COVID-19 Era, Department of Education (Washington D.C.) 13 October 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/education-justice-departments-issue-fact-sheet-supporting-students-risk-self-harm-during-covid-19-era>

<sup>575</sup> U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo Announces \$30 Million in Economic Development Administration American Rescue Plan Funding to Support Statewide Economic Development Planning, Economic Development Administrations (Washington D.C.) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://eda.gov/news/press-releases/2021/11/04/statewide-economic-development-planning.htm>

<sup>576</sup> Prime Minister concludes productive North American Leaders' Summit, Prime Minister of Canada (Washington, D.C.) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/11/18/prime-minister-concludes-productive-north-american-leaders-summit>

<sup>577</sup> U.S. Surgeon General Issues Advisory on Youth Mental Health Crisis Further Exposed by COVID-19 Pandemic, Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 30 November 2021. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/12/07/us-surgeon-general-issues-advisory-on-youth-mental-health-crisis-further-exposed-by-covid-19-pandemic.html>

<sup>578</sup> U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo Announces \$5 Million in Economic Development Administration American Rescue Plan Funding to Support Territory-wide Economic Development Planning, Economic Development Administrations (Washington D.C.) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://eda.gov/news/press-releases/2021/12/21/territory-wide-economic-development-planning.htm>

The United States has taken strong domestic and international action to address the indirect impacts of COVID-19 through providing local and international funding to strengthen physical and mental healthcare systems and support marginalized peoples disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

*Analyst: Amelia Marlowe*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to support a robust global recovery from COVID-19 and effectively address the indirect impacts on physical and mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.

On 15 June 2021, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau committed to work with President of the European Council Charles Michel and President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen to enhance their engagement under the Canada-EU Digital Dialogue and the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence to “help strengthen a post-pandemic recovery of businesses.”<sup>579</sup> Prime Minister Trudeau with President Michel and President von der Leyen advanced the Authorized Economic Operator Mutual Recognition Agreement to facilitate the flow of trade between Canada and the European Union, benefitting socio-economic recovery. Prime Minister Trudeau also launched a new bilateral Dialogue on Health to enhance cooperation on priority health commitments, including mental health, between Canada and the European Union.

On 22 June 2021, Italy’s Prime Minister Mario Draghi met with President von der Leyen to announce the approval of Italy’s National Recovery and Resilience Plan as a part of Next Generation EU.<sup>580</sup> Italy in partnership with the European Commission will allocate funds through Next Generation EU to implement measures and programs to support mental health, physical health and post-pandemic socio-economic recovery among other priorities, including EUR300 million Next Generation EU funds to train the youth for future careers in the audiovisual sector.

On 23 June 2021, Italy’s Minister of Foreign Affairs Luigi Di Maio announced that Italy, in partnership with the European Commission, will allocate EUR1.2 billion through Next Generation EU towards Italy’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs to support Small and Medium Enterprises and other initiatives which enhance global post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.<sup>581</sup>

On 14 July 2021, Members of the European Parliament voted to condemn the increase in intimate partner violence amid the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects on women and children since the pandemic.<sup>582</sup> They called on their member states to provide victims with safety and economic independence, develop “mandatory-targeted training for professionals dealing with cases of gender-based violence, child abuse and domestic violence” and to consider the interest of the child when making custody arrangements.

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<sup>579</sup> Prime Minister concludes productive Canada-European Union Summit, Prime Minister of Canada (Brussels) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/06/15/prime-minister-concludes-productive-canada-european-union-summit>

<sup>580</sup> Press conference with PM Draghi and President von der Leyen on the approval of Italy’s NRRP, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/press-conference-pm-draghi-and-president-von-der-leyen-approval-italy-s-nrrp/17409>

<sup>581</sup> Approval of the NRRP: 1.2 billion for subsidised financial measures within the Pact for Export framework, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/06/approvazione-del-pnrr-1-2-miliardi-per-la-finanza-agevolata-nell-ambito-del-patto-per-l-export-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/06/approvazione-del-pnrr-1-2-miliardi-per-la-finanza-agevolata-nell-ambito-del-patto-per-l-export-2/)

<sup>582</sup> Custody rights: protecting women and children from violence is paramount, European Parliament (Brussels) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 15 November 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210707IPR07914/custody-rights-protecting-women-and-children-from-violence-is-paramount>

On 22 July 2021, Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Stella Kyriakides reaffirmed the impact of the pandemic on mental health and the European Commission’s commitment to taking concrete steps in dealing with mental health.<sup>583</sup>

On 29 July 2021, the European Union and its Member States pledged EUR1.7 billion to the Global Partnership for Education at the Global Education Summit in London.<sup>584</sup> This contribution will support children in 90 countries whose education has been negatively impacted by COVID-19.

On 29 July 2021, Prime Minister Draghi announced that Italy in partnership with the European Commission will allocate EUR7 billion to support Italy’s travel and tourism industry through Next Generation EU.<sup>585</sup> Prime Minister Draghi declared this investment in the domestic travel and tourism industry will enhance post-pandemic socio-economic recovery by increasing employment rates in Italy.

On 11 October 2021, Members of the European Parliament Budget Committee demanded that the European Union budget for 2022 include investments to boost recovery from COVID-19 and “[lay] the foundations for a more resilient EU.”<sup>586</sup>

On 29 November 2021, representatives of the Council and the European Parliament agreed on the renewal of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) mandate.<sup>587</sup> The ECDC will be assigned to establish a European Union Health Task Force to help with local responses to disease outbreaks, provide European Union and the European Commission with expertise and develop digital epidemiological surveillance platforms.

On 9 December 2021, Prime Minister Draghi declared that Italy, in partnership with the European Commission, will allocate EUR235 billion from Next Generation EU funds in part to “reverse long-standing inequalities” created by the pandemic.<sup>588</sup> Prime Minister Draghi reaffirmed Italy’s commitment to protect human rights for the most vulnerable and marginalised groups. Italy in partnership with the European Commission will build “better services for Italian citizens, from healthcare to schooling” through Next Generation EU funds. Prime Minister Draghi reaffirmed that Italy’s National Action Plan includes priorities of gender equality and socio-economic prosperity. Prime Minister Draghi reiterated Italy’s mission to combat all forms of discrimination.

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<sup>583</sup> Speech by Commissioner Kyriakides to the Ministerial forum on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on mental health and service delivery systems in the WHO European Region, European Commission (Brussels) 22 July 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2019-2024/kyriakides/announcements/speech-commissioner-kyriakides-ministerial-forum-impact-covid-19-pandemic-mental-health-and-service\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2019-2024/kyriakides/announcements/speech-commissioner-kyriakides-ministerial-forum-impact-covid-19-pandemic-mental-health-and-service_en)

<sup>584</sup> Global Education Summit: Team Europe pledges leading contribution of €1.7 billion to the Global Partnership for Education, European Commission (Brussels) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 18 November 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/global-education-summit-team-europe-pledges-leading-contribution-eu17-billion-global\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/global-education-summit-team-europe-pledges-leading-contribution-eu17-billion-global_en)

<sup>585</sup> PM Draghi’s speech at the G20 Culture Ministers’ Meeting, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 2 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/pm-draghi-s-speech-g20-culture-ministers-meeting/17572>

<sup>586</sup> EU budget for 2022: support the recovery from the COVID-19 crisis, European Parliament (Brussels) 11 October 2021. Access Date: 18 November 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20211006IPR14316/eu-budget-for-2022-support-the-recovery-from-the-covid-19-crisis>

<sup>587</sup> Stronger European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control: Council and European Parliament reach provisional agreement, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 29 November 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/11/29/stronger-european-centre-for-disease-prevention-and-control-council-and-european-parliament-reach-provisional-agreement/>

<sup>588</sup> Summit for Democracy, Prime Minister Draghi’s video message, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 9 December 2021. Access Date: 1 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/summit-democracy-prime-minister-draghi-s-video-message/18759>

On 14 December 2021, the European Parliament finalized the decision to hold the European Year of Youth in 2022.<sup>589</sup> The initiative will include youth-focused activities that aim to bring a positive outlook for the European youth who were negatively impacted by COVID-19. The European Parliament plans to prioritize youth issues in policymaking during the European Year of Youth.

The European Union has taken strong local and international action to address the indirect impacts of COVID-19 on mental and physical health and socioeconomically by providing monetary aid to partner countries as well as through the creation of the ECDC to improve response to outbreaks.

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

*Analyst: Amelia Marlowe*

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<sup>589</sup> EU budget for 2022: support the recovery from the COVID-19 crisis, European Parliament (Brussels) 11 October 2021. Access Date: 18 November 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20211006IPR14316/eu-budget-for-2022-support-the-recovery-from-the-covid-19-crisis>

## 5. Climate Change: Zero Emission Vehicles

“We commit to accelerate the transition away from new sales of diesel and petrol cars to promote the uptake of zero emission vehicles.”

*Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average		+0.75 (88%)	

### Background

Climate change is an existential threat requiring an immediate, strong and global response. Action on climate change has been slow and troubled. The occasional successful multilateral action, such as the Montréal Protocol, which resulted in a 99 per cent reduction in ozone-reducing chlorofluorocarbons, is counterbalanced by failures like the Kyoto Protocol, which aimed for a 5 per cent reduction in carbon emissions but saw a 58 per cent increase instead.<sup>590</sup> Ratified in 2016, the Paris Agreement is the latest in international treaty-making on climate change.<sup>591</sup> It aims to limit global temperature increase to 2°C with an ideal target of limiting it to 1.5°C. Essential to this plan is the reduction of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions, a greenhouse gas that was not under the purview of the Montreal Protocol.<sup>592</sup> Reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions is a goal that has been discussed on the international level since the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) which entered into force in 1994.<sup>593</sup> To reach the targets of the Paris Agreement, it is imperative that countries actively move towards net-zero emissions and this includes transitioning to green economies.<sup>594</sup> Decarbonizing initiatives are major ways countries are transitioning to green economies and this includes measures to decarbonize all sectors of the economy as well as foster greener consumer consumption habits.<sup>595</sup>

<sup>590</sup> Kyoto climate change treaty sputters to a sorry end, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (Toronto) 31 December 2012. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/kyoto-climate-change-treaty-sputters-to-a-sorry-end-1.1184986>; Montreal Protocol: Successful Ozone and Climate Agreement Turns 30, International Institute for Sustainable Development (Winnipeg) 19 September 2017. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://sdg.iisd.org/news/montreal-protocol-successful-ozone-and-climate-agreement-turns-30/>

<sup>591</sup> The Paris Agreement, United Nations (New York) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/paris-agreement>

<sup>592</sup> United Nations Framework Convention On Climate Change, United Nations (New York) 9 May 1992. Access Date: 26 September 2021. [https://unfccc.int/files/essential\\_background/background\\_publications\\_htmlpdf/application/pdf/conveng.pdf](https://unfccc.int/files/essential_background/background_publications_htmlpdf/application/pdf/conveng.pdf)

<sup>593</sup> What is the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change?, United Nations (New York) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-convention/what-is-the-united-nations-framework-convention-on-climate-change>

<sup>594</sup> For a livable climate: Net-zero commitments must be backed by credible action, United Nations (New York) n.d. Access Date: 23 October 2021. <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/net-zero-coalition>

<sup>595</sup> What is an "Inclusive Green Economy"?, United Nations Environment Programme (Nairobi) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/green-economy/why-does-green-economy-matter/what-inclusive-green-economy>

The G7 has acknowledged the importance of developing clean technology to reduce pollution dating back to the 1979 Tokyo Summit.<sup>596</sup> However, it was not until the 2021 Cornwall Summit that all G7 members agreed to reach net-zero emissions by 2050.<sup>597</sup> With all G7 members now committed, the urgent and necessary transition towards clean technology and clean industry must be brought into greater focus.<sup>598</sup>

At the 1979 Tokyo Summit, the G7 first recognized the importance of developing clean technology, although their focus was on developing alternative sources of energy to make the world economy less susceptible to oil crises and on reducing pollution levels rather than specific low-carbon initiatives.<sup>599</sup>

At the 1987 Venice Summit, the G7 noted their intent to investigate strict environmental standards as possible incentives for innovation and the development of clean, low-resource technology.<sup>600</sup> They also announced their intent to look at the impact of strict environmental standards on promoting international trade in low-pollution products and other environmental protection technologies.

At the 1990 Houston Summit, the G7 acknowledged the importance of international cooperation to develop new technologies and methods to complement energy conservation in the reduction of carbon emissions.<sup>601</sup> The G7 supported accelerated scientific and economic research on potential response to climate change in developing and developed countries.

On 25 to 27 April 2003, the G8 Environment Ministers' Meeting was held in Paris.<sup>602</sup> The G7 Environment Ministers' recognized the need to stimulate research and development of clean energy technologies.

At the 2003 Evian Summit, the G8 stated that its members would promote the innovation and market introduction of clean technologies and accelerate the development of fuel cell and hydrogen technologies including working with private industry to make fuel cell vehicles price competitive within two decades.<sup>603</sup> This included developing codes and standards for next generation vehicles including low carbon and clean vehicles.

At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, the G8 committed to taking further action to promote innovation and accelerate the deployment of cleaner technologies with a focus on lower-emitting technologies.<sup>604</sup> In line with this commitment, the G8 announced the Gleneagles Plan of Action which included a provision to encourage the development of cleaner, lower-emitting vehicles. They mentioned promoting the sale of cleaner vehicles and accelerating market development, reviewing existing standards and identifying best practices, encouraging

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<sup>596</sup> G7 Tokyo Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 1979. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/1979tokyo/communique.html>

<sup>597</sup> Secretary Granholm Announces G7 Initiative to Decarbonize Heavy Industry, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 21 May 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/secretary-granholm-announces-g7-initiative-decarbonize-heavy-industry>

<sup>598</sup> Climate & Energy Commitments to Action, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 May 2021. Access Date: 23 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/2021-g7-climate-energy-commitments-action.pdf>

<sup>599</sup> Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 1979. Access Date: 15 October 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/1979tokyo/communique.html>

<sup>600</sup> Venezia Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 1987. Access Date: 15 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1987venice/communique/index.html#environment>

<sup>601</sup> Houston Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 July 1990. Access Date: 15 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1990houston/declaration.html#environment>

<sup>602</sup> G8 Environment Ministers' Meeting, Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 April 2003. Access Date: 15 October 2021. [www.g8.utoronto.ca/environment/2003paris/env030427eng.pdf](http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/environment/2003paris/env030427eng.pdf)

<sup>603</sup> Science and Technology for Sustainable Development: A G8 Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2 June 2003. Access Date: 15 October 2021. [http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/sustainable\\_development\\_en.html](http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/sustainable_development_en.html)

<sup>604</sup> The Gleneagles Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 17 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/communique.pdf>



cooperation on global research for cleaner gasoline and diesel vehicles as well as hybrid, biofuel and hydrogen-cell technologies.

At the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, the G8 re-emphasized the need for cooperation on the development and commercialization of sustainable, less carbon intensive technology.<sup>605</sup> The G8 committed to developing technology roadmaps to strengthen the role of advanced technology in addressing climate change. The G8 also discussed reducing emissions in the transportation sector and identified the development of innovative engines and alternative sources of fuel as key for vehicle emission reduction. This includes increasing the share of alternative fuels and energy carriers including hydrogen, electric and hybrid vehicles and included a commitment to monitor the implementation of the necessary measures and discuss progress at two-year intervals during the Environmentally Friendly Vehicles Conference.

At the 2008 Hokkaido-Toyako Summit, the G8 recognized the importance of developing and deploying low-carbon technologies to meet the global emissions reduction target of 50 per cent by 2050.<sup>606</sup> Towards this end, the G8 committed to increasing investment in technology research and development (R&D) as well as to promoting commercialization through direct government funding and fiscal measures to increase incentives for private sector investment.

At the 2009 L'Aquila Summit, the G8 reaffirmed the commitments made at the 2008 Hokkaido-Toyako Summit to increase investment in technology R&D and committed to intensifying their efforts.<sup>607</sup> There was agreement among the G8 to increase funding with a view towards doubling public investment in technology R&D by 2015.<sup>608</sup>

At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, the G8 affirmed their commitment to build low carbon and climate resilient economies and called on the International Energy Agency (IEA) to develop an International Platform for low-carbon technologies for the purpose of accelerating their development and deployment.<sup>609</sup>

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, the G7 reaffirmed the important role that the development and deployment of innovative technologies plays in carrying out transformational and long-term measures to address climate change.<sup>610</sup> At the Environment Ministers' meeting, they emphasized that policy support is required for the diffusion of low-carbon technology and products in all countries. The G7 Environment Ministers' encouraged G7 partners and other governments to cooperate with each other, sharing good practices and lessons learnt from implementing market instruments and mechanisms to support the diffusion of low-carbon technologies and products.

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, the G7 discussed the role of energy transitions in addressing climate change, including the importance of carbon pricing and the development of market based clean energy

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<sup>605</sup> Growth And Responsibility In The World Economy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 June 2007. Access Date: 20 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heilgendamm/g8-2007-economy.pdf>

<sup>606</sup> G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 20 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

<sup>607</sup> G8 Leaders Declaration: Responsible Leadership For A Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 20 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.pdf>

<sup>608</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 July 2009. Access Date: 20 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-summary.pdf>

<sup>609</sup> Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 July 2010. Access Date: 22 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html#green>

<sup>610</sup> Communiqué: G7 Toyama Environment Ministers' Meeting, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 May 2016. Access Date: 22 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/2016-environment.html>

technologies.<sup>611</sup> In this context, all G7 members except the United States reaffirmed their commitment to reach a global carbon-neutral economy during the second half of the century.

Just prior to the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 members announced the G7 Industrial Decarbonisation Agenda (IDA).<sup>612</sup> The goal of the G7's IDA is to “advance the G7's collective ambitions for net zero by coordinating efforts already underway across myriad engagements, both within G7 members and across multilateral organisations.”<sup>613</sup> Part of the goal of the G7 IDA is to ensure collaboration and collective action in order to mitigate the “first mover” problem by sharing the risk entailed in early adoption of net-zero economic policies across all G7 economies.

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, the G7 members committed to transitioning the sale of vehicles away from petrol and diesel towards zero emission vehicles (as well as the transportation industry more broadly in a separate commitment).<sup>614</sup> Similar net-zero commitments were also outlined for energy (building on the 2017 Taormina Summit), industrial and innovation sectors. The G7 also agreed to develop the global green finance market to help reach net-zero through mobilising private sector investment.

The commitment that came out of the 2021 Cornwall Summit, to accelerate the transition to zero emission vehicles, presents an opportunity for G7 members to meet their Paris Agreement goals as well as reach net-zero by 2050.<sup>615</sup> To illustrate the polluting impact of transportation in G7 countries, it accounts for about 29 per cent of total greenhouse gas emissions in the United States, making it the country's largest source of emissions.<sup>616</sup> Similarly, transportation is responsible for 30 per cent of the European Union's annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions with 72 per cent of that total coming from road transportation.<sup>617</sup> This situation is largely mirrored worldwide (and not just in other G7 members like the United Kingdom) as transportation accounts for roughly a quarter of the world's greenhouse gas emissions with nearly three quarters of said emissions coming from road vehicles such as cars, motorcycles, trucks and buses.<sup>618</sup> With such a high percentage of global emissions coming from transportation, and specifically road transportation, the proliferation of zero emission vehicles and the transition away from polluting vehicles has enormous potential in helping achieve international climate targets.

## Commitment Features

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<sup>611</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 22 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

<sup>612</sup> G7 Climate and Environment: Ministers' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 May 2021. Access Date: 23 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/2021-environment.html>; G7 Industrial Decarbonisation Agenda (IDA), Government of the United Kingdom (London) 7 June 2021. Access Date: 23 October 2021. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/996388/EPD3\\_G7\\_Industrial\\_Decarbonisation\\_Agenda.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/996388/EPD3_G7_Industrial_Decarbonisation_Agenda.pdf)

<sup>613</sup> G7 Industrial Decarbonisation Agenda, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 7 June 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/996388/EPD3\\_G7\\_Industrial\\_Decarbonisation\\_Agenda.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/996388/EPD3_G7_Industrial_Decarbonisation_Agenda.pdf)

<sup>614</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

<sup>615</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

<sup>616</sup> Carbon Pollution from Transportation, United States Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.epa.gov/transportation-air-pollution-and-climate-change/carbon-pollution-transportation>

<sup>617</sup> CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from cars: facts and figures (infographics), European Parliament (Brussels) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/society/20190313STO31218/co2-emissions-from-cars-facts-and-figures-infographics>

<sup>618</sup> How our daily travel harms the planet, British Broadcasting Corporation (London) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20200317-climate-change-cut-carbon-emissions-from-your-commute>

On 13 June 2021, at the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders adopted the present commitment: “we commit to accelerate the transition away from new sales of diesel and petrol cars to promote the uptake of zero emission vehicles.”<sup>619</sup>

“Commit” is understood to mean “to do or perform, to pledge or bind (a person or an organization) to a certain course or policy.”<sup>620</sup> This indicates a politically binding obligation meaning that it signifies a commitment and is a strong catalyst for compliance.

“Accelerate” is defined as “to bring [something] about at an earlier time” or “to hasten or progress the development of [something].”<sup>621</sup> This indicates that the commitment deals with some process that has already been started, which in this instance, is the transition away from polluting vehicles to zero emission vehicles.

“Transition” is defined as “a change or shift from one state, subject, place, etc. to another.”<sup>622</sup> To transition away from new sales of diesel and petrol cars to zero emission vehicles then means to shift from polluting vehicles to non-polluting vehicles.

In the context of the commitment, “promote” means “to contribute to [the] growth or prosperity of [something], to help bring [it] into being.”<sup>623</sup> What is being promoted is the “uptake” of zero emission vehicles where “uptake” is defined as: “the act of using, participating in, adopting, or taking advantage of an available product, service, opportunity, etc.”<sup>624</sup> In this context then “uptake” refers to the increased usage or adoption of zero emission vehicle technology.

“Zero emission vehicles” are defined as: “vehicle[s] that [have] the potential to produce no tailpipe emissions.”<sup>625</sup> These vehicles can still have internal combustion engines but must be able to operate without them, this includes hybrid vehicles, battery-electric vehicles and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles. For the purpose of this commitment, zero emission vehicles should only refer to cars. While the Carbis Bay Communiqué identified a more expansive range of vehicles which were included under the concept of zero emission vehicles, including “buses, trains, shipping and aviation” vehicles, the scope of the commitment must be restricted to cars insofar as the commitment text mentions “accelerat[ing] the transition away from new sales of diesel and petrol cars” and thus any uptake in zero emission vehicles that results from such action should be considered to relate specifically to zero emission cars.<sup>626</sup> The G7 speaks more broadly about decarbonising the transportation sector (including other forms of zero emission vehicles) in another commitment.

There are two components to this commitment that determine compliance. First, G7 members should take action to “accelerate the transition away from new sales of diesel and petrol cars” by actively disincentivizing the sale and use of petrol and diesel vehicles. This can be through measures like introducing carbon pricing on both consumers and businesses or banning the sale of petrol or diesel vehicles. Second, G7 members

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<sup>619</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

<sup>620</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>621</sup> Accelerate, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/accelerate>

<sup>622</sup> Transition, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/transition>

<sup>623</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>624</sup> Uptake, Merriam-Webster (Springfield). Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/uptake>

<sup>625</sup> Zero-emission vehicles, Transport Canada (Ottawa). Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://tc.canada.ca/en/road-transportation/innovative-technologies/zero-emission-vehicles>

<sup>626</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

should take actions to “promote the uptake of zero emission vehicles” by incentivizing the sale and use of zero emission vehicles. This can be achieved through introducing instruments such as rebates or other tax incentives to consumers, funding and supporting improved charging station infrastructure and by providing funding and support to relevant private companies and initiatives. All of these examples constitute strong and concrete action towards complying with the commitment.

Examples of weaker actions towards fulfilling the commitment components include: verbal reaffirmation of the commitment, making public statements supporting the utilization of zero-emissions vehicles or attendance at meetings or conferences.

To achieve full compliance, or a score of +1, G7 members must take strong and concrete action in both commitment components (accelerating the transition away from new sales of diesel and petrol cars and promoting the uptake of zero emission vehicles). Concrete actions include policy implementation, the creation or modification of laws, the creation or implementation of projects and initiatives, as well as the provision of funding.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members that take strong and concrete action in only one of the two commitment components (either accelerating the transition away from new sales of diesel and petrol cars or promoting the uptake of zero emission vehicles). If a G7 member takes only weak actions in both commitment components, such as attending relevant meetings or conferences, they will also be in partial compliance.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be assigned to G7 members that have taken no action in either of the two commitment components. If a G7 member only takes weak actions in one commitment component, this will also be non-compliance.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has NOT taken strong and concrete action to disincentivize the sale of new petrol or diesel vehicles NOR promote the uptake of zero emission vehicles.
0	The G7 member has taken strong and concrete action in one of the two constituent features EITHER disincentivizing the sale of new petrol or diesel vehicles OR promoting the uptake of zero emission vehicles OR some of both.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong and concrete action in BOTH of the constituent features, acting to accelerate the transition away from the sale of new petrol or diesel vehicles AND promoting the uptake of zero emission vehicles.

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Lead Analyst: Yana Sadeghi*

### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate the transition away from the sale of new petrol or diesel vehicles and promote the uptake of zero emission vehicles.

On 23 June 2021, Member of Parliament Ken Hardie, speaking on behalf of the Minister of Natural Resources Seamus O’Regan Jr., announced a CAD1.1 million investment for 22 electric vehicle fast chargers in Fortis, British Columbia.<sup>627</sup> This investment will improve access to driving and charging zero emissions vehicles in British Columbia and receives funding from Natural Resources Canada’s Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program towards the target of having all new passenger vehicles sold in Canada be zero-emission vehicles by 2035.

<sup>627</sup> Canada Invests in 22 New Fast-Chargers in British Columbia, Natural Resources Canada (Surrey) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 24 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/06/canada-invests-in-22-new-fast-chargers-in-british-columbia.html>

On 29 June 2021, the Minister of Transport Omar Alghabra, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Jonathan Wilkinson and the Minister of Canadian Heritage Steven Guilbeault, announced that the Government of Canada is setting an accelerated mandatory target for all new light-duty cars and passenger trucks sales to be zero-emission by 2035.<sup>628</sup> This new accelerated target improves on Canada's previous goal of 100 percent sales by 2040 and indicates Canada's commitment to accelerating and promoting the uptake of zero-emission vehicles.

On 29 July 2021, Member of Parliament Ryan Turnbull, speaking on behalf of Minister O'Regan, announced a CAD50,000 investment to Oshawa Power.<sup>629</sup> The investment will go towards a zero-emissions vehicles virtual showroom which has the purpose of raising awareness, education and uptake of zero emissions vehicles and their role in a clean energy future. This investment is conducive to Canada's goal of 100 per cent zero-emissions light duty vehicle sales by 2035.

On 29 July 2021, Member of Parliament Nathaniel Erskine-Smith, speaking on behalf of Minister O'Regan, announced a CAD12.7 million investment in clean energy technology in order to promote zero emissions vehicles.<sup>630</sup> The funds directed towards light duty vehicle research and infrastructure include CAD2 million to the Opus One Solution, CAD1.32 million to Geotab Inc. and CAD635,000 to Blackstone Energy Services.

On 30 July 2021, the Government of Canada announced an investment of CAD32 million to install 853 electric vehicle chargers across Canada as part of #EVWeekinCanada.<sup>631</sup> The investments include CAD200,000 to install 40 electric vehicle (EV) chargers in Hamilton, over CAD800,000 to install 170 EV chargers in British Columbia, CAD830,000 to install 166 EV chargers in British Columbia, Ontario and Alberta, CAD350,000 to install seven EV chargers in Ontario, CAD310,000 in funding to install 44 EV chargers in Calgary and Edmonton, over CAD1.2 million to install 98 EV chargers across British Columbia, CAD50,000 to install one EV charger in Ottawa, CAD9.4 million to install 98 EV fast chargers in Quebec, over CAD2.6 million to install 79 EV chargers across British Columbia, CAD2.3 million to install 36 EV chargers across Ontario and CAD100,000 to install two EV fast chargers in Hamilton. This investment contributes to Canada's goal for reaching 100 per cent zero-emissions light duty vehicles sales by 2035.

On 11 August 2021, the Government of Canada announced a CAD5 million investment into FedDev Ontario in the Automotive Parts Manufacturers' Association (APMA).<sup>632</sup> The investment is in support of Project Arrow; a Canadian-made zero emissions concept vehicle. APMA will utilize its connections in the automotive manufacturing industry to develop Project Arrow by designing and engineering a zero-emissions concept car. This project will aid the transformation of Canada's automotive sector from traditional fuel vehicle development to zero-emission vehicle development and it will help to create a robust electric vehicle supply chain in Canada, increasing Canada's domestic electric vehicle development capacity.

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<sup>628</sup> Building a green economy: Government of Canada to require 100% of car and passenger truck sales be zero-emission by 2035 in Canada, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/transport-canada/news/2021/06/building-a-green-economy-government-of-canada-to-require-100-of-car-and-passenger-truck-sales-be-zero-emission-by-2035-in-canada.html>

<sup>629</sup> Canada Invests in Dynamic Electric Vehicle Showroom, Natural Resources Canada (Oshawa) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 24 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/07/canada-invests-in-dynamic-electric-vehicle-showroom.html>

<sup>630</sup> Canada Invests in Clean Technologies for Electric Vehicles, Natural Resources Canada, Natural Resources Canada (Toronto) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 25 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/07/canada-invests-in-clean-technologies-for-electric-vehicles.html>

<sup>631</sup> #EVWeekinCanada Highlights Zero-Emission Vehicle Investments Across the Country, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 30 July 2021. Access Date: 25 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/07/evweekincanada-highlights-zero-emission-vehicle-investments-across-the-country.html>

<sup>632</sup> Government of Canada invests in first made-in-Canada electric vehicle, Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (Windsor) 11 August 2021. Access Date: 25 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/economic-development-southern-ontario/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-invests-in-first-made-in-canada-electric-vehicle0.html>

On 10 November 2021, Minister Alghabra participated in the first Transport Day at the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow, Scotland.<sup>633</sup> He made a keynote address in which participants shared their best practices for promoting the transition into zero emissions vehicles. Canada also signed a declaration to accelerate the reduction of carbon pollution from light duty vehicles. Signing the ZEV Declaration indicates Canada's intention to accelerate the transition to zero emission cars and vans.

On 30 November 2021, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry François-Philippe Champagne announced an investment of CAD3.2 million in One Silicon Chip Photonics through Sustainable Development Technology Canada.<sup>634</sup> The investment will be used to develop lighter, lower-cost inertial navigation sensors for the next generation of autonomous vehicles and will also involve the designing of an inertial measurement unit that will improve the precise navigation of a moving object, thereby advancing the safety and accuracy of self-driving vehicles. This investment is conducive to making EV more accessible to Canadians through improvements in technology and safety.

On 30 November 2021, Minister of Natural Resources Jonathan Wilkinson announced an investment of over CAD289,000 for 44 electric vehicle charges for Dufferin County.<sup>635</sup> This investment is funded through the Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program and is conducive to Canada's goal of making zero-emissions vehicles more accessible to Canadians.

On 16 December 2021, Minister Wilkinson announced an investment of over CAD730,000 to install 438 electric vehicle chargers in residential buildings in Ontario, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, British Columbia and Alberta.<sup>636</sup> This investment encourages the promotions of zero emissions vehicles and makes charging such vehicles more accessible for Canadians. The investment is funded through the Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program and supports Canada's commitment to sell only zero emission vehicles by 2035.

On 17 December 2021, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Steven Guilbeault launched consultations to accelerate Canada's mission of increasing the utilization of zero emissions light duty vehicles.<sup>637</sup> This action is being taken to support Canada's commitment to mandate that all light-duty vehicles sold will be zero emission by 2035. Consultations by the Canadian government to the public and stakeholders include questions regarding Canada's approach for achieving their previously mentioned goal, additional interim targets for Canada to achieve, the design of zero emissions vehicles, potential issues that may arise from the adoption of zero emissions vehicles and how to address them and challenges to the electricity grid due to the zero emissions vehicles sales targets. These consultations ultimately demonstrate Canada's desire to accelerate their commitment to sell zero emissions vehicles only by 2035.

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<sup>633</sup> Minister of Transport advances Canada's effort to fight climate change at COP26, Transport Canada (Glasgow) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 25 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/transport-canada/news/2021/11/minister-of-transport-advances-canadas-efforts-to-fight-climate-change-at-cop26.html>

<sup>634</sup> Government of Canada backs emerging leader in silicon chip photonics that produces navigation sensors for self-driving vehicles, Government of Canada (Montréal) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/11/government-of-canada-backs-emerging-leader-in-silicon-chip-photonics-that-produces-navigation-sensors-for-self-driving-vehicles.html>

<sup>635</sup> Electric Vehicle Chargers Coming to Dufferin County, Natural Resources Canada (Orangeville) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/11/electric-vehicle-chargers-coming-to-dufferin-county.html>

<sup>636</sup> 438 Electric Vehicle Chargers Coming to Multi-Unit Residential Buildings Across Canada, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/12/438-electric-vehicle-chargers-coming-to-multi-unit-residential-buildings-across-canada.html>

<sup>637</sup> Government launches consultations on commitment to require all new cars sold in Canada be zero emission by 2035, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/12/government-launches-consultations-on-commitment-to-require-all-new-cars-sold-in-canada-be-zero-emission-by-2035.html>

On 17 December 2021, a stakeholder engagement discussion revealed insight into federal strategy to transition the light duty vehicle sector to zero emissions.<sup>638</sup> Such policy levers include awareness and training of decarbonization options, financial incentives to transition to low and zero emissions vehicles, developing the capacity to develop such zero emissions vehicles, building charging and refueling infrastructure, regulate light duty vehicles by abiding by North American greenhouse gas standards for vehicles and funding for research and development. The discussion also emphasizes a continued alignment with United States greenhouse gas standards for light-duty vehicles and Canada's goal of 100 per cent zero emission vehicles sales by 2035.

On 20 December 2021, Minister Wilkinson announced an investment of CAD110,000 to St. Lawrence College for the installation of 22 Level-2 EV chargers on its campuses in Cornwall, Brockville and Kingston.<sup>639</sup> The project is funded through Natural Resources Canada's Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program and works towards ensuring that Canada meets its mandatory target that all passenger vehicles sold in Canada are zero emission by 2035.

On 5 January 2022, Minister Wilkinson announced an investment of CAD1.2 million to Nova Scotia's Clean Foundation for the purpose of installing up to 250 Level-2 EV chargers throughout the province.<sup>640</sup> The project will install EV chargers in public places, multi-unit residential buildings, on streets and at select workplaces based on demand. The project is funded through Natural Resources Canada's Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program and is conducive to Canada's commitment to increase the uptake and accessibility of electric vehicles.

On 13 January 2022, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion and Member of Parliament Irek Kusmierczyk, speaking on behalf of Minister Wilkinson, announced CAD2 million in funding to Essex Powerlines Corporation for the purpose of supporting the installation of up to 300 EV chargers throughout Windsor-Essex County.<sup>641</sup> The project is funded through Natural Resources Canada's Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program and is conducive to Canada's commitment to increase the uptake and accessibility of electric vehicles.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate the transition away from the sale of new petrol or diesel vehicles and promote the uptake of zero emission vehicles. Canada has invested in electric vehicle infrastructure across the country, thereby making ownership of these vehicles more accessible. Canada has also invested in electric vehicle technology development and research. Canada has also passed the first ever law to legislate emissions reductions and has taken comprehensive steps to reaching their goal of 100 per cent zero emission vehicle sales by 2035.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

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<sup>638</sup> Achieving a zero-emission future for light-duty vehicles, Environment and Natural Resources (Gatineau) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/canadian-environmental-protection-act-registry/zero-emission-future-light-duty-vehicles.html>

<sup>639</sup> 22 Electric Vehicle Chargers Coming to St. Lawrence College, Government of Canada (Kingston) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/12/22-electric-vehicle-chargers-coming-to-st-lawrence-college.html>

<sup>640</sup> Up to 250 New Electric Vehicle Chargers Coming to Nova Scotia, Government of Canada (Dartmouth) 5 January 2022. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2022/01/up-to-250-new-electric-vehicle-chargers-coming-to-nova-scotia.html>

<sup>641</sup> New EV Chargers Coming to Ontario, Government of Canada (Oldcastle) 13 January 2022. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2022/01/new-ev-chargers-coming-to-ontario.html>

## France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate the transition away from the sale of new petrol or diesel vehicles and promote the uptake of zero emission vehicles.

On 2 August 2021, the Government of France announced that seven metropolises must set up new low-emission zones (ZFEs) to discourage the use of polluting vehicles.<sup>642</sup> The affected metropolises are Aix-Marseille Provence, Nice-Côte d'Azur, Toulon-Provence-Méditerranée, Toulouse, Montpellier-Méditerranée, Strasbourg and Rouen-Normandy. This action both encourages the uptake of zero-emission vehicles and discourages the use of polluting vehicles.

On 24 August 2021, the Government of France formally enacted its Climate and Resilience Law.<sup>643</sup> In this law, France has committed to the implementation of low-emission mobility zones (ZFEs) in metropolitan areas of more than 150,000 inhabitants by the end of 2024.<sup>644</sup> The law will also end the sale of vehicles emitting more than 95 grams of carbon dioxide per kilometre by 2030. Moreover, the law includes an experiment on near-zero-interest loans for the purchase of electric or hybrid vehicles in ZFEs by 2023, and it bans any advertisement of polluting vehicles after 2028.<sup>645</sup> This law includes measures to both increase the uptake of zero-emission vehicles and dissuade the use of polluting vehicles.

On 12 October 2021, the Government of France published its “France 2030” plan.<sup>646</sup> The plan includes an investment of EUR4 billion in the transport sector to produce nearly 2 million electric and hybrid vehicles by 2030. The funding set aside in the “France 2030” plan demonstrates France’s efforts to increase the uptake of zero emission vehicles.

On 10 November 2021, France signed a call to action on deploying more charging infrastructure for electric vehicles as part of the Conference of Parties 26 United Nations climate summit in Glasgow.<sup>647</sup> This indicates France’s intention to take action to build capacity for electric vehicles within its borders and increase the feasibility of owning an electric vehicle.

On 20 December 2021, the French government announced that it aims to install 100,000 more electric vehicle charging points by 2022 and 7 million public and private charging points by 2030.<sup>648</sup> This will benefit electric vehicle uptake by providing the necessary accompanying infrastructure nationwide.

France has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate the transition away from the sale of new petrol or diesel vehicles and promote the uptake of zero emission vehicles. France has taken concrete steps to

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<sup>642</sup> 11 low-emission zones in 2021 to fight air pollution, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 2 August 2021. Translation provided by analyst. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/11-zones-faibles-emissions-en-2021-lutter-contre-pollution-lair>

<sup>643</sup> The Climate and Resilience Law has been promulgated, Government of France (Paris) 24 August 2021. Translation provided by analyst. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/la-loi-climat-et-resilience-a-ete-promulguee>

<sup>644</sup> Promulgation of the climate & Resilience law, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 24 August 2021. Translation provided by analyst. Access date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/promulgation-loi-climat-resilience>

<sup>645</sup> Climate and resilience law: ecology in our lives, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 20 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/loi-climat-resilience>

<sup>646</sup> France 2030: an investment plan for the France of tomorrow, Government of France (Paris) 12 October 2021. Translation provided by analyst. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/france-2030-un-plan-d-investissement-pour-la-france-de-demain>

<sup>647</sup> Adoption of the Glasgow Climate Pact at COP26: a dynamic to be continued, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 15 November 2021. Translation provided by analyst. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/adoption-du-pacte-glasgow-climat-cop26-dynamique-poursuivre-0>

<sup>648</sup> Electric Terminals: Development of charging infrastructure, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 13 January 2022. Translation provided by analyst. Access date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/bornes-electriques-developpement-des-infrastructures-recharge>



discourage the purchase and use of polluting vehicles: it has limited their use in city centres, will limit the sale of high polluting vehicles and has enacted a law to ban the advertisement of such vehicles. France has also invested in electric vehicles and their accompanying infrastructure and has provided financial incentives via low-interest loans for electric vehicle purchases.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Tatiana Velickovic*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate the transition away from the sale of new petrol or diesel vehicles and promote the uptake of zero emission vehicles.

On 23 June 2021, Germany adopted major new climate legislation that sets higher national emissions reduction targets for 2030 (at least 65 per cent) and 2040 (at least 88 per cent), with the goal of achieving net greenhouse gas neutrality by 2045.<sup>649</sup> In addition, a new EUR8 billion “immediate climate action programme” for 2022 will finance further measures to achieve the new climate targets. Within the transport sector in the “immediate climate action programme,” emission standards are set for cars and light trucks, which will directly influence the amount of carbon dioxide emitted by new vehicles per kilometer. More precisely, the Federal Government will continue its support for fleet-wide emission limits while also accelerating charging infrastructure expansion. Overall, the new climate legislation seeks to disincentivize the use of emitted vehicles and incentivize the uptake of zero emission vehicles.

On 16 August 2021, Federal Minister of Transport and Digital Infrastructure Andreas Scheuer announced an invitation to tender offers for rights to build fast charging locations.<sup>650</sup> This will lead to the creation of 1,000 fast charging stations across Germany and the government has made EUR2 billion in funding available for this purpose. Each of the new charging stations will have several charging ports, include a price cap and will complement the current fast charging station infrastructure in Germany. The goal of this initiative is to increase uptake of zero-emission vehicles by improving infrastructure capacity.

On 17 August 2021, the Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure published the “Publicly accessible charging infrastructure for electric vehicles in Germany” funding guideline and made available EUR190 million in this first round of funding for the creation of 18,000 electric vehicle charging stations.<sup>651</sup> This includes 9,000 normal charging stations and 9,000 fast-charging stations. Applicants can have up to 60 per cent of eligible costs funded through this process. The aim of this funding is to increase the uptake of zero-emission vehicles through improving infrastructure capacity.

On 18 August 2021, the Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure announced a further funding round EUR90 million under the “Publicly accessible charging infrastructure for electric vehicles in

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<sup>649</sup> Immediate climate action programme for 2022, The Federal Government (Berlin) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Topics/Priority-Issues/Climate-Action/immediate-climate-action-programme-for-2022.html>

<sup>650</sup> Germany network: Scheuer presents 1,000 locations for fast charging stations and price model, Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (Berlin) 16 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.bmvi.de/SharedDocs/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2021/087-scheuer-1000-standorte-schnellladesaeulen-preismodell.html>

<sup>651</sup> 500 million euros for more public charging infrastructure, Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (Berlin) 17 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.bmvi.de/SharedDocs/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2021/088-scheuer-500-mio-euro-ladeinfrastruktur.html>

Germany” funding guideline.<sup>652</sup> This funding round starts on 9 September 2021 and will focus on retrofitting existing electric vehicle charging points to improve charging time.

On 18 August 2021, the Federal cabinet adopted the 28th Subsidy Report.<sup>653</sup> The 28th Subsidy Report focused on measures to reach the German government’s goals on climate action and environmental protection which will receive funding commensurate with their prioritised importance. In these areas, federal subsidies in the form of financial assistance and tax benefits are set to climb from EUR24.6 billion in 2019 to EUR47.2 billion in 2022. Funding for the purchasing electric vehicles subsidy was set at EUR2.1 billion and for expanding the charging infrastructure funding was set to EUR1.68 billion.<sup>654</sup> The goal is to encourage increased uptake of zero-emission vehicles through funding infrastructure improvements.

On 2 September 2021, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy issued a funding approval notice that will provide EUR436.8 million to the Automotive Cell Company (ACC) battery project for building a large battery cell factory at Opel’s Kaiserslautern plant.<sup>655</sup> This new ACC battery cell manufacturing plant in Kaiserslautern will sustainably produce battery cells for around half a million electric vehicles each year. With the production of German-made batteries, the German automotive industry is moving toward sustainable drive systems. The goal of this action is to improve production capacity for electric vehicles within Germany.

On 17 November 2021, the Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure announced the publication of a new funding guideline, “Charging stations for electric vehicles not accessible to the public - companies and municipalities.”<sup>656</sup> The funding guideline is for projects that promote the development of electric vehicle charging infrastructure at commercial and municipal government employee parking lots, or other areas not accessible to the general public. This will encourage companies and municipalities to green their vehicle fleets, as well as provide employees with the option to charge their own electric vehicles while at their workplace. The goal of this is to increase uptake of electric vehicles. Germany has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate the transition away from the sale of new petrol or diesel vehicles and promote the uptake of zero emission vehicles. It has disincentivized the use of petrol and diesel vehicles by setting emission standards for cars and small vehicles and has encouraged the uptake of zero-emission vehicles through funding charging infrastructure expansion, battery cell manufacturing and the subsidization of electric vehicles.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Van Tong*

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<sup>652</sup> Scheuer: 90 million euros for retrofitting public charging infrastructure, Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (Berlin) 18 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 January 2022.

<https://www.bmvi.de/SharedDocs/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2021/090-scheuer-nachruestung-oeffentlicher-ladeinfrastruktur.html>

<sup>653</sup> Climate and environmental goals guide the future-oriented subsidy policy of the federal government, Federal Ministry of Finances (Berlin) 18 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 November 2021.

<https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Pressemitteilungen/Finanzpolitik/2021/08/2021-08-18-zukunftsorientierte-subventionspolitik-bundesregierung.html>

<sup>654</sup> 28th Subsidy Report, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022.

[https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Press\\_Room/Publications/Brochures/28-subsidy-report.pdf](https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Press_Room/Publications/Brochures/28-subsidy-report.pdf)

<sup>655</sup> Grant approval for battery cell production at the Opel site in Kaiserslautern handed over: 437 million euros for sustainable battery cell production, Federal Ministry for Economy and Energy (Berlin) 2 Sept 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2021/09/20210902-foerderbescheid-fuer-batteriezellfertigung-am-opel-standort-kaiserslautern-uebergeben-437-millionen-euro-fuer-nachhaltige-batteriezellfertigung.html>

<sup>656</sup> Development of commercial charging infrastructure begins, Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (Berlin) 18 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 January 2022.

<https://www.bmvi.de/SharedDocs/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2021/128-scheuer-aufbau-gewerblicher-ladeinfrastruktur-startet.html>

## Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate the transition away from the sale of new petrol or diesel vehicles and promote the uptake of zero emission vehicles.

On 22 June 2021, Prime Minister Mario Draghi and President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen announced the approval of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) as part of the Next Generation EU economic recovery project, marking the beginning of the “Italia Domani” or “Italy Tomorrow” plan to boost the nation’s digital and environmental transitions.<sup>657</sup> Included in the plan was the allocation of EUR741.3 million for the creation of over 20,000 fast-charging points on highways and urban centers in order to build the infrastructure necessary to accommodate the transition to zero emission vehicles.<sup>658</sup>

On 1 July 2021, the Italian Regulatory Authority for Energy, Networks and Environment launched an experimental initiative aimed at maximizing the availability of power from domestic electric meters in order to offer a greater availability of power during night hours and on holidays for the charging of electric vehicles.<sup>659</sup> This initiative promotes the uptake of zero emission vehicles.

On 1 November 2021, Minister of Ecological Transition Roberto Cingolani stated in a conference with Prime Minister Draghi that Italy’s main goal is to change their means of production of primary energy and to “electrify all sectors that currently produce CO2 [carbon dioxide].”<sup>660</sup> He states that in order to comply with this, cars will run on batteries using electricity that is environmentally friendly.

On 10 December 2021, the fourth meeting of CITES, the Interministerial Committee for Ecological Transition, took place.<sup>661</sup> At the meeting, Minister Cingolani, Minister Sustainable Infrastructures and Mobility Enrico Giovannini and Minister of Economic Development Giancarlo Giorgetti announced that the phase out of the sale of new car with internal combustion engines must be completed by 2035. This action both disincentivizes the continued purchase of cars with internal combustion engines and incentivizes the uptake of zero emission vehicles and a transition to increased production of zero emission vehicles.

On 20 December 2021, Prime Minister Draghi in a meeting with Germany’s Chancellor Olaf Scholz expressed hopes to advance in the fields of technology, research, and science.<sup>662</sup> More specifically, he refers to the development of batteries for electric cars in order to combat climate change.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate the transition away from the sale of new petrol or diesel vehicles and promote the uptake of zero emission vehicles. Italy has announced some measures to

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<sup>657</sup> Press conference with PM Draghi and President von der Leyen on the approval of Italy’s NRRP, Italian Government (Rome) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/press-conference-pm-draghi-and-president-von-der-leyen-approval-italy-s-nrrp/17409>

<sup>658</sup> Installation of electric charging infrastructure, Italia Domani (Rome) n.d. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://italiadomani.gov.it/en/Interventi/investimenti/sviluppo-infrastrutture-di-ricarica-elettrica.html>

<sup>659</sup> Experimentation aimed at facilitating the recharging of electric vehicles at night and on holidays, Regulatory Authority for Energy, Networks and the Environment (Rome) n.d. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 January 2022. [https://www.arera.it/it/elettricita/veicoli\\_541-20.htm](https://www.arera.it/it/elettricita/veicoli_541-20.htm)

<sup>660</sup> COP26, Prime Minister Draghi’s press conference with Minister Cingolani, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 1 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/cop26-prime-minister-draghi-s-press-conference-minister-cingolani/18480>

<sup>661</sup> Green transition: phase out of new cars with internal combustion engine by 2035, 2040 for vans and light commercial vehicles, Ministry of Sustainable Infrastructure and Mobility (Rome) 10 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.mit.gov.it/comunicazione/news/transizione-ecologica-phase-out-auto-nuove-con-motore-combustione-interna-entro>

<sup>662</sup> PM Draghi meets with Chancellor Scholz, introduction by Prime Minister Draghi, Presidency of the Council Ministers (Rome) 20 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date 15 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/pm-draghi-meets-chancellor-scholz-introduction-prime-minister-draghi/18863>

build capacity or increase ease of use for electric vehicles such as installing charging stations and undertaking experimental initiatives to make home charging more feasible. Italy has also announced plans to phase out cars with internal combustion engines completely by 2035, indicating an acceleration of the transition away from diesel and gas.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Amrita Brar*

### **Japan: 0**

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to accelerate the transition away from the sale of new petrol or diesel vehicles and promote the uptake of zero emission vehicles.

On 9 September 2021, the Japanese Ministry of the Environment announced the selection of two companies to participate in “the Sector Coupling Demonstration Project to integrate the Development of Electric Vehicles (EVs) with Replaceable Batteries and the Utilization of Renewable Energy.”<sup>663</sup> The goal of this project is to decarbonize the transportation sector by improving feasibility of zero-emission vehicles.

On 25 September 2021, Japan exhibited energy-efficient cars at the International New Energy and Intelligent Connected Vehicles Exhibition in China.<sup>664</sup> Related items also showcased included batteries, motors and charging ports. This also provided insight into the type of technology and infrastructure Japan had available for providing commercial electric vehicles. This action demonstrates Japan’s efforts to promote the uptake of zero-emission vehicles.

On 23 November 2021, to match the efforts of the United States and Europe, Japan created a purchase incentive of up to JPY800,000 for those that buy electric vehicles.<sup>665</sup> JPY6.5 billion will also be devoted to creating new vehicle charging stations, as currently, there are only 2.3 charging ports for every 10,000 people, thus encouraging the attempts to sell only low emission vehicles by 2035.

On 20 December 2021, the Japanese government approved the creation of a supplementary budget for 2021 which contains a subsidy to promote the adoption of electric vehicles.<sup>666</sup> Vehicles registered after 26 November 2021 are eligible for this subsidy with a general upper limit of JPY400,000 for light electric vehicles. The subsidy will also be eligible for company’s installing charging infrastructure. The goal of this subsidy is to remove barriers for the uptake of electric vehicles and for capacity building for electric vehicle infrastructure.

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to accelerate the transition away from the sale of new petrol or diesel vehicles and promote the uptake of zero emission vehicles. Japan’s compliance has been limited to showcasing possible green vehicles and deterring citizens from gas vehicles through carbon pricing. Japan has produced purchase incentives for electric vehicles to encourage uptake but has not acted strongly enough to be considered in full compliance.

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<sup>663</sup> MOEJ selected 2 companies to participate in the Sector Coupling Demonstration Project to integrate the Development of EVs with Replaceable Batteries and the Utilization of Renewable Energy, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 9 September 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2539.html>

<sup>664</sup> WICV 2021 – International New Energy and Intelligent Connected vehicles Exhibition and Conference, Japan External Trade Organization (Beijing) 2 September 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.jetro.go.jp/en/database/j-messe/tradefair/detail/120828>

<sup>665</sup> Japan to double EV subsidies to match U.S. and Europe, Nikkei Asia (Tokyo) 23 November 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Business/Automobiles/Japan-to-double-EV-subsidies-to-match-U.S.-and-Europe>

<sup>666</sup> Reiwa 3rd supplementary budget “clean energy automobile / infrastructure introduction promotion subsidy,” Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 6 January 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 January 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/mono\\_info\\_service/mono/automobile/cev/cevr3/cevinfrastructure.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/mono_info_service/mono/automobile/cev/cevr3/cevinfrastructure.html)

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Jyotsna Kumar*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate the transition away from the sale of new petrol or diesel vehicles and promote the uptake of zero emission vehicles.

On 17 June 2021, Transport Secretary Grant Shapps announced GBP20 million in funding to 62 electric vehicle innovation projects.<sup>667</sup> These projects seek to improve the experience of owning an electric vehicle and reduce barriers to ownership. The goal of this funding is to encourage increased uptake of electric vehicles by encouraging the development of innovative electric vehicle technology.

On 19 July 2021, Highways England established a new initiative to expand the charging station infrastructure and increase services on UK roads for electric vehicles.<sup>668</sup> This plan will also include training for Traffic Officers to ensure the proper handling of electrical vehicles. The government contributed over GBP1 billion in funds for this project. The goal of this funding is to prepare infrastructure and workers for increased uptake in electric vehicles.

On 18 August 2021, the UK pledged GBP91.7 million in funds for improving the performance of electric vehicles and producing green auto technology such as car batteries.<sup>669</sup> This is in response to the UK's plan to create a sustainable chain of electric vehicle manufacturing. This investment is consistent with the country's commitment to increase the number of electric vehicles commercially used.

On 4 October 2021, the Environmental Agency, partnered with BAM Nuttall, used electrical vehicles as part of the Flood Alleviation Scheme when visiting sites.<sup>670</sup> This aided the normalization of electric vehicles for daily use.

On 2 November 2021, the UK partnered with the United States and the European Union in financing new technologies in South Africa.<sup>671</sup> USD8.5 billion will be given to the nation in the form of grants, loans and investments. This money will be used to promote innovative technologies in the form of electrical vehicles. The partnership is put in place to help prevent 1-1.5 gigatons of carbon emissions that can be caused if use of gasoline vehicles persists for the next 20 years. This initiative is intended to increase the production of electric vehicles in manufacturing and transition away from coal industries.

On 2 November 2021, Prime Minister Boris Johnson launched a plan to bring clean energy technology by 2030 to fruition.<sup>672</sup> The plan included a Road Transport mission to normalize zero emission vehicles and make them more accessible and affordable, which also includes making such technologies more accessible to

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<sup>667</sup> £20 million zero-emission vehicle competition winners to power up the electric vehicle transport revolution, Department for Transport (London) 17 June 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/20-million-zero-emission-vehicle-competition-winners-to-power-up-the-electric-vehicle-transport-revolution>

<sup>668</sup> Highways England lays out roadmap to net zero by 2050, Highways England (Guildford) 19 July 2021. Access Date: 23 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/highways-england-lays-out-roadmap-to-net-zero-by-2050>

<sup>669</sup> £91 million funding for low carbon auto tech including hydrogen engines and ultra-fast charging batteries, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 23 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/91-million-funding-for-low-carbon-auto-tech-including-hydrogen-engines-and-ultra-fast-charging-batteries>

<sup>670</sup> Electric Vehicles deployed on Hebden Bridge Flood Alleviation Scheme, Environment Agency (Bristol) 4 October 2021. Access Date: 23 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/electric-vehicles-deployed-on-hebden-bridge-flood-alleviation-scheme>

<sup>671</sup> Joint Statement: International Just Energy Transition Partnership, Prime Minister's Office (London) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 23 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-international-just-energy-transition-partnership>

<sup>672</sup> World leaders join UK's Glasgow Breakthroughs to speed up affordable clean tech worldwide, Prime Minister's Office (London) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 23 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-leaders-join-uks-glasgow-breakthroughs-to-speed-up-affordable-clean-tech-worldwide>

the developing world. Domestically, the United Kingdom will also scale up the number of green industries and manufacturers within the nation. This agenda was followed by funding worth GBP3 billion to be used for investing within green industries and supporting the production and implementation of low emission infrastructure such as electric vehicles.

On 3 November 2021, Levelling Up Secretary Michael Gove announced GBP187,000 in funding to support the development of electric vehicle charging along the Scottish border to benefit residents, the public sector and businesses.<sup>673</sup> The goal of this funding is to improve electric vehicle infrastructure, allowing for greater uptake and community benefits.

On 10 November 2021, the Department of Transport introduced new design concepts for electric vehicle charging points and established a plan for all road vehicles to achieve zero emissions by 2040.<sup>674</sup> This plan would effectively phase out gas-powered cars by 2030.

On 18 November 2021, the United Kingdom reaffirmed their goal to shift to low carbon energy at the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference.<sup>675</sup> This included finding low energy versions of vehicles and opting out of diesel. The United Kingdom also deployed the British Standards Institution to provide an independent audit to measure compliance to this effort. This is conducive to the goal of promoting the uptake of zero-emission vehicles.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate the transition away from the sale of new petrol or diesel vehicles and promote the uptake of zero emission vehicles. The United Kingdom has provided funding for projects designed to build infrastructural capacity and make owning zero-emission vehicles easier. It has also taken efforts to normalize the use of electric vehicles in society. The UK has also committed to phasing out gas-powered vehicles by 2030 and ensuring that heavy-goods vehicles produce zero-emissions by 2040.

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

*Analyst: Jyotsna Kumar*

### **United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to accelerate the transition away from the sale of new petrol or diesel vehicles and promote the uptake of zero emission vehicles.

On 1 July 2021, Congress introduced a bill entitled “Electric Vehicle Mobility Area Planning Act” which would establish a grant program to map optimal locations for electric vehicle charging stations and the derived demand for electricity.<sup>676</sup> The bill sets aside USD2 million per year between 2022 and 2027 for the grant, which will help fund new electric vehicle infrastructure. This action is conducive to improved uptake of zero-emission vehicles in that it builds infrastructural capacity for zero-emission vehicles.

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<sup>673</sup> £200 million boost to help level up communities across the UK, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (London) 3 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/200-million-boost-to-help-level-up-communities-across-the-uk>

<sup>674</sup> UK confirms pledge for zero-emission HGVs by 2040 and unveils new chargepoint design, Department for Transport (London) 11 November 2021. Access Date: 23 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-confirms-pledge-for-zero-emission-hgvs-by-2040-and-unveils-new-chargepoint-design>

<sup>675</sup> COP26 achieves International Standard For Sustainability, Cabinet Office (London) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cop26-achieves-international-standard-for-sustainability>

<sup>676</sup> H.R. 4326, United States Congress (Washington D.C.) 1 July 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.congress.gov/117/bills/hr4326/BILLS-117hr4326ih.xml>

On 28 July 2021, the U.S. Department of Energy announced USD60 million in funding for zero-emission vehicle research and development projects.<sup>677</sup> The funded projects are both university and industry-led and include research on accelerating innovation in EV batteries and electric drive systems and studies on charging infrastructure demands. This action is conducive to the United States' commitment to promote the uptake of zero-emission vehicles in funding feasibility and innovation studies for electric vehicles.

On 5 August 2021, President Joe Biden announced that he will sign an executive order that sets a new target to make half of all new vehicles sold in 2030 zero emission, which includes battery electric, plug-in hybrid electric or fuel cell electric vehicles.<sup>678</sup>

On 7 October 2021, the U.S. Department of the Interior released a Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan in which it outlined how it will transition to a resilient clean energy economy.<sup>679</sup> It is a supplement to the Build Back Better plan and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal. It includes developing risk management strategies in the event of supply chain disruption in the production of electric vehicles (EVs).<sup>680</sup> The plan also states the intent to deploy an electric vehicle fleet within the Department of Interior; this is an action towards increasing awareness for EVs and supporting the industry by purchasing them for the government's fleet.

On 2 November 2021, the UK partnered with the United States and the European Union in financing new technologies in South Africa.<sup>681</sup> USD8.5 billion will be given to the nation in the form of grants, loans and investments. This money will be used to promote innovative technologies in the form of electrical vehicles. The partnership is put in place to help prevent 1-1.5 gigatons of carbon emissions that can be caused if use of gasoline vehicles persists for the next 20 years. This initiative is intended to increase the production of electric vehicles in manufacturing and transition away from coal industries.

On 15 November 2021, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill came into law.<sup>682</sup> It provides USD7.5 billion to build a national network of charging stations for electric vehicles.<sup>683</sup> This investment will support the President's stated goal of building a nationwide network of 500,000 electric vehicle chargers to accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles.

On 18 November 2021, Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo and Australia's Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment Dan Tehan met in Singapore during the Bloomberg New Economy Forum and reaffirmed

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<sup>677</sup> DOE Awards \$60 Million to Accelerate Advancements in Zero-Emissions Vehicles, U.S. Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-awards-60-million-accelerate-advancements-zero-emissions-vehicles>

<sup>678</sup> FACT SHEET: President Biden Announces Steps to Drive American Leadership Forward on Clean Cars and Trucks, The White House (Washington D.C.) 5 August 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/08/05/fact-sheet-president-biden-announces-steps-to-drive-american-leadership-forward-on-clean-cars-and-trucks/>

<sup>679</sup> Interior Department Releases Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/interior-department-releases-climate-adaptation-and-resilience-plan>

<sup>680</sup> Department of the Interior Climate Action Plan, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 14 September 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/department-of-interior-climate-action-plan-final-signed-508-9.14.21.pdf>

<sup>681</sup> Joint Statement: International Just Energy Transition Partnership, Prime Minister's Office (London) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 23 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-international-just-energy-transition-partnership>

<sup>682</sup> Executive Order on the Implementation of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, The White House (Washington D.C.) 15 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/11/15/executive-order-on-implementation-of-the-infrastructure-investment-and-jobs-act/>

<sup>683</sup> Fact Sheet: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal, The White House (Washington D.C.) 6 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/11/06/fact-sheet-the-bipartisan-infrastructure-deal/>

their commitment to collaboration on supply chains, especially for supplying rare earth materials necessary for electric vehicles and the broader transition to a green economy.<sup>684</sup>

On 18 November 2021, President Biden met with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau of Canada and President Andrés Manuel López Obrador of Mexico for the North American Leaders' Summit.<sup>685</sup> They reaffirmed their commitment to accelerate the transition to sustainable transportation, including more rapid deployment of electric vehicles.

On 19 November 2021, the House of Representatives passed the Build Back Better Act,<sup>686</sup> which includes up to USD12,500 tax credit for American-made, union-made electric vehicles.<sup>687</sup> This credit will help incentivize the purchase of electric vehicles.

On 8 December 2021, President Biden signed an executive order for the federal government to lower its operational emissions.<sup>688</sup> One goal of this executive order is to have 100 per cent zero-emission vehicle acquisitions by 2035 and 100 per cent zero-emission light-duty vehicles by 2027 in government use. This order is an action towards increasing awareness for EVs and supporting the industry by purchasing them for the government's fleet.

On 13 December 2021, President Biden and Vice President Harris released an Electric Vehicle Charging Action Plan to outline steps federal agencies are taking to support developing and deploying EV chargers nationwide as a follow-up to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.<sup>689</sup> In order to facilitate the country-wide shift to EVs, they plan to establish a Joint Office of Energy and Transportation, gather stakeholder input, request information from domestic EV car and charger manufacturers and prepare to issue city and state-specific EV infrastructure standards.

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to accelerate the transition away from the sale of new petrol or diesel vehicles and promote the uptake of zero emission vehicles. The US has taken significant concrete steps towards incentivizing the sale of electric vehicles, as well as accelerating the production of electric vehicles and the accompanying infrastructure. They have achieved this through planning to provide tax credits towards electric vehicle purchases, investing in electric vehicle manufacturing and infrastructure and setting an example by adopting electric vehicles within the federal government fleet. However, the United States has not taken strong action to disincentivize the sale of new petrol or diesel vehicles.

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<sup>684</sup> Next Steps on U.S.-Australia Critical Minerals Collaboration, U.S. Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 17 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/11/next-steps-us-australia-critical-minerals-collaboration>

<sup>685</sup> FACT SHEET: Key Deliverables for the 2021 North American Leaders' Summit, The White House (Washington D.C.) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/11/18/fact-sheet-key-deliverables-for-the-2021-north-american-leaders-summit/>

<sup>686</sup> Statement by President Joe Biden on Passage of the Build Back Better Act in the U.S. House of Representatives, The White House (Washington D.C.) 19 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/11/19/statement-by-president-joe-biden-on-passage-of-the-build-back-better-act-in-the-u-s-house-of-representatives/>

<sup>687</sup> President Biden Announces the Build Back Better Framework, The White House (Washington D.C.) 28 October 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/10/28/president-biden-announces-the-build-back-better-framework/>

<sup>688</sup> FACT SHEET: President Biden Signs Executive Order Catalyzing America's Clean Energy Economy Through Federal Sustainability, The White House (Washington D.C.) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/12/08/fact-sheet-president-biden-signs-executive-order-catalyzing-americas-clean-energy-economy-through-federal-sustainability/>

<sup>689</sup> FACT SHEET: The Biden-Harris Electric Vehicle Charging Action Plan, The White House (Washington D.C.) 13 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/12/13/fact-sheet-the-biden-harris-electric-vehicle-charging-action-plan/>



Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Tatiana Velickovic*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate the transition away from the sale of new petrol or diesel vehicles and promote the uptake of zero emission vehicles.

On 16 June 2021, the Council and the European Parliament reached a political agreement on revised road charging rules (Eurovignette directive) to address greenhouse gas emissions and other environmental impacts, congestion and road infrastructure financing.<sup>690</sup> The Council and the European Parliament revised the rules defining charges EU member states can impose on vehicles, including vans and passenger cars that use trans-European transport (TEN-T) network roads. Under the new regulations, countries will be required to charge different rates for vans and minibuses based on their environmental performance as of 2026, with considerable charging reductions for zero- and low-emission vehicles. This seeks to discourage the use of emitting vehicles through higher charges, while incentivizing the use of zero- and low- emission vehicles through reduced charges.

On 14 July 2021, the EU Commission presented the Fit for 55 package, which is a set of new legislative proposals and amendments to existing EU legislation that will help the EU cut its net greenhouse gas emissions from cars and vans, by at least 55 per cent and 50 per cent respectively, by 2030 compared to 1990 levels of emissions.<sup>691</sup> Furthermore, the commission plans a complete reduction of emissions from cars and vans for 2035.<sup>692</sup> This effectively bans the sale of vehicles and vans with internal combustion engines by 2035. According to the proposal, emissions standards for cars and vans will be tightened to encourage technology innovation in the automotive sector while supporting member states to reach their increased national targets under the effort sharing regulation. A key area of action in the Fit for 55 package is to increase the number of charging stations for electric vehicles.<sup>693</sup> The Fit for 55 package then indicates the EU's ambition to disincentivize the use of petrol and diesel vehicles and increase the uptake of zero-emission vehicles.

On 14 September 2021, the European Union, through the European Investment Bank, signed a EUR60 million framework loan agreement with Sofia Municipality to support sustainable transport in Bulgaria's capital city.<sup>694</sup> Part of the funding will be used to improve electric charging station infrastructure in the city. This is consistent with the European Union's goal of incentivizing the uptake of zero-emission vehicles.

On 2 November 2021, the UK partnered with the United States and the European Union in financing new technologies in South Africa.<sup>695</sup> USD8.5 billion will be given to the nation in the form of grants, loans and investments. This money will be used to promote innovative technologies in the form of electrical vehicles. The partnership is put in place to help prevent 1-1.5 gigatons of carbon emissions that can be caused if use of

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<sup>690</sup> Eurovignette: provisional deal on new road haulage charging rules, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 16 June 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210614IPR06103/eurovignette-provisional-deal-on-new-road-haulage-charging-rules>

<sup>691</sup> Fit for 55, European Council (Brussels) 11 October 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/green-deal/eu-plan-for-a-green-transition/>

<sup>692</sup> New registrations of electric vehicles in Europe 18 November 2021. European Environment Agency (Copenhagen). Access Date: 16 January 2021. <https://www.eea.europa.eu/ims/new-registrations-of-electric-vehicles>

<sup>693</sup> Infographic - How the EU delivers the green transition, European Council (Brussels) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/infographics/fit-for-55-how-the-eu-delivers-the-green-transition/>

<sup>694</sup> Bulgaria: EIB and Sofia Municipality sign €60 million loan for sustainable mobility projects, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 14 September 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-302-eib-and-sofia-municipality-sign-eur60-million-loan-for-sustainable-mobility-projects>

<sup>695</sup> Joint Statement: International Just Energy Transition Partnership, Prime Minister's Office (London) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 23 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-international-just-energy-transition-partnership>

gasoline vehicles persists for the next 20 years. This initiative is intended to increase the production of electric vehicles in manufacturing and transition away from coal industries.

On 21 December 2021, the European Union, through the European Investment Bank, signed a EUR27 million financing agreement with Fagor Ederlan.<sup>696</sup> The investment plan financed by this agreement focuses on the development of vehicle parts with lower carbon footprints as well as new components and systems for electric vehicles.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate the transition away from the sale of new petrol or diesel vehicles and promote the uptake of zero emission vehicles. It has revised road charging rules and introduced market prohibition of combustion engine vehicles in order to disincentivize the continued use of diesel and petrol vehicles. It has also provided some funding for the development of electric vehicle charging infrastructure and introduced plans to incentivize the use of electric vehicles through its adoption of the Fit for 55 package.

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

*Analyst: Van Tong*

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<sup>696</sup> Spain: EIB backs Fagor Ederlan's innovation strategy with €27 million loan, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-477-el-bei-respalda-la-estrategia-de-innovacion-de-fagor-ederlan-con-27-millones-de-euros>

## 6. Agriculture, Forestry and Land Use

“In our agricultural, forestry and other land use sectors, we commit to ensuring our policies encourage sustainable production, the protection, conservation, and regeneration of ecosystems and the sequestration of carbon.”

*Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué*

### 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			+1
Overall Score		+0.63 (81%)	

### Background

According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), “agriculture, forestry and other land use (AFOLU) plays a central role for food security and sustainable development” as well as being integral to reducing greenhouse gasses since these ecosystems are natural carbon sinks and homes of rich biodiversity.<sup>697</sup> The AFOLU sector is responsible for nearly a quarter of greenhouse gas emissions, primarily coming from agricultural production and deforestation. G7 members committed to ensure that policies relating to agriculture, forestry and other land use encouraged sustainable production and the sequestration of carbon, as well as the regeneration of ecosystems and the conservation of land to foster biodiversity. While there have been commitments made at past summits dealing with each individual criteria of Commitment 203, the 2021 Cornwall Summit was the first-time members acknowledged the link between the AFOLU sector and climate change so directly and made broad-stroke commitments to make production more environmentally friendly to enhance the fight against climate change.

At the 1987 Venezuela Summit, commitments surrounding the importance of forward-looking agricultural policies were first made. Prior to this summit there were few commitments relating to agriculture and those that were, had been primarily focused on distributing fertilizers and increasing aid with the intention of fighting famines in developing countries. At the 1987 Venezuela Summit, members committed to “work in concert to achieve the necessary adjustments of agricultural policies” to improve agricultural and food production/security.<sup>698</sup> This was also the first summit in which climate change was specifically addressed with members acknowledging their own responsibility to “tackle effectively environmental problems of worldwide impact such as...the destruction of tropical forests.”

At the 1988 Toronto Summit, the first recognition of the harm haphazard agricultural practices can wreak on the environment was made. In the Toronto Economic Summit Declaration, members recognized the

<sup>697</sup> Chapter 11 Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU), Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (Geneva) 2014. Access Date: 30 July 2021. [https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/02/ipcc\\_wg3\\_ar5\\_chapter11.pdf](https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/02/ipcc_wg3_ar5_chapter11.pdf).

<sup>698</sup> Venezia Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 1987. Access Date: 29 July 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1987venice/communique/index.html#agriculture>.

“potential impact of agriculture on the environment, whether negative through over intensive use of resources or positive in preventing desertification.”<sup>699</sup>

At the 1989 Paris Summit, members acknowledged the importance of the agricultural sector in “tackling problems such as water pollution, soil erosion and desertification” as well as the importance of protecting ecosystems from degradation.<sup>700</sup> Preserving forests and other environmental habitats for native species and an emphasis on sustainable use of natural resources was also reflected in the commitments.<sup>701</sup>

At the 1990 Houston Summit, members committed to prevent the destruction of forests and protect and conserve forests for sustainable management.<sup>702</sup> The importance of protecting biodiversity through conservation measures was also evident at the Summit, as well as committing to take actions to “limit greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide.”

At the 1991 London Summit, members committed to “addressing all sources and sinks for greenhouse gases” which is similar to the carbon sequestration criteria found in commitment 203.<sup>703</sup> In addition to reducing carbon and other greenhouse gases, members also committed to agree “on principles for the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests.”

While environment and climate change did not play a central role at the 1993 Tokyo Summit, there was recognition of the importance of forest and environmental conservation and sustainable development.<sup>704</sup> Agriculture and other land use sectors were not mentioned, nor was the regeneration of ecosystems and the importance of developing carbon sinks.

At the 1997 Denver Summit of The Eight, sustainable forest management was again emphasized as well as the importance of creating protected areas to conserve biodiversity.<sup>705</sup> Agriculture was not mentioned in this Summit’s communique, nor was carbon sequestration or ecosystem regeneration.

At the 1998 Birmingham Summit, sustainable growth and production played a central role. Members again committed to sustainable forest management and conservation in addition to committing to reduce greenhouse gases.<sup>706</sup>

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, members recognized the importance of sustainable development and the “preservation of the environment.”<sup>707</sup> Forest conservation was not mentioned at this summit although members did agree that limiting and mitigating greenhouse gas emissions and atmospheric damage was crucial to protecting the environment.

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<sup>699</sup> Toronto Economic Summit Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 June 1988. Access Date: 29 July 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1988toronto/communique.html#environment>.

<sup>700</sup> Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 1989. Access Date: 29 July 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1989paris/communique/index.html#environment>.

<sup>701</sup> Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 1989. Access Date: 29 July 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1989paris/communique/index.html#environment>.

<sup>702</sup> Houston Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 July 1990. Access Date: 29 July 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1990houston/declaration.html#environment>.

<sup>703</sup> Economic Declaration: Building World Partnership, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 July 1991. Access Date: 29 July 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1991london/communique/index.html#environment>.

<sup>704</sup> Economic Declaration: A Strengthened Commitment to Jobs and Growth, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 6-9 July 1993. Access Date: 29 July 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1993tokyo/communique/index.html#environment>.

<sup>705</sup> Communique, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 June 1997. Access Date: 29 July 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g8final.htm>.

<sup>706</sup> 1998 Birmingham Summit Communique, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access Date: 29 July 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>.

<sup>707</sup> Genoa Communique, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2001. Access Date: 29 July 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommunique.html>.

At the 2009 Hokkaido Summit, members recognized the importance of reducing emissions and protecting forests and other biodiverse areas.<sup>708</sup> In addition, members acknowledged the paramount nature of carbon sinks and sustainable land use to fighting climate change and battling atmospheric degradation.

At the 2010 Muskoka Summit climate change once again played a central role. However, the reduction of carbon emissions dominated the dialogue and there was no mention of forest preservation, sustainable agriculture, or ecosystem regeneration.<sup>709</sup>

At the 2011 Deauville Summit, members once again committed to fighting against forest degradation and reducing greenhouse gases.<sup>710</sup> In addition, members acknowledged the importance of protecting biodiversity and maintaining resilient ecosystems, the absence of which jeopardizes food security.

At the 2012 Camp David Summit, the importance of sustainable agriculture for facilitating food stability was emphasized.<sup>711</sup>

At the 2014 Brussels Summit, members committed to protecting marine and forest ecosystems and to developing sustainable agricultural practices.<sup>712</sup> The sequestration of carbon and the reduction of emissions was also committed to at the Summit; however these features were not specific to the agricultural, forest and other land use sectors as they are in Commitment 203.

At the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit, members emphasized the importance of mitigating the effects of climate change and increasing resilience and adaptation through conservation and other land protection efforts in addition to committing to the efficient use of natural resources and sustainable production.<sup>713</sup> Sustainable agriculture and investment were promoted for the purpose of increasing food security, but the focus of these commitments was not as all-encompassing as Commitment 203.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, members committed to investing in and utilizing sustainable agricultural practices in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.<sup>714</sup> In addition, members also committed to sustainable forest management and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, members did not commit directly to advancing sustainable agriculture or forest management.<sup>715</sup> Commitments were made surrounding the conservation of land to protect biodiversity and the reduction of harmful carbon emissions that advance environmental degradation.

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, members committed to the “preservation and restoration of biodiversity” as well as increasing the sustainable management of forests and the agri-food sector.<sup>716</sup> Leaders directly referred

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<sup>708</sup> Declaration of Leaders Meeting of Major Economies on Energy Security and Climate Change, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 July 2008. Access Date: 29 July 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-mem.html>.

<sup>709</sup> Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2010. Access Date: 29 July 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html#green>.

<sup>710</sup> G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 29 July 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html#climate>.

<sup>711</sup> Camp David Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 19 May 2012. Access Date: 29 July 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2012campdavid/g8-declaration.html>.

<sup>712</sup> G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 30 July 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>.

<sup>713</sup> Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 30 July 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-g7-declaration-en.html>.

<sup>714</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 30 July 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html#climate>.

<sup>715</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communique, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 30 July 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

to the scaling down of carbon reliant technologies in these sectors and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions overall.

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, leaders committed to “policies encourage sustainable production, the protection, conservation, and regeneration of ecosystems and the sequestration of carbon” in their agricultural, forestry and other land use sectors.<sup>717</sup> This is the first summit in which all of these criteria were in specific reference to agricultural and other land use practices which were often ignored as a driver of climate change in past summits.

### **Commitment Features**

G7 members committed to ensure “policies encourage sustainable production, the protection, conservation, and regeneration of ecosystems and the sequestration of carbon” in their agricultural, forestry and other land use sectors. This commitment has four parts: 1) to ensure policies regarding the land use sector utilize sustainable production 2) to ensure that policies encourage the protection and conservation of the lands 3) to ensure the regeneration of ecosystems involved in the agricultural, forestry and other land use sectors and 4) to ensure that policies include the sequestration of carbon.

To “ensure” is understood as to “guarantee” or make certain.<sup>718</sup> In regard to this commitment, to “ensure” emphasizes the strength of action needed in order to achieve full compliance. This language implies that only policy actions that fulfill the commitment features will be considered towards compliance.

To “encourage” is understood as to “foster” or “stimulate.”<sup>719</sup> In regard to this commitment, any policy action that fosters or stimulates sustainable production, the protection, conservation, and regeneration of ecosystems and the sequestration of carbon will be counted towards compliance, regardless of whether the actual goal is achieved.

“Sustainable production” is understood as the manufacturing of goods and services “while minimizing the use of natural resources and toxic materials as well as the emissions of waste and pollutants over the life cycle of the service or product” so as to not cause environmental degradation or deplete resources faster than they can be replenished.<sup>720</sup> Examples of production systems that are sustainable are ones that are “non-polluting, conserving of energy and natural resources and are economically viable.”<sup>721</sup>

To “protect” is understood as to “shield from exposure, damage or destruction.”<sup>722</sup> Any policy action that works to safeguard the environment from degradation or damage will count towards compliance.

To “conserve” is understood as “to avoid wasteful or destructive use of.”<sup>723</sup> Policy actions that work to maintain the environmental health, biodiversity and original state of lands involved in the agricultural, forestry and other land use sectors will count towards compliance.

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<sup>716</sup> Biarritz Chair’s Summary on Climate, Biodiversity and Oceans, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 30 July 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/chairs-summary-climate.html>.

<sup>717</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communique: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 30 July 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communicue.html>.

<sup>718</sup> Ensure, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) Access Date: 27 July 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/ensure>.

<sup>719</sup> Encourage, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) Access Date: 27 July 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/encourage>.

<sup>720</sup> Sustainable consumption and production policies, UN Environment Program (Nairobi) Access Date: 27 July 2021. <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/resource-efficiency/what-we-do/sustainable-consumption-and-production-policies>.

<sup>721</sup> Sustainable Production Defined, University of Massachusetts Lowell Center for Sustainable Production (Lowell) Access Date: 27 July 2021. <https://www.uml.edu/research/lowell-center/about/sustainable-production-defined.aspx>.

<sup>722</sup> Protected, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) Access Date: 27 July 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/protected>.

To “regenerate” is understood as “to restore to original strength or properties.”<sup>724</sup> In regard to this commitment, the “regeneration of ecosystems” refers to any policy action that works to restore the environmental health and biodiversity of damaged lands.

Carbon sequestration is understood as “the process of capturing and storing atmospheric carbon dioxide” which is the most common greenhouse gas.<sup>725</sup> Any action that fosters the production of a carbon sink - areas such as oceans, forests or soils that store and absorb carbon dioxide from the environment - will count towards compliance.

On breadth, in order for the G7 member states to achieve full compliance, or a score of +1, they must ensure that policies regarding the agricultural, forestry and other land use sectors fulfill all four parts of the commitment including the encouragement of: 1) sustainable production 2) protection and conservation 3) the regeneration of ecosystems and 4) the sequestration of carbon. Full compliance will be awarded to any member that fulfills all four parts of the commitment criteria regardless of the actual quantity (so long as it is at least two since “policies” implies more than one) of policies enacted over the course of the summit cycle. Thus, if a member fulfills some but not all of the four parts of the commitment, they will receive a score of 0.

To achieve a score of 0, or partial compliance, a state will have enacted policies regarding the agricultural, forestry and other land use sectors that encourage at least two of the four criteria needed to achieve full compliance. For example, if a member were to ensure that their policies encouraged sustainable production and preservation and conservation but did not encourage the regeneration of ecosystems or the sequestration of carbon, they would receive a score of 0.

On depth, in order for an action to count towards compliance it must be related to a policy associated with the agricultural, forestry and other land use sectors and encourage the “sustainable production, the protection, conservation, and regeneration of ecosystems and the sequestration of carbon.” As to “encourage” is understood as fostering or stimulating the fulfillment of these criteria, compliance will be awarded for actions that aim to achieve the commitment criteria regardless of how successful they are at achieving their long-term goals. For example, a policy that legislates for the regeneration of an ecosystem will count towards compliance even if the ecosystem is not regenerated to the level intended. Additionally, proposing a law or policy that seeks to fulfill one of the four breadth requirements will count as full compliance regardless of whether the law/policy goes on to be implemented. Actions that would be considered “strong” compliance include, but are not limited to; enforcing a policy, expanding or launching a new program, passing legislation and allocating money towards initiatives that fulfill the breadth requirements. Actions that would be considered “less than strong” include those that show intent to take more meaningful action in the future, such as attending a meeting to discuss the implementation of a new initiative that fulfills one of the breadth requirements.

Considering both the breadth and depth criteria together, in order for a member to achieve a score of +1 they need to *strongly* comply with at least three of the four breadth requirements and somewhat comply with the fourth. For a member to receive a partial score, or that of 0, they must strongly comply with at least half of the four breadth criteria or somewhat comply with more than half.

A score of -1, or non-compliance, will be used for any state that does not take at least strongly fulfill two of the four breadth requirements or somewhat fulfill more than two of the four breadth requirements. They will have not fulfilled the requirement to achieve a partial score, nor will they have encouraged the “sustainable

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<sup>723</sup> Conserve, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) Access Date: 27 July 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/conselve>.

<sup>724</sup> Regenerate, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) Access Date: 27 July 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/regenerated>.

<sup>725</sup> What is carbon sequestration?, United States Geological Survey (Reston) Access Date: 27 July 2021. [https://www.usgs.gov/faqs/what-carbon-sequestration?qt-news\\_science\\_products=0#qt-news\\_science\\_products](https://www.usgs.gov/faqs/what-carbon-sequestration?qt-news_science_products=0#qt-news_science_products).

production, the protection, conservation, and regeneration of ecosystems and the sequestration of carbon” in the agricultural, forestry and other land use sectors.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has not complied by failing to strongly implement any actions to fulfill at least two of the four breadth requirements and failing to somewhat implement at least half of the breadth criteria
0	The G7 member has partially complied by strongly fulfilling at least two of the four breadth criteria or somewhat fulfilling more than half of the breadth criteria
+1	The G7 member has fully complied by taking strong action to fulfill at least three of the four breadth requirements (the encouragement of: 1) sustainable production 2) protection and conservation 3) the regeneration of ecosystems and 4) the sequestration of carbon) and somewhat fulfilling the fourth

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*Lead Analyst: Annie Ding*

### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied by ensuring its policies encourage sustainable production, the protection, conservation, and regeneration of ecosystems and the sequestration of carbon.

On 16 June 2021, the Government of Canada launched the new Agricultural Clean Technology Program to foster an environment for the development and utilization of clean technology that will help make Canada’s agricultural industry more sustainable and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>726</sup> This Program will not only help to foster sustainable production in this industry but also develop clean technologies to increase energy efficiency and stimulate the sequestration of carbon. The creation of this program will also help Canada transition to a low-carbon economy.

On 25 June 2021, the Minister of Infrastructure and Communities Catherine McKenna, joined by the Mayor of Toronto John Tory, announced a CAD200 million Natural Infrastructure Fund.<sup>727</sup> Up to CAD120 million was invested in large natural infrastructure projects. This program supported projects that used natural or hybrid approaches to protect the natural environment, improve access to nature for Canadians and reduce reliance on building infrastructure.

On 29 June 2021, the Governments of Canada and Ontario announced an investment of CAD150,000 to support “agri-food innovation in the vegetable farming sector” and to fund research at the Ontario Crops Research Centre.<sup>728</sup> Some of the funding will be used to purchase climate control technologies for the greenhouse at the Research Centre and the installation of a new weather station also intended to maximize climate controls. The purpose is to foster “optimal” growing conditions for vegetables in the greenhouse before they are transplanted outdoors. Additionally, the funding will be used to increase research regarding the development of more “sustainable vegetable farming practices” to help Ontario farmers remain competitive without compromising environmental considerations. The funding for these research initiatives help to foster sustainable production in the agriculture industry.

<sup>726</sup> Agricultural Clean Technology Program: Research and Innovation Stream: Step 1. What this program offers, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Ottawa) 16 June 2021. Date Accessed: 4 August 2021. <https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/agricultural-programs-and-services/agricultural-clean-technology-program-research-and-innovation-stream>.

<sup>727</sup> Government of Canada announces new Natural Infrastructure Fund, Infrastructure Canada (Toronto) 25 June 2021. Access Date: 28 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/06/government-of-canada-announces-new-natural-infrastructure-fund.html>

<sup>728</sup> Funding to Support Research and Innovation in Ontario’s Vegetable Farming Sector, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (King) 29 June 2021. Date Accessed: 4 August 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2021/06/funding-to-support-research-and-innovation-in-ontarios-vegetable-farming-sector.html>.



On 30 June 2021, the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard and Member of Parliament for South Shore-St. Margaret's, Bernadette Jordan, announced that the Government of Canada will invest CAD1.16 million in federal funding to revitalize infrastructure at Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site and Kejimikujik National Park Seaside.<sup>729</sup> The purpose of the investment is to construct climate-resilient infrastructure and rehabilitate the Seaside trail network that were damaged from storms and coastal erosion – replacing them with sustainable trails away from particularly vulnerable areas. This action will help regenerate the protected ecosystems in the park and make them more resilient to the increasing climate change related extreme weather.

On 7 July 2021, the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, Marie-Claude Bibeau, announced that the federal government is investing CAD1.7 million in funding for nine projects in Quebec that will “support and advance innovation” in the agriculture sector.<sup>730</sup> Examples of initiatives the investment will fund include research into developing techniques for the production of pest-free strawberry and raspberry plants that reduce reliance on pesticides and research to determine the best strain of wheat adapted to grow in Canadian winters. This will help encourage the sustainable production of produce in the agricultural sector by reducing reliance on pesticides and other pathogens.

On 13 July 2021, Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau visited at Coop Agri-Energie Warwick, the first “agricultural cooperative” which utilizes solely renewable energy in Quebec, to highlight the Agricultural Clean Technology Program and the types of projects the Government of Canada is seeking to invest in to reduce emissions in the agricultural industry.<sup>731</sup> While this action only somewhat encourages the sequestration of carbon and the increase of sustainable production in the agriculture industry, it does highlight how the Warwick biogas plant captures methane from manure to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and encourages other plants to implement similar initiatives.

On 13 July 2021, the Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan announced that cow-calf producers may be eligible to access “cost hared funding of up to 75 per cent of project costs” to implement surface runoff control measures to protect the integrity of water quality and preserve biodiversity through the new Farm Stewardship Program.<sup>732</sup> Some measures to achieve this goal include the funding of retention ponds to collect runoff, ditches and pen regrading. This Program will help protect and regenerate vital ecosystems and biodiversity that have faced degradation due to surface runoff from cattle farming.

On 19 July 2021, Minister Bibeau announced an investment of CAD2.6 million in federal funding to Canadian Forage and Grassland Association for three projects that will improve alfalfa growth and “develop a Canadian grassland carbon offset system.”<sup>733</sup> Alfalfa is a key component of the carbon capture and offset

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<sup>729</sup> Government of Canada invests in infrastructure for Kejimikujic National Park and National Historic Site and Kejimikujik National Park Seaside, Parks Canada (Maitland Bridge) 30 June 2021. Date Accessed: 4 August 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/parks-canada/news/2021/06/government-of-canada-invests-in-infrastructure-for-kejimikujik-national-park-and-national-historic-site-and-kejimikujik-national-park-seaside.html>.

<sup>730</sup> Growing an environmentally sustainable agriculture sector in Quebec through science, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Saint-Je-de-l'Ile-d'Orleans) 7 July 2021. Date Accessed: 4 August 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2021/07/growing-an-environmentally-sustainable-agriculture-sector-in-quebec-through-science.html>.

<sup>731</sup> Support for major farmer biogas plant part of push for more clean technology in agriculture, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Warwick) 13 July 2021. Date Accessed: 4 August 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2021/07/support-for-major-farmer-biogas-plant-part-of-push-for-more-clean-technology-in-agriculture.html>.

<sup>732</sup> Farm Stewardship Program Supports Saskatchewan Cow-Calf Producers in Protecting Surface Water, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Regina) 13 July 2021. Date Accessed: 4 August 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2021/07/farm-stewardship-program-supports-saskatchewan-cow-calf-producers-in-protecting-surface-water.html>.

<sup>733</sup> Government of Canada invests \$2.6 million to improve alfalfa growth and develop a grassland carbon offset system, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Sawyerville) 19 July 2021. Date Accessed: 4 August 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2021/07/government-of-canada-invests-26-million-to-improve-alfalfa-growth-and-develop-a-grassland-carbon-offset-system.html>.

system for Canadian agriculture, and it also helps improve soil health. The federally funded projects will help farmers facilitate alfalfa growth and better understand how it grows in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

On 29 July 2021, the Government of Canada provided CAD959,000 in support of an Indigenous Forestry Skills Development and Job Recruitment Program to the B.C. First Nations Forestry Council.<sup>734</sup> The funding helped launch the Indigenous Forestry Virtual Platform which includes sharing information through online advisory services, training sessions, virtual job forums and regional focus groups. This will help to integrate the use of Traditional and Indigenous Knowledge into forest sustainability projects.

On 3 August 2021, Parks Canada began mobilizing to plant 150,000 trees in up to eighteen national parks across the country as a part of the Government of Canada's commitment to plant two-billion trees.<sup>735</sup> This initiative will help protect biodiversity, restore the ecosystems in national parks and combat climate change. In addition, planting such a high quantity of trees throughout the country will help to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions as dense forests act as a natural carbon sink.

On 4 August 2021, the Government of Canada announced that 70,000 trees will be planted at the Canadian National Vimy Memorial "as part of a 10-year forest conservation project to rejuvenate the forests."<sup>736</sup> While planting the trees is primarily to honor Canadians, and more specifically Newfoundlanders, who served in World War One, the forest conservation project will also help restore the ecosystem by planting new trees to replace those that have reached the end of their lifespan and will increase the area of protected forest.

On 12 August 2021, Minister Bibeau announced the call for proposals under the new On-Farm Climate Action Fund that will support farmers in transitioning and adopting sustainable technologies.<sup>737</sup> This will help encourage practices that store carbon and greenhouse gas emissions – thus increasing carbon sequestration in the agricultural industry. Not only will the fund help reduce emissions but also will aid in regenerating the environment by improving soil health and building resilience to climate change.

On 12 August 2021, the Government of Canada and the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador invested a total contribution of more than CAD11 million in funding through the Atlantic Fisheries Fund.<sup>738</sup> It invested in 36 projects that focused on equipment modernization, improving productivity and sustainability in the Newfoundland and Labrador fish and seafood sector. The investments were made in harvesting, processing, aquaculture and Indigenous partnerships to promote sustainability and effectiveness of the fish and seafood sector.

On 13 August 2021, France's Minister for the Ecological Transition Barbara Pompili renewed the 2018 France Canada Partnership on the climate and environment with her Canadian counterpart, Minister of the

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<sup>734</sup> Government of Canada supports Indigenous jobs in forestry sector, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 28 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/western-economic-diversification/news/2021/07/government-of-canada-supports-indigenous-jobs-in-forestry-sector.html>

<sup>735</sup> Planting in National Parks Underway as Part of Canada's Two Billion Tree Commitment, Parks Canada (Alma) 3 August 2021. Date Accessed: 5 August 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/parks-canada/news/2021/08/planting-in-national-parks-underway-as-part-of-canadas-two-billion-tree-commitment.html>

<sup>736</sup> Government of Canada announces 10-year forest conservation project at Vimy and Beaumont-Hamel, Veterans Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 4 August 2021. Date Accessed: 5 August 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/veterans-affairs-canada/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-announces-10-year-forest-conservation-project-at-vimy-and-beaumont-hamel.html>

<sup>737</sup> Helping farmers to reduce GHGs and improve resiliency to climate change, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Sherbrooke) 12 August 2021. Date Accessed: 21 September 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2021/08/helping-farmers-to-reduce-ghgs-and-improve-resiliency-to-climate-change.html>

<sup>738</sup> Government of Canada and Province of Newfoundland and Labrador invest in projects to increase value and sustainability in the province's fish and seafood sector, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 August 2021. Access Date: 28 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-and-province-of-newfoundland-and-labrador-invest-in-projects-to-increase-value-and-sustainability-in-the-provinces-fish-and-se.html>

Environment and Climate Change Jonathan Wilkinson.<sup>739</sup> New initiatives under the renewed partnership include working with the Powering Past Coal Alliance to phase out coal and ensure a fair transition for affected communities and workers, promotion of the Ocean Plastics Charter as a means of developing a more efficient approach to resource use and protecting the oceans, and promoting a post-COVID green recovery.

On 12 November 2021, Innovative Solutions Canada launched a new challenge led by Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) to modernize tree seedling production and make tree planting more cost-efficient and sustainable.<sup>740</sup> In this challenge, the Government of Canada invited Canadian small businesses to come up with a new innovative product, service or solution through the Innovative Solutions Canada program.

On 17 November 2021, the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, Marie-Claude Bibeau, announced an investment of more than CAD4.3 million to support Canada's pulse and special crops farmers meet growing consumer demand for sustainable, high-quality plant-based protein.<sup>741</sup> Specifically, Pulse Canada received more than CAD 2.3 million to promote the benefits of pulses and their ingredient derivatives to international food manufacturers and foodservice operators as a sustainable, value-added, healthy ingredient across a wide range of food sectors.

On 8 December 2021, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Steven Guilbeault, announced that the Government of Canada was investing more than CAD3.1 million over three years in 32 new projects funded under the Great Lake Protection Initiative.<sup>742</sup> They aimed to address priorities to restore water quality and ecosystem health in Areas of Concern, prevent toxic and nuisance algae and enhance engagement with Indigenous Peoples and the public.

On 13 December 2021, the researchers from the National Research Council of Canada's (NRC) Aquatic and Crop Resource Development Research Center collaborated with DeNova, the Center for Aquaculture Technologies Canada and Dalhousie University to focus on research to develop more sustainable salmon aquaculture feeds.<sup>743</sup> This initiative would help reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to the sustainable growth of Canada's ocean-based economy.

On 16 December 2021, Minister of Fisheries Joyce Murray and the Canadian Coast Guard announced a more cautious approach to Pacific herring management based on recently intensified risks to wild salmon.<sup>744</sup> It would close most commercial fisheries for Pacific herring and limit to First Nations' food social and ceremonial fisheries. Harvesting would be reduced to a 10 per cent harvest rate with a maximum total allowable catch of 7,850 tonnes for the Strait of Georgia.

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<sup>739</sup> Canada and France renew partnership on climate and environment, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/08/canada-and-france-renew-partnership-on-climate-and-environment.html>

<sup>740</sup> Government of Canada seeking innovative ways to reduce tree planting cost and waste, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 12 November 2021. Access Date: 28 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/11/government-of-canada-seeking-innovative-ways-to-reduce-tree-planting-cost-and-waste.html>

<sup>741</sup> Government of Canada helps meet global demand for sustainable protein products, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 17 November 2021. Access Date: 28 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2021/11/government-of-canada-helps-meet-global-demand-for-sustainable-protein-products.html>

<sup>742</sup> Canada invests \$3.1 million to protect the Great Lakes and launches new call for proposals, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Vancouver) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 28 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/12/canada-invests-31-million-to-protect-the-great-lakes-and-launches-new-call-for-proposals.html>

<sup>743</sup> Advancing Canada's aquaculture into the future, National Research Council Canada (Mississauga) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 28 December 2021. <https://nrc.canada.ca/en/stories/advancing-canadas-aquaculture-future>

<sup>744</sup> Fisheries and Oceans Canada updates Pacific herring coast-wide harvest plan for 2021-22, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Vancouver) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 28 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2021/12/fisheries-and-oceans-canada-updates-pacific-herring-coast-wide-harvest-plan-for-2021-22.html>

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to policies encouraging sustainable production, the protection and conservation, the regeneration of ecosystems and the sequestration of carbon. Canada had invested and provided funding for projects that focused on the productivity and sustainability of the fish and seafood sector, the production of crops, pork and salmon. The Minister of Environment and Climate Change funded projects that aimed at addressing priorities to restore water quality and ecosystem health in Areas of Concern, preventing toxic and nuisance algae and enhancing engagement with Indigenous Peoples and the public under the Great Lake Protection Initiative. Canada also invested in natural infrastructure projects in cities to protect the natural environment and increase carbon sequestration, while supporting businesses with innovative modernizing tree seedling production and sustainable tree planting solutions.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Xiyuan Chen*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied by ensuring its policies encourage sustainable production, the protection and conservation of ecosystems, the regeneration of ecosystems and the sequestration of carbon.

On 23 June 2021, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food presented its Action Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change.<sup>745</sup> The plan for sustainable agriculture is structured around six axes: accelerating the development of eco-friendly agricultural practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; developing the potential for carbon sequestration in soils and forest biomass; gearing demand for and consumption of food products towards practices that have lower environmental impact; supporting the adaptation of agricultural and forestry sectors to the impacts of climate change; using agricultural research and development to teach how production can be changed and innovated and guaranteeing a high level of eco-responsibility.

On 7 July 2021, Minister Delegate in charge of Transport Jean-Baptiste Djebbari emphasized the strong commitment of the Government to support the activity of the river sector and signed the Commitment for Green Growth of the River Sector (ECV).<sup>746</sup> These commitments aim to strengthen the partnership between the General Assembly of River Companies in France (E2F) and the state, ensure the green development of fleets and the energy transition of the sector and enhance the education and know-how of the commitments to the ecological transition. Within the framework of the ECV, greenhouse gas emissions from rivers must be reduced by 20 per cent within 10 years and new targets for transitioning to energy efficient technologies was made.

On 15 July 2021, France expressed a readiness to accept the various concrete action proposals to accelerate the fight against climate change, achieve climate neutrality by 2050 and meet the target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 55 per cent at least in 2030 compared to 1990 released by the European Commission.<sup>747</sup> These proposals will now be the subject of in-depth negotiation for several months in the European Parliament and Council of Ministers, and France plans to advance these negotiations in its presidency of the European Union which will begin in January 2022. Furthermore, the French government

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<sup>745</sup> National low-carbon strategy: the Ministry of Agriculture and Food presents its action plan, Ministry of Agriculture and Food (Paris) 23 June 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/strategie-nationale-bas-carbone-le-plan-dactions-du-ministere-de-lagriculture-et-de-lalimentation>

<sup>746</sup> Jean-Baptiste Djebbari signed the commitments for the green growth of the river sector, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 7 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/jean-baptiste-djebbari-signe-engagements-croissance-verte-du-secteur-fluvial>

<sup>747</sup> "Fit for 55": a new cycle of European climate policies, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 15 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/fit-55-nouveau-cycle-politiques-europeennes-climat>

“welcomes in particular the Commission’s proposal to establish a border carbon adjustment mechanism” which will help reduce carbon emissions.

On 20 July 2021, the National Assembly definitively adopted the Climate and Resilience bill which is intended to bring about a long-lasting ecological transformation of French society.<sup>748</sup> The bill will initiate widespread changes to advance decarbonisation objectives and a climate-friendly economic transition. The Climate and Resilience bill is a landmark action for France in the path towards carbon-neutrality and sustainable development, with its final stage of a ban on renting classified E housing in 2034.

On 23 July 2021, Minister for the Ecological Transition Barbara Pompili published an action plan which will result in a 50 per cent reduction of emissions of pollutants from domestic wood heating, the leading emitter of fine particles in France by 2030.<sup>749</sup> The Efficient Domestic Wood Heating action plan will make it possible for France to achieve a 50 per cent reduction of all fine particle emissions between 2020 and 2030 – a key part of the newly passed Climate and Resilience bill. This will help to make wood heating more sustainable.

On 26 July 2021, the French Development Agency (AFD) announced their support for various programs that encourage the participation of local and Indigenous populations in forest management to aid in forest protection and the increasing of sustainable practices.<sup>750</sup> There are many local barriers that often inhibit Indigenous forest management, such as state instability and the misuse of conservation projects that lead to exploitation – two issues that the AFD seeks to reconcile by aiding local populations in reclaiming their traditional forest management practices. AFD does this by providing technical and financial support to local populations, ultimately increasing the sustainability of forest management and increasing the amount of protected areas.

On 26 July 2021, the AFD announced that it is increasing its support to increase the sustainable management of the Congo River Basin to combat deforestation.<sup>751</sup> The Congo River Basin is an enormous carbon sink and site of biodiversity and thus aiding in the implementation of responsible forest management increases sustainable practices, preserves biodiversity and works to increase carbon sequestration. In order to achieve this goal, AFD has committed to granting EUR6 million to ensure that the Northern Congo increases biodiversity conservation and sustainable management practices.

On 6 August 2021, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food deployed a new wave of funding for a total of 107 projects to promote sustainable food production.<sup>752</sup> The National Food Program (PNA) committed a total of EUR14 million to the initiative, and the objective of having at least one territorial food project per department by 2023 has now almost been reached with nearly 300 chapters around France. Furthermore, the PNA designated 21 laureates for the 2020-2021 edition of. Its call for innovative or exemplary projects for sustainable agriculture.

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<sup>748</sup> Climate and Resilience Bill – Final vote in the National Assembly and the Senate: ecology in our lives, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 20 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022.

<sup>749</sup> The Government publishes the action plan to reduce fine particle emissions from domestic wood heating by 50%, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 23 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022.

<sup>750</sup> Mobilizing Local Populations in Forest Management, French Development Agency (Paris) 26 July 2021. Date Accessed: 21 September 2021. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/mobilizing-local-populations-forest-management?origin=/en/actualites>.

<sup>751</sup> Combating Deforestation in the Congo Basin, French Development Agency (Paris) 26 July 2021. Date Accessed: 21 September 2021. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/combating-deforestation-congo-basin?origin=/en/actualites>.

<sup>752</sup> National Food Programme: more than 170 projects funded across the country, an unprecedented year thanks to support from the France Relance plan, Ministry of Agriculture and Food (Paris) 6 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/programme-national-pour-lalimentation-plus-de-170-projets-finances-sur-tout-le-territoire>

On 9 August 2021, the AFD announced that it is supporting efforts to help Amazonian states transition towards more sustainable development, combat deforestation and preserve biodiversity off the heels of a July report that the Amazon rainforest was emitting more carbon emissions than it was absorbing due to the increase in forest fires.<sup>753</sup> The AFD is achieving this goal by aiding in the development of protected areas to preserve biodiversity and protect Indigenous territories. Additionally, the AFD entered into an agreement with the National Institute for Biodiversity in Ecuador to gain access to monitoring the park so the agency can assess the impacts of different activities on biodiversity in the region.

On 13 August 2021, Minister Pompili renewed the 2018 France Canada Partnership on the climate and environment with her Canadian counterpart, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change Jonathan Wilkinson.<sup>754</sup> New initiatives under the renewed partnership include working with the Powering Past Coal Alliance to phase out coal and ensure a fair transition for affected communities and workers, promotion of the Ocean Plastics Charter as a means of developing a more efficient approach to resource use and protecting the oceans and promoting a post-COVID green recovery.

On 6 September 2021, Secretary of State for Biodiversity Berangere Abba announced the creation of a wilderness area, two regional parks and the extension of two national nature reserves.<sup>755</sup> Through this, the French government is pursuing its commitment to protect 30 per cent of land and sea areas, with 10 per cent under heavy protection. In a statement to the press, the secretary of state for biodiversity emphasized how important these methods are for preserving biodiversity.

On 7 September 2021, France hosted the 20th World Organic Congress in Rennes to stress the importance of transitioning to organic agriculture to foster sustainability and improve the health of the environment.<sup>756</sup> The Congress brings together international stakeholders to discuss sustainable solutions and how to make the agricultural sector more resilient to climate change. The Ministry of Ecological Transition stressed that transitioning to an organic agricultural model would be the best way to preserve the environment and biodiversity while also lowering emissions.

On 22 September 2021, the finance bill for 2022 was presented in the Council of Ministers.<sup>757</sup> This bill provided for a further increase of the budget of the Ministry of Ecological Transition to reach a total amount of EUR49.9 billion – this is a three per cent increase compared to the year 2021, and an addition to the EUR30 billion of the recovery plan committed to in 2021 and 2022.

On 11 October 2021, Minister Pompili, and Bruno Le Maire, Minister of the Economy, Finance and Recovery, and Olivier Dussopt, Minister Delegate in charge of Public Accounts, unveiled the second edition of the “green budget,” a tool intended to support countries in aligning their budgetary, economic, and fiscal

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<sup>753</sup> Protected Areas: Nurturing Biodiversity for Present and Future Generations, French Development Agency (Paris) 9 August 2021. Date Accessed: 21 September 2021. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/protected-areas-nurturing-biodiversity-present-and-future-generations>.

<sup>754</sup> Canada and France renew partnership on climate and environment, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/08/canada-and-france-renew-partnership-on-climate-and-environment.html>

<sup>755</sup> IUCN World Conservation Congress: To preserve exceptional natural areas, France is creating 5 new protected areas, including 2 under strong protection, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 6 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/congres-mondial-nature-luicn-preserver-des-espaces-naturels-exceptionnels-france-cree-5-nouvelles>

<sup>756</sup> 20th World Organic Congress: organic farming, a solution to the global challenges of our time?, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 7 September 2021. Date Accessed: 21 September 2021. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/20e-congres-mondial-bio-lagriculture-biologique-solution-aux-enjeux-globaux-notre-temps>.

<sup>757</sup> 50 billion euros: an unprecedented effort for ecological transition in the 2022 finance bill, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 22 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/50-milliards-deuros-effort-inedit-transition-ecologique-dans-projet-loi-finances-2022>

policies with the challenges of environmental transition, with respect to climate ambitions.<sup>758</sup> The report is focused on six environmental objectives: the fight against climate change; adaptation to climate change and the prevention of natural risks; water resource management; the circular economy, waste and the prevention of technological risks; the fight against pollution and biodiversity in the protection of natural, agricultural and forested areas. The green budget pledges increased funds towards various environmental ambitions, including an increase of EUR1.1 billion increase from EUR29.8 billion towards so-called green spending and an additional EUR5.7 billion towards the environmental Recovery Plan.

On 11 October 2021, Minister Pompili, Minister Le Maire and Minister of Agriculture and Food Julien Denormandie signed the decree issuing a ban on plastic packaging around unprocessed fresh fruits and vegetables.<sup>759</sup> From 1 January 2022 onwards, 30 fresh unprocessed fruits and vegetables will be sold without plastic, marking a step forward for ecosystem preservation and the fight against plastic waste. The decree provides a gradual application of the ban, so that by 2026 all fruits and vegetables will be sold without plastic packaging.

On 8 November 2021, Minister Denormandie announced the launch of the new Seeds and Plants for Sustainable Agriculture plan at the international conference on green development.<sup>760</sup> This new plan is centered around four main principles: diversity of seed variety and species; ensuring that seeds produce quality, sustainable food; use and development of new techniques for seed production and distribution and incorporation of scientific expertise at the service of public authorities and society. Furthermore, this plan is framed with the objectives of the European strategy “from farm to table,” which identifies seeds as an essential actor for a successful transition to a more sustainable agriculture adapting to climate change.

On 12 November 2021, Minister Pompili, Minister Le Maire and Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister of Foreign Affairs, signed an agreement ending public funding abroad for certain fossil fuel energy projects from the end of 2022.<sup>761</sup> France considers the signing of this agreement, which concerns fossil fuel energy projects that do not have greenhouse gas emission mitigation devices, “a new step in the necessary decarbonisation of export financing to which the Government is resolutely committed.”

On 29 November 2021, Secretary of State Abba brought together stakeholders for a monitoring committee for the National Strategy to Combat Imported Deforestation.<sup>762</sup> The meeting allowed for all stakeholders to be presented with the new tools and policy options available to them in their cause of mitigating deforestation. This strategy shows the commitment of France to take the fight against deforestation to the European, or international level.

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<sup>758</sup> Green budget: Increase in environmentally friendly spending in 2022, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 11 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/budget-vert-augmentation-des-depenses-favorables-lenvironnement-en-2022>

<sup>759</sup> Fight against plastic pollution: publication of the decree framing the ban on plastic packaging around fresh fruits and vegetables, Ministry of Agriculture and Food (Paris) 11 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/lutte-contre-la-pollution-plastique-un-decret-encadrant-linterdiction-des-emballages-plastiques>

<sup>760</sup> Launch of the new plan Seeds and plants for sustainable agriculture: a new version of the plan at the service of agroecology, adaptation to climate change and food sovereignty, Ministry of Agriculture and Food (Paris) 8 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/lancement-du-nouveau-plan-semences-et-plants-pour-une-agriculture-durable>

<sup>761</sup> COP26: France signs an agreement reaffirming its commitment to end foreign public funding of fossil fuel projects, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 12 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/cop26-france-signe-accord-reaffirmant-engagement-mettre-fin-aux-financements-publics-letranger>

<sup>762</sup> Bérangère Abba presents new tools for implementing the National Strategy to Combat Imported Deforestation, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 3 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2021. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/berangere-abba-presente-nouveaux-outils-mise-en-oeuvre-strategie-nationale-lutte-contre>

On 2 December 2021, Minister Pompili travelled to Nantes and Saint-Nazaire in the Loire-Atlantique region to discuss the development of a strategy for the decarbonization of various French economic sectors.<sup>763</sup> At this meeting, Minister Pompili reaffirmed the commitment of the French government towards decarbonization across various industries and supported the innovative and sustainable sailing prototype, Solid Sail, which will significantly reduce the greenhouse gas emissions of the maritime transport sector. This project is supported by nearly EUR600,000 as part of the Future Investments Programme.

On 6 December 2021, Minister Pompili announced the launch of the “Mission Ecological Transition” portal, a search engine that will “bring together all the aid offered for the ecological transition of companies, the State, and communities, roughly 500 devices.”<sup>764</sup> Minister Pompili also unveiled a new system called “decarbon’Action” which aims to support small and medium sized enterprises so that they can define their plan to reduce their emissions. The system plans to support 400 companies by 2023. Finally, Minister Pompili referenced her visit to the maritime transport sector and described the undertaking of a “major work of drawing up roadmaps for decarbonization, shared between economic sectors and public authorities.”

On 14 December 2021, France and the United States held the first meeting of the United States-France Bilateral Clean Energy Partnership in which they supported the goals of the 26th United Nations Conference of the Parties on Climate Change (COP-26) to “accelerate the global transition to net zero and through, among other approaches and activities.”<sup>765</sup> Some of the key areas covered by the partnership include nuclear energy, scientific research and development, clean energy technology development and deployment and responsible and sustainable clean energy supply chains. This meeting saw extensive discussion on clean energy policies and carbon sequestration. Both countries have stated their commitment to leveraging technological innovation and its market deployment to achieve zero carbon emissions by 2050, and the next meeting of the United States-France Bilateral Clean Energy Partnership is scheduled for Washington D.C. in 2022.

France has fully complied with its commitment to ensuring its policies encourage sustainable production, as well as the protection and conservation, the regeneration of ecosystems and the sequestration of carbon. France has demonstrated responsible environmental policy development by developing a new green budget, establishing an Action Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change (PNACC) and adopting the Climate and Resilience bill.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Paul Maiquez-Gameter*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied by ensuring its policies encourage sustainable production, the protection and conservation of ecosystems, the regeneration of ecosystems and the sequestration of carbon.

On 25 June 2021, the Bundesrat passed an amendment to Germany’s Climate Change Act, approving an Immediate Action Programme worth EUR8 billion with the goal of intensifying support for decarbonisation

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<sup>763</sup> Barbara Pompili will announce the Decarbonization Strategy for French economic sectors on Friday December 3 in Loire-Atlantique (44), Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 2 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2021. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/barbara-pompili-annoncera-strategie-decarbonation-des-filieres-economiques-francaises-vendredi-3>

<sup>764</sup> Speech by Barbara Pompili at the Business Climate Convention in Nantes on December 3, 2021, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 6 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/intervention-barbara-pompili-lors-convention-des-entreprises-climat-nantes-3-decembre-2021>

<sup>765</sup> Joint Statement Issued by the United States and France Following the First Meeting of the United States-France Bilateral Clean Energy Partnership, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 17 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/declaration-conjointe-emise-etats-unis-et-france-suite-premiere-reunion-du-partenariat-bilateral>



of the industrial sector, creating green hydrogen, energy-focused building refurbishments, climate-friendly mobility and sustainable forestry and agriculture.<sup>766</sup> This amendment also focused on raising the carbon dioxide emission reduction targets, strengthening natural sinks with the aim of binding carbon dioxide, coordinating climate action at the European level and specified greenhouse gas emission targets to be achieved during the 2030s.

On 25 June 2021, the Federal Council adopted several legislative initiatives and ordinances pertaining to the Common European Agricultural Policy (CAP), two-tier consumer production, plant health, organic farming and various regulations on animal welfare.<sup>767</sup> The amendments and system change in the CAP set the groundwork for an agriculture that improves environmental conservation, protection and climate change in practice by introducing a revised budget for eco-regulations, redistributing funding to small and medium-sized enterprises, reallocation of funds and supporting young farmers with an additional EUR98 million. Germany also implemented European Union law regarding plant health and made regulations regarding phytosanitary import controls.

On 6 July 2021, the Chairman of the Commission on the Future of Agriculture handed over its final report to Chancellor Angela Merkel, outlining several strategies for agricultural policy development and recommendations to increase efforts to boost climate and environmental protection.<sup>768</sup> The final report stressed that to properly support modern agriculture in Germany, adequate financial support must be given to farmers and local sustainable development initiatives.

On 6 July 2021, Federal Minister for Food and Agriculture (BMEL) Hans-Joachim Fuchtel, handed over the final premium approval allocating an amount of EUR398,100 to six communities in Baden-Württemberg to promote the conversion of damaged forests into site-adapted and climate-resilient mixed forests.<sup>769</sup> This premium is part of a long strategy for adapting forests to climate change and ensures the healthy regeneration of forests and ecosystems.

On 22 July 2021, the Parliamentary State Secretary Uwe Feiler presented the funding notification for EUR1.8 million from the Forest Climate Fund to the BENEATH project, which aims to quantify, evaluate and improve the climate protection performance of near-natural beech forests in terms of the influence of climate change in forest soil, especially related to carbon balance.<sup>770</sup> In a statement, Secretary Feiler noted that “The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change calls sustainable forest management one of the most effective climate protection measures of all. That also means: We must keep an eye on the forest soils, they store 3,500 gigatons of carbon worldwide.”

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<sup>766</sup> Climate Change Act 2021: Intergenerational contract for the climate, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 25 June 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/themen/klimaschutz/climate-change-act-2021-1936846>

<sup>767</sup> System change in the CAP, empowerment of consumers, reduction of glyphosate, more animal welfare, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Bonn) 25 June 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2021. <https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/2021/108-bundesrat.html>

<sup>768</sup> Recommendations of the Commission on the Future of Agriculture: Like “squaring a circle”, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/future-agriculture-1940546>

<sup>769</sup> Fuchtel: We need the municipalities for healthy forests, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Bonn) 6 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2021.

<https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/2021/114-bundeswaldpraemie-bw-fuchtel.html>

<sup>770</sup> Improving the climate protection performance of forest soils, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Bonn) 22 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 January 2021.

<https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/2021/126-klimaschutzleistung-waldboeden.html>

On 2 September 2021, the International Ministerial Conference to combat marine litter and plastic pollution, hosted by Germany, Ecuador, Ghana and Vietnam, ended with a draft resolution.<sup>771</sup> All four countries advocated for a global agreement which would achieve joint action, hopefully resolving the crisis posed by marine litter to the sea and ocean ecosystems. Germany continues to work to ensure that marine litter and ecosystem conservation is given a high priority in global forums.

On 1 October 2021, Oslo/Paris convention countries for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR) agreed to create one of the largest protected marine areas in the world, providing protection for seabirds.<sup>772</sup> The goal of this new protected area is to reduce marine pollution and litter on beaches by 50 per cent by 2025 and by 75 per cent by 2030. This action will help to protect aquatic and marine environments.

On 8 November 2021, Germany committed EUR150 million for climate change adaptation in developing countries, bringing the total amount provided towards the adaptation finance fund to EUR2 billion a year.<sup>773</sup> Projects supported by the Adaptation Fund include efficient irrigation systems in agriculture, transboundary coastal zones and water management and securing alternative livelihoods for farming and forestry communities. To date, Germany had contributed EUR390 million making it the largest donor.

On 24 November 2021, the Federal Cabinet approved the ordinances submitted by the Federal Minister for Food and Agriculture, Julia Klöckner, for the national implementation of the CAP.<sup>774</sup> This represents a crucial stage in the implementation, after the relevant laws passed through the Bundestag and Bundesrat in June. The CAP was constituted mainly of direct payment regulations in the form of obligations and premium amounts for organic regulations, and conditionality regulations on the details on distance regulations to water bodies. A strategy for protecting wetlands and moors in the form of management requirements were also issued on agricultural land in such areas.

On 13 December 2021, the new Federal Minister of Food and Agriculture Cem Özdemir met with his European counterparts to discuss the draft regulation by the European Union Commission to prevent deforestation and forest damage within certain agricultural commodities.<sup>775</sup> Minister Özdemir emphasized the importance of ensuring that agricultural goods purchased by Germany were not contributing to deforestation abroad. As one of his first meetings with his European counterparts, Minister Özdemir has made it clear that climate change mitigation and avoiding deforestation are key issues for German policymakers.

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<sup>771</sup> International Ministerial Conference to combat marine litter and plastic pollution ends with draft resolution, Ministry of Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (Bonn) 2 September 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2021. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/international-ministerial-conference-to-combat-marine-litter-and-plastic-pollution-ends-with-draft-resolution>

<sup>772</sup> North-East Atlantic countries create one of the largest marine protected areas in the world, Ministry of Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (Bonn) 1 October 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2021. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/north-east-atlantic-countries-create-one-of-the-largest-marine-protected-areas-in-the-world>

<sup>773</sup> Germany commits 150 million euros for climate change adaptation in developing countries, Ministry of Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (Bonn) 8 November 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2021. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/germany-commits-150-million-euros-for-climate-change-adaptation-in-developing-countries>

<sup>774</sup> Klöckner: Broad political basis for the implementation of the European agricultural policy, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Bonn) 24 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/2021/173-gap-verordnungen-bundeskabinett.html>

<sup>775</sup> Özdemir: We want to put an end to imported forest destruction, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Bonn) 13 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/2021/180-agrarrat.html>

On 13 December 2021, the German Cabinet passed a draft law for a second supplementary budget for 2021, with which an allocation of around EUR60 billion will go to the Energy and Climate Fund (EKF).<sup>776</sup> Federal Minister for Economics and Climate Protection Robert Habeck stated “With the EUR60 billion that has now been decided in the supplementary budget, we are starting the next stage. We can use the funds to leverage investments that go hand in hand with economic recovery and climate protection.” The Bundestag must still approve the draft law.

On 11 January 2022, Minister Habeck presented the opening balance sheet for German climate protection.<sup>777</sup> In his remarks, Minister Habeck stated that climate protection has been insufficient in various sectors and efforts must be intensified. Minister Habeck presented some immediate measures that the Federal Ministry of Economics and Climate Protection prepared, including an amendment to the German Renewable Energy Act where the course for 80 per cent renewable electricity generation has been moved to 2030. Furthermore, Minister Habeck proposed the creation of legal and financial conditions for the provision of climate protection contracts, called Carbon Contracts for Difference. These will serve as tools to support the transformation in the industry.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to ensuring its policies encourage sustainable production, as well as the protection and conservation of ecosystems, the regeneration of ecosystems and the sequestration of carbon. Through funding efforts towards industrial decarbonization and investment for sustainable development in developing countries and environmentally conscious policy developments such as the CAP, Germany has ensured sustainable development and decarbonization are prime aspects of its international and domestic policies. Additionally, Germany has taken efforts to preserve and restore ecosystems.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Paul Maiquez-Gamster*

### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied by completing at least partial action in more than half of the commitment requirements including sustainable production, the protection and conservation of ecosystems, the regeneration of ecosystems and the sequestration of carbon.

On 19-21 July 2021, the United Nations Food Systems Summit was held in Rome under the leadership of Italy’s Government and United Nations.<sup>778</sup> The goal of this food summit was to build sustainable food systems that work for everyone by bringing youths, smallholder farmers, indigenous people, policy leaders and many more actors together to discuss how to make food systems more resilient to climate change.

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<sup>776</sup> Habeck: Additional funds for the transformation to a climate-neutral economy – Cabinet approves draft of the second supplementary budget for 2021, Federal Ministry for Economics and Climate Protection (Bonn) 13 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022.

<https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2021/12/20211213-habeck-zusaetzliche-mittel-fuer-die-transformation-zu-einer-klimaneutralen-volkswirtschaft-kabinett-beschliesst-entwurf-des-zweiten-nachtragshaushalts-2021.html>

<sup>777</sup> Habeck: Additional funds for the transformation to a climate-neutral economy – Cabinet approves draft of the second supplementary budget for 2021, Federal Ministry for Economics and Climate Protection (Bonn) 13 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022.

<https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2021/12/20211213-habeck-zusaetzliche-mittel-fuer-die-transformation-zu-einer-klimaneutralen-volkswirtschaft-kabinett-beschliesst-entwurf-des-zweiten-nachtragshaushalts-2021.html>

<sup>778</sup> Italy to set the stage for UN Food System with three-day event that will deliver bold new ambitions, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 17 March 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/italy-set-stage-un-food-systems-summit-three-day-event-will-deliver-bold-new-ambitions>

On 29 July 2021, the Ministry of Ecological Transition released an ordinance for the repair of environmental damage that occurred due to quarrying activities by VANNELLA.<sup>779</sup> The ordinance will identify activities “relating to maintenance and crop care subsequent to planting” and integration. This ordinance will help to restore a damaged ecosystem.

On 29 September 2021, the Undersecretary to the Ministry of Ecological Transition, Ilaria Fontana, emphasized the importance of protecting and conserving the marine resources and ecosystems in Antarctica.<sup>780</sup> She noted Italy’s presence on the continent in a scientific capacity since 1985 and its history of supporting the “need to intervene, in Antarctica, with the designation of Marine Protected Areas.” These statements reemphasize Italy’s commitment to the protection of vulnerable ecosystems in the Antarctic Peninsula.

On the dates of 30 September-2 October 2021 Italy hosted the Pre-COP26 in Milan which was attended by around 40-50 countries and representatives from UNFCCC.<sup>781</sup> During the Pre-COP26 event ministers were able to shape the negotiations in detail regarding climate change and transition to sustainable development.

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to transition to sustainable production, conserve and protect and ecosystems, restore ecosystems and work towards the sequestration of carbon. Italy has done this by emphasizing the importance of protecting Antarctic ecosystems, adopting an ordinance to restore a degraded ecosystem and by participating in global summits to transition to increased sustainable production/development for agriculture. Italy has taken no action towards the sequestration of carbon.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Aida Zarghami*

#### **Japan: -1**

Japan has not complied to its commitment of ensuring its policies encourage sustainable production, the protection and conservation of ecosystems, the regeneration of ecosystems and the sequestration of carbon.

On 26 July 2021, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) revised the Roadmap for Carbon Recycling Technologies, “a document that aims to accelerate innovation by showing the path for expanding and disseminating Carbon Recycling (technologies whereby CO<sub>2</sub> [carbon dioxide] is used as a fuel or raw material).”<sup>782</sup> Revisions included bringing forward the beginning of widespread adoption of (general purpose) Carbon Recycling products to around the year 2040 from previous estimates of 2050, in light of progressive trend of development in Japan. These actions aim to sequester carbon from the atmosphere.

On 3 September 2021, Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga held the 47th meeting of the Global Warming Prevention Headquarters at the Prime Minister’s Office, to discuss “the draft Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures and the draft Long-Term Strategy under the Paris Agreement and other matters.”<sup>783</sup> The

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<sup>779</sup> Order to repair the environmental damage caused by the quarrying activity conducted by VANELLA srl, Ministry of Ecological Transition (Rome) 29 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access date: 5 February 2022.

<https://www.mite.gov.it/notizie/ordinanza-di-riparazione-del-danno-ambientale-cagionato-dall-attivita-di-coltivazione-di>  
<sup>780</sup> Environment: Increase the number of marine protected areas in Antarctica, Ministry of Ecological Transition (Rome) 29 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 February 2022.

<https://www.mite.gov.it/notizie/ambiente-aumentare-il-numero-di-aree-marine-protette-antartide>

<sup>781</sup> Pre-Cop was the final official ministerial meeting ahead of the COP, UN Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (Glasgow) N/A. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ukcop26.org/pre-cop/pre-cop-milan/>

<sup>782</sup> Roadmap for Carbon Recycling Technologies Revised, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry Japan (Tokyo) 26 July 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0726\\_003.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0726_003.html)

<sup>783</sup> Press Release: Global Warming Prevention Headquarters, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 3 September 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/99\\_suga/actions/202109/\\_00007.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/99_suga/actions/202109/_00007.html)

Prime Minister stated Japan's goal of reaching net-zero emissions by 2050, in addition to seeking a 46 per cent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by the year 2030, and to continue reaching the goal of cutting emissions by 50 per cent. One of the concrete measures presented to achieve this goal includes the decarbonization of the food sector.

On 4 October 2021, METI and the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO) also jointly held the Third International Conference on Carbon Recycling 2021.<sup>784</sup> "Industry, academia and government leaders in the field of carbon recycling (concrete/cement, fuel/chemicals, and R&D/investment) participated from Japan and abroad, and through panel discussions, announced their future directions toward implementing carbon recycling throughout society." Furthermore, METI reiterated previous carbon sequestration efforts, such as the Green Growth Strategy Carbon Recycling Action Plan and the revision of the Roadmap for Carbon Recycling Technologies.

On 22 October 2021, the Ministry of the Environment (MOEJ) announced that the Cabinet has approved the Climate Change Adaptation Plan, which describes "describes the basic direction of the measures to be taken for climate change" for multiple sectors, including agriculture, forestry, the environment and other land use sectors.<sup>785</sup> This will help to ensure that these land use sectors will adopt policies that are in line with climate change objectives.

On 27 October 2021, Japan attended the Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting on Environmental Cooperation, aimed at strengthening cooperation between Japan and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) on climate change, as part of ASEAN's climate action and its transition to decarbonization.<sup>786</sup> The meeting encouraged the countries to "further enhance cooperation on regional activities to achieve innovative and sustainable agricultural production and food systems aiming to promote the application of digital technologies in agriculture, application of nature-based solutions in agriculture, forestry and climate change adaptation and mitigation" as appropriate to the locales to achieve climate change goals.

Japan has failed to comply with its commitment to ensure sustainable production in the agricultural sector, conserve and protect ecosystems, restore ecosystems and foster carbon sequestration. This is because Japan has only taken strong action towards carbon sequestration via the implementation of the Carbon Recycling Action Plan and other policies and took partial action towards fostering sustainable production in agriculture. Japan took no action towards environmental protection and conservation nor any action to restore ecosystems.

Thus, Japan receives a score of -1.

*Analyst: Muhammad Hamza Khan*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied by ensuring its policies encourage sustainable production, the protection and conservation of ecosystems, the regeneration of ecosystems and the sequestration of carbon.

On 23 June 2021, the Environment Agency and Natural England launched updates to water abstraction

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<sup>784</sup> Press Release: Third International Conference on Carbon Recycling 2021 Held, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry Japan (Tokyo) 6 October 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1006\\_002.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1006_002.html)

<sup>785</sup> Press Release: The Cabinet's Approval of the Climate Change Adaptation Plan and the Results of the Call for Public Comments on the Plan, Ministry of the Environment Japan (Tokyo) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 26 November 2021. <https://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2560.html>

<sup>786</sup> Press Release: Outcome of the Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting on Environmental Cooperation, Ministry of the Environment Japan (Tokyo) 27 October 2021. Access Date: 26 November 2021. <https://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2547.html>

licenses to 20 businesses operating in Ant Valley, a region of environmental importance.<sup>787</sup> Under these new regulations, businesses will have to source water sustainably rather than sourcing it from rivers, lakes or groundwater. Each year, the regulations are predicted to replace 3 billion liters of water, which will help bring water levels back to their original amount.

On 24 June 2021, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and Natural England declared two new Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty: Yorkshire Wolds and Cheshire Sandstone Ridge.<sup>788</sup> This development will allow these natural habitats to remain protected and will increase citizens' access to nature.

On 19 July 2021, the Environment Agency announced new guidelines for businesses that want to capture carbon dioxide from their combustion process, the goal of the new guidelines is 10Mt of carbon dioxide emissions a year by 2030.<sup>789</sup> Under these new guidelines, these businesses will have to apply for an environmental permit, which will only be awarded to groups that meet requirements to protect the environment and local communities.

On 21 July 2021, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs worked with local communities to create a plan to plant 500 hectares of trees by 2025.<sup>790</sup> This initiative aims to increase biodiversity, restore habitats and bring local communities closer to nature.

On 21 July 2021, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Forestry Commission created a GBP1 million fund to increase tree production in England.<sup>791</sup> This fund will support nurseries to develop and adopt new technologies to increase the quantity of tree stock while increasing biodiversity of trees in England.

On 21 July 2021, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Natural England, and the Environment Agency awarded GBP100,000 to each of 27 projects designed to capture carbon and improve water quality and biodiversity.<sup>792</sup> Various organizations have also been given funding to set out on projects that will protect natural habitats.

On 22 July 2021, the UK government worked with water regulators including the Environment Agency to reform water policies.<sup>793</sup> Changes include measuring water companies using an outcome rather than output-bases system, using nature-based solutions for water treatment to improve biodiversity, working with other entities like landowners and wildlife trusts so environmental improvements are more efficiently achieved and having water companies work more closely with the Environment Agency and Natural England.

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<sup>787</sup> Habitats protected in Norfolk through stricter abstraction laws, Environment Agency (Bristol) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/habitats-protected-in-norfolk-through-stricter-abstraction-limits>

<sup>788</sup> Ambitious proposals to create and improve protected landscapes across England, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ambitious-proposals-to-create-and-improve-protected-landscapes-across-england>

<sup>789</sup> Guidance published on new carbon capture technologies, Environment Agency (Bristol) 19 July 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/guidance-published-on-new-carbon-capture-technologies>

<sup>790</sup> New Community Forest created in the North East to support a greener future, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 21 July 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-community-forest-created-in-the-north-east-to-support-a-greener-future>

<sup>791</sup> Forestry Commission launches new Tree Production Innovation Fund, Forestry Commission (Bristol) 21 July 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/forestry-commission-launches-new-tree-production-innovation-fund>

<sup>792</sup> Boost to drive investment in Essex, Norfolk, and Lincolnshire environment, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 21 July 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/boost-to-drive-investment-in-essex-norfolk-and-lincolnshire-environment>

<sup>793</sup> Water Policy reforms to deliver ambitious environmental agenda, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 22 July 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/water-policy-reforms-to-deliver-ambitious-environmental-agenda>

On 27 July 2021, the Government of the United Kingdom agreed to provide KES20 billion in funds to Kenya to help the country achieve its green housing goals.<sup>794</sup> UK funds are being awarded to projects to help forest restoration, green energy, and green cooling.

On 28 July 2021, the UK government plans to fund 90 projects with a total of GBP40 million through the Green Recovery Challenge Fund.<sup>795</sup> The UK also announced an additional GBP550 million in new funding to help Kenya achieve their climate change objectives, including for projects that relate to forest restoration.

On 2 August 2021, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office launched a new training package for the UK's Overseas Territories as part of the UK government's Blue Belt Programme.<sup>796</sup> This training package includes easy-to-access modules designed to teach how to better manage and protect marine environments.

On 2 August 2021, The UK government provided GBP17 million in funds to programs to help farmers prevent water pollution through free advice programs.<sup>797</sup> These programs are meant to teach green management and increase sustainable production in the agricultural sector.

On 4 August 2021, the Environment Agency announced that a project to invest GBP5.59 million to improve the environment across Yorkshire has succeeded.<sup>798</sup> Over 40 projects that received funding through the program managed to improve over 100 kilometers of rivers, restored and created 570 hectares of natural habitats, remove barriers to fish migration and planted 36,000 trees.

On 11 August 2021, the UK government awarded GBP1.4 million to Malaysia as part of the UK Partnering for Accelerated Climate Transitions program.<sup>799</sup> Five projects are being funded through this program to help increase the capacity of Malaysia to achieve low-carbon energy and protect its natural habitats.

On 13 August 2021, the UK government provided the first GBP16.2 million as part of the Blue Planet Fund, which plans to eventually total GBP500 million in investment.<sup>800</sup> These funds were awarded to projects designed to increase marine protection, minimize plastic pollution and halt damage to coral reefs.

On 18 August 2021, the Environment Agency launched the month-long Operation LUNGFISH to prevent illegal fishing, examples of prohibited activities include fishing without a license or using illegal traps.<sup>801</sup> This

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<sup>794</sup> UK Mobilises KES 20 billion investment into Kenya's Big Four projects, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 27 July 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-mobilises-kes-20-billion-investment-into-kenyas-big-four-projects>

<sup>795</sup> Multi-million pound boost for green jobs and nature recovery, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/multi-million-pound-boost-for-green-jobs-and-nature-recovery>

<sup>796</sup> Blue Belt Programme launches Training Programme for UK Overseas Territories, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 2 August 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/blue-belt-programme-launches-training-programme-for-uk-overseas-territories>

<sup>797</sup> Funding boost for farmers to tackle water pollution, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 2 August 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/funding-boost-for-farmers-to-tackle-water-pollution>

<sup>798</sup> Multi-million pound investment brings Yorkshire improvements, Environment Agency (Bristol) 4 August 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/multi-million-pound-investment-brings-yorkshire-improvements>

<sup>799</sup> UK PACT backs low-carbon transition in Malaysia with £1.4 million in support, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 11 August 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-pact-backs-low-carbon-transition-in-malaysia-with-14-million-in-support>

<sup>800</sup> Government scales up support to protect the world's ocean with multimillion boost for marine recovery, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-scales-up-support-to-protect-the-worlds-ocean-with-multimillion-boost-for-marine-recovery>

will help to protect the environment and conserve species from the effects of overfishing which reap a detrimental impact on biodiversity and ecosystem health.

On 26 August 2021, the Environment Agency announced a plan to invest GBP9.5 million into a program to improve navigation infrastructure on the Thames River.<sup>802</sup> Some improvements include plans to construct new fish passes that will help improve the natural habitats there.

On 27 August 2021, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and Natural England announced five new projects to restore thousands of hectares of England's peatlands.<sup>803</sup> To achieve these projects, the UK government plans to invest over GBP50 million.

On 2 September 2021, the UK government provided GBP263,000 in funds to the Pacific Community as part of an agreement to help Pacific Island Countries get rights over their ocean spaces.<sup>804</sup> This development aims to help the Pacific Community gain the ability to sustainably manage the environments within their ocean spaces.

On 10 September 2021, the Marine Management Organization announced a new plan, the Studland Bay Marine Conservation Zone Habitat Protection Strategy.<sup>805</sup> This plan aims to protect the Marine Conservation Zone and its seagrass habitat through two main steps that will be implemented in December 2021 and June 2022. Both steps will implement a voluntary no-anchor zone in these waters to protect the marine ecosystems.

On 11 September 2021, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs provided GBP24 million in funds to spur the creation of new technologies to promote the sustainability of the seafood industry.<sup>806</sup> This initial round of funding is part of a GBP100 million investment project that has three pillars. The first pillar promotes the coordination of the seafood industry to work alongside scientists to encourage more sustainable fishing practices and gather data.

On 13 September 2021, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs announced GBP2.5 million in funding to farmers and landowners as the sixth round of the Countryside Stewardship Facilitation

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<sup>801</sup> Environment Agency delivers warning to illegal anglers with new enforcement campaign, Environment Agency (Bristol), 18 August 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/environment-agency-delivers-warning-to-illegal-anglers-with-new-enforcement-campaign>

<sup>802</sup> Bumper £9.5 million navigation investment for River Thames, Environment Agency (Bristol) 26 August 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/bumper-95-million-navigation-investment-for-river-thames>

<sup>803</sup> Thousands of hectares of vital peatland to be restored to help tackle climate change and protect biodiversity, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 27 August 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/thousands-of-hectares-of-vital-peatland-to-be-restored-to-help-tackle-climate-change-and-protect-biodiversity>

<sup>804</sup> UK supports Pacific Island progress on Extended Continental Shelf, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 2 September 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-supports-pacific-island-progress-on-extended-continental-shelf>

<sup>805</sup> The MMO introduces the Studland Bay Marine Conservation Zone Habitat Protection Strategy, Marine Management Organisation (Newcastle) 10 September 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-mmo-introduces-the-studland-bay-marine-conservation-zone-habitat-protection-strategy>

<sup>806</sup> £24 million for cutting-edge science and fisheries, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 11 September 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/24-million-for-cutting-edge-science-and-fisheries>



Fund.<sup>807</sup> This program provides funds to groups of farmers if they submit a detailed plan about how they plan to work together to protect and manage the local environment.

On 17 September 2021, the Environment Agency announced new restrictions on salmon fishing to combat a decline in migratory salmon numbers, which are currently below sustainable levels.<sup>808</sup> These new restrictions prohibit the catch of salmon in the Severn Estuary and River Severn and mandate all salmon to be released.

On 21 September 2021, Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak launched the Green Gilt program, which is a 12-year government bond that is sold to help finance green projects in the UK.<sup>809</sup> These projects aim to preserve natural habitats and finance clean transportation and green energy, on the day of its sale, the Green Gilt program raised GBP10 million.

On 22 September 2021, Natural England announced a plan to expand the National Nature Reserve, a partnership between multiple environmental organizations in England.<sup>810</sup> The project will last 20 years and increase the quantity of land under protection and conservation measures.

On 22 September 2021, the UK funded GBP220 million to top-polluting industries to help facilitate a switch to green production.<sup>811</sup> This funding targets new projects aimed to help increase capture carbon, reduce carbon emissions and recycle waste heat into electricity.

On 22 September 2021, the UK government provided GBP100 million in funding to six biodiversity hotspots that are home to endangered species.<sup>812</sup> This funding will be provided over a span of seven years, and money will be allocated to community-led projects. These projects aim to support sustainable agriculture and land management, restore natural habitats and allow local communities to self-manage their land.

On 25 September 2021, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Agriculture and the Forestry Commission announced the new environmental project, The Woodlands for Water project.<sup>813</sup> Through this project, 3,150 hectares of woodlands are planned to be created, and landowners can apply for funding from the England Woodland Creation Offer in order to plant and manage new trees.

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<sup>807</sup> New round of government fund for collaborative farming communities, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 13 September 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-round-of-government-fund-for-collaborative-farming-communities>

<sup>808</sup> New bylaws to be introduced in the Severn Estuary and River Severn, Environment Agency (Bristol) 17 September 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-byelaws-to-be-introduced-in-the-severn-estuary-and-river-severn>

<sup>809</sup> UK's first Green Gilt raises £10 billion for green projects, Her Majesty's Treasury (London) 21 September 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uks-first-green-gilt-raises-10-billion-for-green-projects>

<sup>810</sup> Partners agree 20-year vision for Purbeck Heaths super NNR, Natural England (York) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/partners-agree-20-year-vision-for-purbeck-heaths-super-nnr>

<sup>811</sup> £220 million to help big-emitting industries become cleaner and greener, Prime Minister's Office (London) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/220-million-to-help-big-emitting-industries-become-cleaner-and-greener>

<sup>812</sup> Lifeline for some the world's most precious biodiverse habitats announced, Prime Minister's Office (London) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/lifeline-for-some-the-worlds-most-precious-biodiverse-habitats-announced>

<sup>813</sup> Riverbanks and watercourses to be planted with new woodland, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 25 September 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/riverbanks-and-watercourses-to-be-planted-with-new-woodland>

On 1 October 2021, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Agriculture provided GBP 7.2 million to 17 different projects designed to combat illegal wildlife trade.<sup>814</sup> These projects include efforts to protect endangered species such as pangolins, tigers, rosewood timber and elephants.

On 15 October 2021, the Environment Agency launched a new strategy to protect and restore England's chalk streams, which make up around 85 per cent of the world's total chalk streams.<sup>815</sup> In England, chalk streams provide a vital habitat and a water source for the country.

On 18 October 2021, Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak announced new guidelines for businesses to disclose their environmental impacts.<sup>816</sup> These guidelines will encourage green investment and discourage unsustainable business practices.

On 28 October 2021, the UK created the Climate Services for a Net-Zero Resilient World (CS-NOW), which is a 4-year program with the backing of GBP5 million.<sup>817</sup> It aims to use the latest scientific knowledge to help inform UK climate policy and achieve the government's goals of net-zero emissions by 2050.

On 1 November 2021, Prime Minister Boris Johnson launched a major funding initiative for the UK's new Clean Green Initiative (CGI) at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26).<sup>818</sup> The CGI aims to promote both public and private investment in green infrastructure worldwide. Over the next five years, the UK will provide over GBP3 billion in total to support green growth in developing countries, and GBP200 million of those funds will be used to create a new Climate Innovation Facility. This facility will work with the private sector to innovate in technologies that the private sector deems too risky to invest in alone.

On 2 November 2021, the UK will provide GBP1.5 billion over the span of five years to support the Global Forest Finance Pledge (GFFP).<sup>819</sup> The GFFP aims to tackle deforestation around the world, and 12 countries also pledged public funds to support the program.

On 2 November 2021, the UK government announced a plan to fund GBP50 million into the High Impact Partnership on Climate Change, which is a program launched by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development during COP26.<sup>820</sup> The Partnership aims to support environmental protection and innovative solutions and investments that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The UK's funds are used to encourage the private sector to support work in the Middle East and Africa.

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<sup>814</sup> UK commits additional £7.2 million to tackling illegal wildlife trade, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 1 October 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-commits-additional-72-million-to-tackling-illegal-wildlife-trade>

<sup>815</sup> New strategy launched to protect chalk streams, Environment Agency (Bristol) 15 October 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-strategy-launched-to-protect-chalk-streams>

<sup>816</sup> Chancellor sets new standards for environmental reporting to weed out greenwashing and support transition to a greener financial system, Her Majesty's Treasury (London) 18 October 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-sets-new-standards-for-environmental-reporting-to-weed-out-greenwashing-and-support-transition-to-a-greener-financial-system>

<sup>817</sup> Climate Services for a Net Zero resilient world (CS-NOW): overview, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 28 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/climate-services-for-a-net-zero-resilient-world/cs-n0w-overview>

<sup>818</sup> PM Launches New Initiative to Take Green Industrial Revolution Global, Prime Minister's Office (London) 1 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-launches-new-initiative-to-take-green-industrial-revolution-global>

<sup>819</sup> \$12 Billion Donor Support to Halt and Reverse Loss and Protect Land Rights, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/12-billion-donor-support-to-halt-and-reverse-forest-loss-and-protect-land-rights>

<sup>820</sup> UK Announces Funding for Climate and the Environment in the Middle East and Africa, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London). 2 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-funding-for-climate-and-the-environment-in-the-middle-east-and-north-africa>

On 5 November 2021, the UK and Zambia signed the Green Growth Compact, which aims to create sustainable growth and jobs.<sup>821</sup> The Compact will deliver billions of pounds for investment purposes, aim to double trade between the two countries, and channel millions of pounds of financial resources to smaller companies.

On 8 November 2021, the Environment Agency temporarily installed a flood barrier across the Newhaven Railway, which is the first of its kind in the UK.<sup>822</sup> This scheme is part of the GBP17.5 million project to alleviate flooding in Newhaven.

On 8 November 2021, the UK government announced the GBP274 million program, Climate Action for a Resilient Asia (CARA), which aims to promote adaptation to climate changes for seven years.<sup>823</sup> The program will work with the Met Office, the Asian Development Bank, the World Bank, the United Nations Development Program, and the International Center for Integrated Mountain Development. CARA also will provide a Flexible Technical Assistance Fund, which aims to provide innovative programming in the Indo-Pacific Region.

On 9 November 2021, the UK Space Agency gave GBP11 million in funds to 11 UK organizations to develop new space technologies.<sup>824</sup> The majority of the funded projects include initiatives related to climate change and environmental management. Such projects include a satellite to measure thermal emissions from Earth, a forestry and management tool to monitor trees' health from space, a satellite to measure the density of Earth's thermosphere, thermal telescopes to measure the energy efficiency of buildings, a satellite observation system to measure Earth's weather variability and a system to monitor emitters of greenhouse gasses.

On 9 November 2021, the Government of the UK funded GBP210 million to small nuclear reactors in the UK along with private investment funds of GBP250 million.<sup>825</sup> The government additionally provided GBP165 million in funds to promote gender diversity while combating climate change.<sup>826</sup> The funds are divided into two initiatives. The first GBP45 million aims to help communities and local women's rights movements in Asia and the Pacific to promote gender inequality and adjust to the impacts of climate change. The second GBP120 million is to tackle pollution, protect biodiversity and promote green energy while supporting women's equality and leadership in Bangladesh.

On 10 November 2021, the UK government made the Environment Act law.<sup>827</sup> The Act aims to stop deforestation overseas, halt the extinction of species by 2030 and require new developments to create or

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<sup>821</sup> Green Growth Compact agreement between the UK and Zambia, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 5 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/green-growth-compact-agreement-between-the-uk-and-zambia>

<sup>822</sup> Newhaven flood barrier success, Environment Agency (Bristol) 8 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/newhaven-flood-barrier-success>

<sup>823</sup> UK announces £274m boost to climate resilience across Indo-Pacific, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 8 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-274m-boost-to-climate-resilience-across-indo-pacific>

<sup>824</sup> Government backs ground-breaking space technology to tackle climate change, UK Space Agency (Swindon) 9 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-backs-ground-breaking-space-technology-to-tackle-climate-change>

<sup>825</sup> UK backs new small nuclear technology with £210 million, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 9 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-backs-new-small-nuclear-technology-with-210-million>

<sup>826</sup> UK boost to advance gender equality in climate action, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 9 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-boost-to-advance-gender-equality-in-climate-action>

<sup>827</sup> World-leading Environment Act becomes law, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-leading-environment-act-becomes-law>

preserve habitats. These environmental targets are legally binding and are to be enforced by the new and independent Office for Environmental Protection.

On 11 November 2021, the UK government launched the UK Urban Climate Action Programme to help reduce emissions in cities around the world, which currently release 40 per cent of the world's emissions.<sup>828</sup> The UK will fund GBP27.5 million in total to help cities in Asia, Africa and Latin America grow sustainably.

On 18 November 2021, the Environment Agency launched an investigation into sewage treatment works after water companies admitted that they could be releasing unauthorized discharge into bodies of water.<sup>829</sup> The investigation involved 2000 sewage treatment works, and offending companies will be fined or prosecuted. The EA mandated that water companies install monitors so the frequency and duration of sewage spills can be displayed.

On 30 November 2021, the UK government announced a new roadmap to work with farmers in creating a path to sustainable, subsidy-free agriculture by 2028.<sup>830</sup> Measures in this plan aim to recover habitats and create new woodlands, eradicate endemic diseases in livestock, reduce yearly Direct Payments and reallocate the money for new grants, create a Farming Investment Fund to provide farmers with new technology and infrastructure and simplify the agriculture regulatory system.<sup>831</sup>

On 3 December 2021, the Environment Agency, the Norfolk Rivers Trust and the Norfolk City Council constructed a new wetland.<sup>832</sup> Constructing new wetlands will improve the quality of water entering rivers and to create a safe habitat for native plants and fish.

On 7 December 2021, the UK government provided GBP116 million to invest in businesses developing projects to capture carbon emissions and atmospheric greenhouse gasses.<sup>833</sup> Projects to use captured carbon to create energy are also funded.

On 15 December 2021, the Forestry Commission issued new regulations to help limit the propagation of an insect harmful to trees, the European spruce bark beetle.<sup>834</sup> Under new requirements, landowners are supposed to look out for suspected trees, ensure that prohibitions to forbid unauthorized and suspect material are implemented and make sure that members of the forestry industry notify the Forestry Commission before any susceptible spruce trees are felled.

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<sup>828</sup> UK funding to support developing cities and regions transition to net zero by 2050, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 11 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-funding-to-support-developing-cities-and-regions-transition-to-net-zero-by-2050>

<sup>829</sup> Water companies could face legal action after investigation launched into sewage treatment works, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London). 18 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/water-companies-could-face-legal-action-after-investigation-launched-into-sewage-treatment-works>

<sup>830</sup> Government unveils path to sustainable farming from 2021, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 20 November 2020. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-unveils-path-to-sustainable-farming-from-2021>

<sup>831</sup> Government unveils path to sustainable farming from 2021, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 20 November 2020. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-unveils-path-to-sustainable-farming-from-2021>

<sup>832</sup> New wetland habitats created in Norfolk, Environment Agency (Bristol) 3 December 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-wetland-habitats-created-in-norfolk>

<sup>833</sup> Government invests over £116 million to drive forward green innovation in the UK, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-invests-over-116-million-to-drive-forward-green-innovation-in-the-uk>

<sup>834</sup> Forestry Commission introduces new controls on bark beetle tree pest, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/forestry-commission-introduces-new-controls-on-bark-beetle-tree-pest>

On 20 December 2021, the Environment Agency worked with the Wild Trout Trust to remove a flood bank in Manthorpe to create a new environment for native species.<sup>835</sup> Not only can the restoration of England's wetlands encourage biodiversity, but wetland plants can also sequester carbon.

On 6 January 2021, the UK government announced a new plan to pay farmers and landowners if they take steps to preserve, improve and create natural habitats.<sup>836</sup> Such actions include planting trees or creating woodlands and wetlands. These plans are set to have the effects of increasing natural habitats by 10,000 hectares, saving carbon and helping to protect about half of England's most threatened species.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to ensuring its policies encourage sustainable production, the protection and conservation of ecosystems, the regeneration of ecosystems and the sequestration of carbon. The United Kingdom continually provided funding to green initiatives and efforts to preserve nature, especially those in developing countries with less resources. The UK imposed binding legal restrictions and has conducted investigations on possible offenders to environmental laws. The United Kingdom also advanced the implementation of carbon sequestration initiatives and worked to restore degraded ecosystems.

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

*Analyst: Erin Mulazimoglu*

#### **United States: +1**

The United States of America has fully complied by ensuring its policies encourage sustainable production, the protection and conservation of ecosystems, the regeneration of ecosystems and the sequestration of carbon.

On 30 June 2021, the Environmental Protection Agency signed a three-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the New Mexico Farm & Livestock Bureau to expand joint activities aimed at reaching the goal of supporting sustainable farms in the region.<sup>837</sup> The MOU expands the "communication, education and outreach" and promotion of sustainable agricultural training in order to foster better environmental maintenance. This will help the agriculture sectors of Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas become more sustainable and environmentally conscious.

On 30 June 2021, the Environmental Protection Agency announced that they are awarding the Kansas Department of Health and Environment USD750,000 in funding as a part of the Farmer to Farmer grant program.<sup>838</sup> The purpose of the funding is to improve "water quality, habitat, resilience" and the exchange of information between people in the AFLU sector to increase environmental protection. Additionally, this will help to advance sustainable agricultural practices and protect the surrounding ecosystems from degradation and water pollution.

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<sup>835</sup> Restored floodplain habitat helps rare/endangered species thrive, Environment Agency (Bristol) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/restored-floodplain-habitat-helps-rareendangered-species-thrive>

<sup>836</sup> Government unveils plans to restore 300,000 hectares of habitat across England, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 6 January 2022. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-unveils-plans-to-restore-300000-hectares-of-habitat-across-england>

<sup>837</sup> EPA, New Mexico Farm & Livestock Bureau Sign Pact to Expand Support for Sustainable Farming, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 30 June 2021. Date Accessed: 4 August 2021. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-new-mexico-farm-livestock-bureau-sign-pact-expand-support-sustainable-farming>.

<sup>838</sup> EPA Awards \$750,000 to KDHE for Farm-Focused Project to Improve Water Quality, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 30 June 2021. Date Accessed: 4 August 2021. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-750000-kdhe-farm-focused-project-improve-water-quality>.

On 1 July 2021, the Environmental Protection Agency announced that USD997,383 will be provided to the Sand County Foundation as a “Farmer to Farmer” grant.<sup>839</sup> The funding will be used to finance efforts from farmers to improve “water quality, habitat and resilience.” This will help to restore and protect ecosystem health.

On 23 September 2021, the US Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack and the US Agency for International Development Administrator Samantha Power announced a planned multi-year investment of more than USD10 billion at the 23 September United Nations Food Systems Summit.<sup>840</sup> This investment will promote food systems transformation through innovation and climate-smart agriculture, improved infrastructure for food access and inclusive market opportunities, programs prioritizing women’s and children’s needs, improving nutrition, reducing food loss and waste and climate change mitigation and adaptation within the US and worldwide. USD 5 billion will be invested in strengthening food systems in the US, while USD 5 billion would contribute to Feed the Future (the US government’s global hunger and food security initiative) over five years.

On 7 October 2021, the Environmental Protection Agency announced that they are granting USD498,673 to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to “enhance its wetlands program for state parks and forests.”<sup>841</sup> This will help to increase the quality of water and protect natural resources in addition to restoring damage ecosystems.

On 12 October 2021, the Environmental Protection Agency granted USD292,324 in federal grant funding to the Virginia Institute of Marine Science.<sup>842</sup> This money will fund a project to “better understand the impact of climate change on wetlands restoration” for communities in Virginia and help to determine what can be done to better protect these ecosystems.

On 2 November 2021, President Joe Biden announced the US Methane Emissions Reduction Action Plan to push the US clean energy economy forward and create good-paying jobs.<sup>843</sup> This plan aimed to reduce oil and gas industry methane emissions, landfill methane emissions, emissions by plugging oil and gas wells and remediating abandoned mines and agricultural methane emissions.

On 3 November 2021, the European Union Commissioner for Agriculture Janusz Wojciechowski released a joint press statement with United States Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack that created a new transatlantic platform on agriculture intended to tackle the global challenges of climate change and foster sustainability.<sup>844</sup> They promised to continue exchanging information with each other and collaborating on climate-smart

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<sup>839</sup> EPA Awards Nearly \$1 Million to Help Farmers in Wisconsin, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 1 July 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-nearly-1-million-help-farmers-wisconsin>

<sup>840</sup> Fact Sheet: Biden-Harris Administration Commit to End Hunger and Malnutrition and Build Sustainable Resilient Food Systems, The White House (Washington D.C.) 23 September 2021. Access Date: 30 December 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/09/23/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-commit-to-end-hunger-and-malnutrition-and-build-sustainable-resilient-food-systems/>

<sup>841</sup> EPA awards nearly \$500K to Pennsylvania to enhance wetlands on state parks, forests, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 7 October 2021. Access date: 5 February 2022. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-nearly-500k-pennsylvania-enhance-wetlands-state-parks-forests>

<sup>842</sup> EPA awards \$292,324 to Virginia Institute of Marine Science to examine how climate change impacts wetlands, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 12 October 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-292324-virginia-institute-marine-science-examine-how-climate-change-impacts>

<sup>843</sup> Fact Sheet: President Biden Tackles Methane Emissions, Spurs Innovations, and Supports Sustainable Agriculture to Build a Clean Energy Economy and Create Jobs, The White House (Washington, D.C.) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 30 December 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/11/02/fact-sheet-president-biden-tackles-methane-emissions-spurs-innovations-and-supports-sustainable-agriculture-to-build-a-clean-energy-economy-and-create-jobs/>

<sup>844</sup> EU-US joint press statement, European Commission (Brussels) 3 November 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-us-joint-press-statement-2021-nov-03\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-us-joint-press-statement-2021-nov-03_en)

solutions that can help agricultural producers, consumers and businesses moving forward. The agreement marks another step towards seeking sustainable production options in agriculture.

On 6 December 2021, the Environmental Protection Agency in coordination with other government officials announced that USD2.8 million will be provided to state and local government, nonprofits groups and community groups to “improve the health and ecosystem of Long Island Sound” in Connecticut and Vermont.<sup>845</sup> This funding will aid efforts to protect these ecosystems and restore them to full health.

On 14 December 2021, France and the United States held the first meeting of the United States-France Bilateral Clean Energy Partnership in which they supported the goals of the 26th United Nations Conference of the Parties on Climate Change (COP-26) to “accelerate the global transition to net zero and through, among other approaches and activities.”<sup>846</sup> Some of the key areas covered by the partnership include nuclear energy, scientific research and development, clean energy technology development and deployment and responsible and sustainable clean energy supply chains. This meeting saw extensive discussion on clean energy policies and carbon sequestration. Both countries have stated their commitment to leveraging technological innovation and its market deployment to achieve zero carbon emissions by 2050, and the next meeting of the United States-France Bilateral Clean Energy Partnership is scheduled for Washington D.C. in 2022.

On 16 December 2021, Assistant Secretary for Water and Science Tanya Trujillo announced actions that would advance the Department of the Interior’s efforts to mitigate the impacts of drought and assist the public, Tribes and adjoining communities through investments with partners in the Colorado River Basin during the Colorado River Water Users Association’s annual conference.<sup>847</sup> The Interior Department officials signed important water conservation agreements with the Colorado River Indian Tribes and the Gila River Indian Community to supplement the USD 200 million investments aimed at reducing the risk of Lake Mead falling to critically low elevations over the next two years.

On 17 December 2021, the Departments of the Interior, Agriculture and Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency announced the establishment of a new Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission.<sup>848</sup> This commission would fulfill a key provision of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law by recommending federal policies and strategies to prevent, mitigate, suppress and manage wildland fires and the rehabilitation of land affected from wildland fires more effectively.

On 20 December 2021, the US Fish and Wildlife Service announced that it would re-engage a Federal Advisory Committee, which would provide recommendations to the US Departments of the Interior and Agriculture to help advance wildlife and habitat conservation and to preserve the nation’s hunting heritage.<sup>849</sup> The Council would focus on policies that benefit wildlife resources; encourage partnership among the public,

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<sup>845</sup> \$2.8 Million in Grants Awarded to Improve the Health of Long Island Sound, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 6 December 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/28-million-grants-awarded-improve-health-long-island-sound>

<sup>846</sup> Joint Statement Issued by the United States and France Following the First Meeting of the United States-France Bilateral Clean Energy Partnership, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 17 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/declaration-conjointe-emise-etats-unis-et-france-suite-premiere-reunion-du-partenariat-bilateral>

<sup>847</sup> Assistant Secretary Tanya Trujillo Outlines Drought Mitigation Initiatives During Annual Colorado River Basin Conference, US Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 30 December 2021. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/assistant-secretary-tanya-trujillo-outlines-drought-mitigation-initiatives-colorado-river-basin-conference>

<sup>848</sup> Departments of the Interior, Agriculture and Homeland Security Jointly Establish New Wildland Fire mitigation and Management Commission, US Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 30 December 2021. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/departments-interior-agriculture-and-homeland-security-jointly-establish-new-wildland>

<sup>849</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Establishes Committee to Support Wildlife Conservation and Recreation Opportunities, US Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 30 December 2021. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-establishes-committee-support-wildlife-conservation-and>

sporting conservation organizations, and federal, state, Tribal, and territorial governments and benefit fair chase recreational hunting and safe recreational shooting sports.

On 10 January 2022, the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Natural Resources Conservation Service announced several new opportunities for climate smart agriculture in 2022.<sup>850</sup> The goal of this initiative is to support and expand the adaptation of the conservation approach to address the issue of climate change and conserve natural resources.

The United States has fully complied to its commitment to ensure sustainable production in agriculture, the protection and conservation of ecosystems, the restoration of ecosystems and the sequestration of carbon. The US has done this by funding restoration and conservation initiatives for vulnerable ecosystems, encouraging the adoption of sustainable agricultural production through new initiatives and policies and by investing in carbon capture.

Thus, the US receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Xiyuan Chen*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied by ensuring its policies encourage sustainable production, the protection and conservation of ecosystems, the regeneration of ecosystems and the sequestration of carbon.

On 21 June 2021, the European Commission announced that it is increasing preparations for the 2021 forest fire season to help protect and conserve Europe's forests which is home to large amounts of integral biodiversity.<sup>851</sup> The preparations include setting up large fleets of firefighting planes and helicopters and issuing guidelines to EU members on how to prevent wildfires from spreading. This early action will help increase the resilience of forests and help limit the damage that wildfires wreak on the ecosystems and biodiversity.

On 25 June 2021, the European Parliament and Council reached a provisional political agreement on the new Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) to introduce a "fairer, greener, more animal friendly and flexible CAP."<sup>852</sup> The new policy will help the agriculture, forestry and land use sectors transition to be more sustainable and environmentally mindful. There are also stipulations in the policy that ensure that farms dedicate "at least 3 per cent of arable land" to biodiversity and guarantees that "all wetlands and peatlands will be protected."

On 30 June 2021, the European Commission introduced a "Long-Term vision for the EU's rural areas" which includes proposals for a Rural Pact and a Rural Action Plan to make rural and farm areas more resilient.<sup>853</sup> The purpose of the plans is to foster sustainable production and facilitate a green transition for the agriculture, farming and forestry sectors. Examples of climate focused initiatives in the plan include calls to preserve resources and green "farming activities to counter climate change."

On 5 July 2021, the European Commission launched the EU Code of Conduct on Responsible Food Business and Marketing Practices as a part of the existing Farm to Fork Strategy that aims to increase

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<sup>850</sup> USDA Offers Expanded Conservation Program Opportunities to Support Climate Smart Agriculture in 2022, US Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 10 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2022/01/10/usda-offers-expanded-conservation-program-opportunities-support>

<sup>851</sup> Forest fires: European Commission is stepping up its preparations for the forest fire season 2021, European Commission (Brussels) 21 June 2021. Date Accessed: 4 August 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3093](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3093).

<sup>852</sup> Political agreement on new Common Agricultural Policy; fairer, greener, more flexible, European Commission (Brussels) 25 June 2021. Date Accessed: 4 August 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_2711](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_2711).

<sup>853</sup> Long-term vision for rural areas: for stronger, connected, resilient, prosperous EU rural areas, European Commission (Brussels) 30 June 2021. Date Accessed: 4 August 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3162](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3162).



sustainable and healthy food options and reduce the environmental impact of the agricultural sector.<sup>854</sup> Some aspects of the new strategy include improving sustainable production in the food value chain and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

On 14 July 2021, the European Commission adopted the “Fit for 55” plan which includes several propositions to change the EU’s climate, energy, land use, transport and taxation policies in order to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions in 2030 by at least 55% in comparison to 1990 levels.<sup>855</sup> The proposal is comprehensive: it will require the EU Emissions Trading System to lower the cap on emissions for certain industries every year and increase its annual rate of reduction; Member States are encouraged to spend their emissions trading revenues on climate and energy-related projects; it expects Member States to be responsible for removing carbon from the atmosphere; the EU Forest Strategy plans to improve the resilience and quantity of EU forests by planting an additional 3 billion trees across Europe by 2030; the Renewable Energy Directive will increase renewable energy production to over 40%; and a new Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism will place a carbon price on imports for targeted products to prevent Member States from pushing carbon-intensive production outside of the Union. The adoption marks a concrete step towards executing the European climate law and satisfies the objectives of sustainable production, promoting protection of land and forestry and the reduction of carbon emissions.

On 13 October 2021, the European Investment Bank (EIB) implemented a new Climate Adaptation Plan which aims to triple climate adaptation finance.<sup>856</sup> In addition to reviewing future projects for their financial risk from climate change, the EIB will promote climate-smart digital technologies for agriculture and infrastructure resilient against the effects of climate change. European Commission Executive Vice President Frans Timmermans sees the EIB’s plan as integral because “every euro spent on flood or wildfire protection or on climate resilient agriculture saves many euros spent on the devastating consequences of ever more frequent extreme weather events.” Overall, the EIB’s Adaptation Plan helps to support initiatives directed towards protection and conservation, particularly in agriculture.

On 3 November 2021, European Union Commissioner for Agriculture Janusz Wojciechowski released a joint press statement with United States Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack that created a new transatlantic platform on agriculture intended to tackle the global challenges of climate change and foster sustainability.<sup>857</sup> They promised to continue exchanging information with each other and collaborating on climate-smart solutions that can help agricultural producers, consumers and businesses moving forward. The agreement marks another step towards seeking sustainable production options in agriculture.

On 9 November 2021, EU participants at United Nations Climate Change Conference agreed that there is a need for a global transition towards more sustainable food systems.<sup>858</sup> In order to develop climate-resilient food systems, the participants recognized that soil and nutrient management practices as well as management of livestock must be improved. The discussion illustrates growing support for reviving agricultural ecosystems to be more climate conscious and sustainable.

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<sup>854</sup> Farm to Fork Strategy: 65 companies and associations sign the EU Code of Conduct on Responsible Food Business and Marketing Practices, European Commission (Brussels) 5 July 2021. Date Accessed: 4 August 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3385](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3385).

<sup>855</sup> European Green Deal: Commission proposes transformation of EU economy and society to meet climate ambitions, European Commission (Brussels) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3541](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3541)

<sup>856</sup> The EIB Climate Adaptation Plan, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 13 October 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2021. [https://www.eib.org/attachments/publications/the\\_eib\\_climate\\_adaptation\\_plan\\_en.pdf](https://www.eib.org/attachments/publications/the_eib_climate_adaptation_plan_en.pdf)

<sup>857</sup> EU-US joint press statement, European Commission (Brussels) 3 November 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-us-joint-press-statement-2021-nov-03\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-us-joint-press-statement-2021-nov-03_en)

<sup>858</sup> COP26: participants recognise the need for sustainable food systems to ensure global food security and achieve climate objectives, European Commission (Brussels) 9 November 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/cop26-participants-recognise-need-sustainable-food-systems-ensure-global-food-security-and-achieve-climate-objectives-2021-nov-09\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/cop26-participants-recognise-need-sustainable-food-systems-ensure-global-food-security-and-achieve-climate-objectives-2021-nov-09_en)

On 15 November 2021, the European Council adopted a new EU forest strategy for 2030.<sup>859</sup> The measures aim to promote sustainable forest management; provide economic incentives for forest owners and operators to implement climate-smart practices; promote non-wood products such as cork, honey and medicinal plants; offer education and training for workers in forest-based industries; protect the EU's current primary and old-growth forests and establish a legally binding instrument for ecosystem restoration. The proposal will work in conjunction with the EU's "Fit for 55" carbon-neutral program, in addition to focusing on conserving natural resources and regenerating ecosystems.

On 17 November 2021, the European Commission adopted new initiatives to help realize the objectives of the European Green Deal, including through the proposal of new rules to stop deforestation.<sup>860</sup> Additionally the commission presented a new soil strategy to restore the health and resilience of Europe's soil to protect nature and improve agriculture.<sup>861</sup>

On 2 December 2021, the European Council adopted the CAP for the duration of 2023-2027.<sup>862</sup> Traditionally, CAP accounts for nearly a third of the EU's budget and aims to offer affordable and safe food for citizens, guarantee a fair standard of living for farmers, and preserve natural resources. The new legislation will direct a quarter of payments towards green farming practices – making it the most environmentally ambitious CAP on record – to secure a more sustainable future for European farmers.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to ensuring its policies encourage sustainable production, the protection and conservation of ecosystems, the regeneration of ecosystems, and the sequestration of carbon. The EU persistently adopted measures aimed at preserving forests and natural resources, restoring degraded ecosystems and fostering sustainable production in agriculture by updating the CAP and implementing new farming strategies. The EU has also worked scrupulously to develop new strategies that will reduce carbon use and make production methods more climate conscious.

Thus, the EU receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Chiara Barsanti*

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<sup>859</sup> Council adopts conclusions on the new EU forest strategy for 2030, Council of the EU (Brussels) 15 November 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/11/15/council-adopts-conclusions-on-the-new-eu-forest-strategy-for-2030/>

<sup>860</sup> European Green Deal: Commission adopts new proposals to stop deforestation, innovate sustainable waste management and make soils healthy for people, nature and climate, European Commission (Brussels) 17 November 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_5916](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5916)

<sup>861</sup> European Green Deal: Commission adopts new proposals to stop deforestation, innovate sustainable waste management and make soils healthy for people, nature and climate, European Commission (Brussels) 17 November 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_5916](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5916)

<sup>862</sup> Council adopts fairer, greener and more performance-based farming policy for 2023-2027, Council of the EU (Brussels) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/12/02/council-adopts-fairer-greener-and-more-performance-based-farming-policy-for-2023-2027/>

## 7. Crime and Corruption: Environmental Crime

“We will recognise and tackle illicit threats to nature such as the illegal wildlife trade (IWT) as serious organised crimes, including intensifying efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes.”

*G7 2030 Nature Compact*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France		0	
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan	-1		
United Kingdom		0	
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.25 (63%)	

### Background

Illicit threats to nature have been a focus of the international community since the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) entered into force in 1975.<sup>863</sup> All G7 members are party to the CITES, which sets rules and guidelines for international trade in selected vulnerable species.<sup>864</sup> However, recognition of these threats as serious organised crimes would not come until 2000, when the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNCTOC) established the illicit trading of flora and fauna as a kind of organised crime.<sup>865</sup>

The G7 has a long history of commitments addressing financial crimes, corruption and environmental threats, but did not address threats to nature as a function of organised crime until recently. On 25 June 2020, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), which was established by the 1989 Paris G7 Summit, released the first global report with guidelines on how countries may take measures to combat money laundering from the international wildlife trade (IWT).<sup>866</sup> This directly led to the recommendation of FATF-proposed actions into the G7 2030 Nature compact, including the proposal of a progress report on assessing and addressing money laundering risks related to IWT at the G7 Interior & Security Ministers’ meeting in September 2021.<sup>867</sup>

At the 1999 Köln Summit, G8 members addressed organised crime, stating that they welcome and support the work of the FATF to identify jurisdictions which fail to cooperate effectively in the international fight

<sup>863</sup> What is CITES, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 25 October 2021.

<https://cites.org/eng/disc/what.php>

<sup>864</sup> List of Contracting Parties, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (Geneva) 26 October 2016. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://cites.org/eng/disc/parties/chronolo.php>

<sup>865</sup> United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (Vienna) 15 November 2000. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

<https://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNTOC/Publications/TOC%20Convention/TOCebook-e.pdf>

<sup>866</sup> Money Laundering and the International Wildlife Trade, Financial Action Task Force (Paris) 25 June 2020. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.fatf-gafi.org/publications/methodsandtrends/documents/money-laundering-wildlife-trade.html>

<sup>867</sup> G7 2030 Nature Compact, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-nature-compact.html>

against money laundering and thus facilitate the laundering of proceeds from corruption and organised crime.<sup>868</sup>

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, G8 leaders again addressed financial crime and money laundering.<sup>869</sup> These crimes were not linked to nature or the environment, but instead to good governance and improving the observance of international standards.

At the 2003 Evian Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed the importance of tackling financial crime by encouraging ratification of the UNCTOC.<sup>870</sup> It encourages universally criminalizing money laundering, corruption and related crimes, allowing countries to seize or freeze assets used in the process of these crimes. This served to further set the precedent for G7 leaders with respect to crime.

At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, G8 members further reinforced their commitments to maintain FATF recommendations, the UNCTOC and the UN Convention Against Corruption.<sup>871</sup> G7 members further acknowledged efforts by non-governmental organizations to counteract transnational crime.

At the 2008 Hokkaido-Toyako Summit, the first connections between environment and illicit trade were drawn under the biodiversity commitment.<sup>872</sup> G8 members enforced their commitment to increase efforts to reduce the rate of biodiversity loss significantly in order to achieve the globally agreed 2010 Biodiversity Target, including by reducing threats from the illicit trade in wildlife.

At the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit, G7 members committed to combat wildlife trafficking, noting its use as a way to finance organised crime, insurgencies, and terrorism.<sup>873</sup>

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 members addressed and broadened their ambitions for sustainable development as it relates to internationally recognized environmental trade standards.<sup>874</sup> This commitment by G7 members enables a guideline for environmental trade policy in order to help define which actions are considered as illegal wildlife trade. It seeks to foster sustainable economic and environmental development, dictating the types of environmental trade which are legal, and which types are considered illicit.

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, G7 members again acknowledged the importance of biodiversity and the risks of biodiversity loss as a result of over-exploitation of natural resources, among other factors.<sup>875</sup> The further recognition of the importance of biodiversity in sustainable development and environmental security reinforces the global need to tackle actions causing biodiversity loss, including illegal wildlife trade.

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<sup>868</sup> Money Laundering and the International Wildlife Trade, Financial Action Task Force (Paris) 25 June 2020. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.fatf-gafi.org/publications/methodsandtrends/documents/money-laundering-wildlife-trade.html>

<sup>869</sup> G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>

<sup>870</sup> Fighting Corruption and Improving Transparency: G8 Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2 June 2003. Access Date: 23 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/corruption\\_en.html](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/corruption_en.html)

<sup>871</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 July 2006. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/summary.html>

<sup>872</sup> Press conference, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 6 July 2008. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/press/2008/7/0706.html>

<sup>873</sup> Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit 2015, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>874</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto), 27 May 2017. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

<sup>875</sup> Biarritz Chair's Summary on Climate, Biodiversity and Oceans, G7 Communication Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 25 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/chairs-summary-climate.html>

## Commitment Features

At the 2021 Carbis Bay Summit, G7 members committed to “recognise and tackle illicit threats to nature such as the illegal wildlife trade (IWT) as serious organised crimes, including intensifying efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes.”<sup>876</sup> There are two components to this commitment that must be fulfilled in order for full compliance to be achieved. These components include taking actions that “recognise and tackle illicit threats to nature as serious organised crimes” and “intensifying efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes.”

To “recognise” is understood to mean to acknowledge formally.<sup>877</sup> In the context of this commitment, to recognise means to commit to identifying actions that are considered illegal wildlife trade and prosecute them accordingly.

To “tackle” is understood to mean to make determined efforts to deal with a problem or difficult task, in this case that of illicit threats to nature.<sup>878</sup> This language implies that G7 members commit to taking action against threats to nature, including illegal wildlife trading.

IWT refers to the supplying, selling, or trafficking of wild flora or fauna, including animals, birds and fish, as well as timber and non-timber forest products, in contravention of national or international law.<sup>879</sup>

“Organised crimes” do not have a precise definition under international law, but are understood in this context to refer to all profit-motivated serious criminal activities.<sup>880</sup> In this case, the G7 members must both formally acknowledge and make determined efforts to deal with illicit threats to nature as serious criminal activities, with special focus on IWT. Examples of actions that tackle IWT in this manner include introducing legislation that criminalizes the import or export of endangered flora and fauna, creating intelligence units for wildlife crime investigations, or providing modernized enforcement tools such as forensic equipment.

As this commitment requires both recognition and specific efforts, there is a depth component analyzing how strong G7 members’ actions are.<sup>881</sup> Actions towards solely recognition, such as verbal reference to IWT as organized crime in a speech on threats to nature, would constitute only partial compliance. Full compliance requires significant action, either domestic or international, that tackle illicit threats to nature. These could include financial support, either directly or through international institutions, the expansion of an existing program, or the launch of a new initiative.

To “intensify” is understood to mean to increase existing actors or actions.<sup>882</sup> In the context of this commitment, to intensify implies that G7 members are expanding upon or facilitating the creation of new initiatives that will combat the money laundering of the proceeds associated with IWT and other profit-producing illicit threats to nature.

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<sup>876</sup> G7 2030 Nature Compact, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-nature-compact.html>

<sup>877</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 26 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>878</sup> Definition of Tackle, Lexico Oxford English Dictionary (Oxford) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

<https://www.lexico.com/en/definition/tackle>

<sup>879</sup> Wildlife Crime, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://cites.org/eng/prog/iccwc/crime.php>

<sup>880</sup> Transnational Organized Crime, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (Vienna) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.unodc.org/ropan/en/organized-crime.html>

<sup>881</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 26 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>882</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 26 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

To “combat” is understood to mean to try to stop something harmful from happening or increasing, in this case money laundering.<sup>883</sup>

“Money laundering” refers to the processing of criminal proceeds to disguise their illegal origin.<sup>884</sup> The three stages of money laundering include placement; or moving the funds from direct association with the crime, layering; or disguising the trail to foil pursuit and integration; or making the money available to the criminal from what seem to be legitimate sources.<sup>885</sup> The second part of this commitment requires G7 members to increase existing efforts to combat the processing and disguise of the criminal proceeds of IWT. Examples of actions that qualify as compliance include any program, regulation, or distribution of funds that directly work to combat IWT’s use of money laundering in any of its three stages.

To achieve full compliance, or a score of +1, the G7 member must take strong action to fulfill both components of the commitment. This includes taking actions that both recognize and tackle illicit threats to nature, especially IWT, as organised crimes and intensify efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes. Examples of actions that count towards the fulfillment of both of these components were described in the preceding paragraphs. For a score of partial compliance, or a score of 0, the G7 member must only take action to either tackle illicit threats to nature as organised crimes or only intensify efforts to combat money laundering of these crimes or some action in both areas. Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be awarded if the G7 member has fulfilled none of the aforementioned criteria, or if the G7 member has only recognized illicit threats to nature as organised crimes and has not taken action to tackle them.

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	The G7 member has NOT taken enough action to recognize and tackle illicit threats to nature such as the illegal wildlife trade (IWT) as serious organised crimes OR to intensify efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes.
0	The G7 member has taken strong action to recognize and tackle illicit threats to nature such as IWT as serious organised crimes OR to intensify efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes OR has taken less than strong action in both areas.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong action to recognize and tackle illicit threats to nature such as IWT as serious organised crimes AND to intensify efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes.

*Compliance Director: Kiyala Amos-Flom  
Lead Analyst: Rebecca Campbell-Martin*

**Canada: 0**

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to recognise and tackle illicit threats to nature such as the illegal wildlife trade (IWT) as serious organized crimes and to intensify efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes.

<sup>883</sup> Definition of Combat, Cambridge English Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/combat>

<sup>884</sup> Money Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (Vienna) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/money-laundering/index.html>

<sup>885</sup> Money Laundering, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (Vienna) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021 <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/money-laundering/overview.html>

On 23 July 2021, Canada launched a consultation on stricter measures for elephant ivory trade.<sup>886</sup> Minister of Environment and Climate Change Jonathan Wilkinson launched a 60-day consultation for Canadians to provide their feedback on Canada potentially revising its approach to elephant ivory trade in the country.

On 1 November 2021, Canada completed its work in “Operation North Pacific Guard,” an annual international law enforcement operation to combat illegal fishing in the high seas of the North Pacific with Canada’s counterparts from Japan, Korea and the United States.<sup>887</sup> Among other discoveries, Canadian officers were able to collect evidence of active shark finning and detected illegal retention of salmon.

On 2 November 2021, Canada endorsed the Glasgow Leaders’ Declaration on Forests and Land Use, identifying the critical role of forests in global biodiversity and sustainability.<sup>888</sup> The declaration was signed by 141 countries, each reaffirming their commitments to the conservation and protection of, and the restoration and sustainable use of land in forests and other terrestrial ecosystems. The countries further committed to both reversing and halting forest loss and land degradation by 2030.

On 14 December 2021, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) laid 66 charges related to the illegal possession and sale of harvested halibut as a result of a 24-month major case investigation in the Sambro area of Nova Scotia.<sup>889</sup> DFO holds a mandate to protect and conserve marine resources, which includes prosecuting cases of illegal fishing.

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to recognise and tackle illicit threats to nature, including IWT, as serious organized crimes. Canada has taken strong action to recognise and tackle IWT, such as through the illegal fishing and the illegal ivory trade but has not intensified efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes.

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Nivaal Rehman*

### **France: 0**

France has partially complied with its commitment to recognize and tackle illicit threats to nature such as the illegal wildlife trade (IWT) as serious organised crimes and to intensify efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes.

On 26 July 2021, the Ministry of Ecological Transitions reaffirmed that France is the current chair of the Amsterdam Declarations Partnership (ADP), a multilateral agreement focused on fighting against deforestation and stopping the import of illegally harvested timber.<sup>890</sup> The ADP was launched in 2015 and also signed by

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<sup>886</sup> Canada launches consultation on stricter measures for elephant ivory trade, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 23 July 2021. Access Date: 25 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/07/canada-launches-consultation-on-stricter-measures-for-elephant-ivory-trade.html>

<sup>887</sup> Canada wraps up Operation North Pacific Guard to combat global illegal fishing, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Ottawa) 1 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2021/11/canada-wraps-up-operation-north-pacific-guard-to-combat-global-illegal-fishing3.html>

<sup>888</sup> Glasgow Leaders’ Declaration on Forests and Land Use, UN Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (Glasgow) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ukcop26.org/glasgow-leaders-declaration-on-forests-and-land-use/>

<sup>889</sup> Lengthy investigation leads to 66 halibut fishing charges in Nova Scotia, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Dartmouth) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2021/12/lengthy-investigation-leads-to-66-halibut-fishing-charges-in-nova-scotia.html>

<sup>890</sup> Fight against imported deforestation: France, represented by Bérangère Abba, has chaired the Amsterdam Declarations Partnership since July 1, which brings together the most committed countries, Ministry of the Ecological Transition (Paris) 26 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/lutte-contre-deforestation-importee-france-representee-berangere-abba-preside-1er-juillet>

Denmark, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway and the United Kingdom.<sup>891</sup> Some of the actions announced as part of this initiative include a legislative framework called the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade, which grants licenses to countries that follow specific standards for logging.<sup>892</sup>

On 3 September 2021, France hosted the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Conservation Congress in Marseille, which brought states, local governments, scientists, private sector and civil society representatives together in order to present solutions for major environmental issues.<sup>893</sup> France submitted around ten motions, including some on fighting environmental crime and light pollution. At the IUCN World Conservation Congress, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs co-sponsored Motion 47, titled “Treating organized crime having an impact on the environment as a serious crime.”<sup>894</sup> The motion urges states to recognise environmental crimes as serious crimes within the scope of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, to enhance national law-enforcement capacities to disrupt criminal networks engaged in trafficking wildlife, timber, and other environmental commodities, and to reinforce the organisation of regulatory frameworks surrounding IWT’s links with money laundering.

On 2 November 2021, France endorsed the Glasgow Leaders’ Declaration on Forests and Land Use, identifying the critical role of forests in global biodiversity and sustainability.<sup>895</sup> The declaration was signed by 141 countries, each reaffirming their commitments to the conservation and protection of, and the restoration and sustainable use of land in forests and other terrestrial ecosystems. The countries further committed to both reversing and halting forest loss and land degradation by 2030.

On 18 November 2021, France committed to host the 74th meeting of the Standing Committee of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, which is scheduled to take place from 7 March 2022 to 11 March 2022.<sup>896</sup> Among other matters, the committee is set to discuss reducing the risk of future zoonotic disease emergence associated with international wildlife trade, new resolutions on reducing deforestation, engagement of indigenous peoples and compliance and enforcement matters related to endangered species.

On 19 November 2021, the Ministry of the Ecological Transition announced a national strategy for biodiversity that includes legal protection for a variety of land and sea areas.<sup>897</sup> It was also announced that the national strategy for biodiversity is meant to limit or outright stop human activity in designated areas. The

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<sup>891</sup> Fight against imported deforestation: France, represented by Bérangère Abba, has chaired the Amsterdam Declarations Partnership since July 1, which brings together the most committed countries, Ministry of the Ecological Transition (Paris) 26 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/lutte-contre-deforestation-importee-france-representee-berangere-abba-preside-1er-juillet>

<sup>892</sup> Wood and derived products, Ministry of the Ecological Transition (Paris) n.d. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.deforestationimportee.fr/fr/produits/bois-et-produits-derives-9>

<sup>893</sup> World Conservation Congress: a major international event for biodiversity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 3 September 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/climate-and-environment/news/article/world-conservation-congress-a-major-international-event-for-biodiversity>

<sup>894</sup> 047 - Treating organized crime having an impact on the environment as a serious crime, International Union for Conservation of Nature’s World Conservation Congress 2020 (Marseille) 30 September 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.iucncongress2020.org/motion/047>

<sup>895</sup> Glasgow Leaders’ Declaration on Forests and Land Use, UN Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (Glasgow) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ukcop26.org/glasgow-leaders-declaration-on-forests-and-land-use/>

<sup>896</sup> As the biodiversity and deforestation crises are recognized on the global stage, France offers to host 74th meeting of the Standing Committee of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (Geneva) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://cites.org/eng/CITES\\_StandingCommittee74\\_France\\_March2022\\_biodiversity\\_18112021](https://cites.org/eng/CITES_StandingCommittee74_France_March2022_biodiversity_18112021)

<sup>897</sup> Protected areas in France, Ministry of the Ecological Transition (Paris) 19 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/aires-protegees-en-france>



statement further mentioned that national parks and nature reserves are among some of the elements included in the framework.

France has partially complied with its commitment to recognize and tackle illicit threats to nature such as IWT as serious organised crimes and to intensify efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes. France has recognized illicit threats to nature as organized and has tackled such threats to nature. France has not, however, intensified efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Mark Edwards*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to recognize and tackle illicit threats to nature such as the illegal wildlife trade (IWT) as serious organised crimes and to intensify efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes.

On 1 October 2021, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection launched the “Partnership against Wildlife Crime (in Africa and Asia),” which is designed to address both supply and demand along the entirety of the illegal wildlife trade chain.<sup>898</sup> The project is designed to tackle IWT by strengthening anti-poaching actors, improving cross-border cooperation in investigations of IWT, analyzing trade and consumption patterns and improving the exchange and coordination of knowledge and experience on the topic.

On 1 October 2021, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development launched a new program, “Combating Illicit Financial Flows,” with co-financing provided by Norway’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and implementation led by the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ).<sup>899</sup> This three-year program focuses on preventing illicit financial flows, including those stemming from environmental crimes or money laundering, conducting financial investigations and supports asset recoveries.

On 1 November 2021, Chancellor Angela Merkel pledged to fight deforestation and to end it by 2030 while speaking at the United Nations Climate Change Conference.<sup>900</sup>

On 2 November 2021, Germany committed to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation at the United Nations Climate Change Conference 2021, as it was a signatory to the Glasgow Leaders’ Declaration on Forests and Land Use.<sup>901</sup>

On 6 November 2021, the Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety Svenja Schulze reiterated Germany’s commitment to help Peru in its efforts to combat illegal deforestation in the

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<sup>898</sup> Poaching and Biodiversity: Combatting poaching and the illegal trade in wildlife products, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 30 August 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.bmz.de/en/development-policy/biodiversity/poaching>

<sup>899</sup> Combating Illicit Financial Flows, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (Eschborn) 1 October 2021. Access Date: 8 March 2022. [https://www.giz.de/en/downloads/GP%20IFF%20Factsheet\\_en.pdf](https://www.giz.de/en/downloads/GP%20IFF%20Factsheet_en.pdf)

<sup>900</sup> Speech by Federal Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel on the Occasion of the World Leader’s Summit at the 26th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC COP26 in Glasgow on 1 November 2021, The Federal Government (Berlin) 1 November 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/speech-by-federal-chancellor-dr-angela-merkel-on-the-occasion-of-the-world-leaders-summit-at-the-26th-conference-of-the-parties-to-the-unfccc-cop26-in-glasgow-on-1-november-2021-1974784>

<sup>901</sup> Glasgow Leaders’ Declaration on Forests and Land Use, UN Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (Glasgow) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://ukcop26.org/glasgow-leaders-declaration-on-forests-and-land-use/>

Amazon, referencing the German government's previous pledge of EUR210 million for this purpose.<sup>902</sup> This funding comes as part of a Joint Declaration of Intent, which formed an international forest and climate alliance between Peru and Germany, Norway, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to recognize and tackle illicit threats to nature such as IWT as serious organised crimes and to intensify efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes. Germany has recognized illicit threats to nature as serious organised crimes and has tackled these threats. Germany has also intensified efforts to combat the money laundering and other illicit financial flows of environmental crimes.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Mark Edwards*

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to recognize and tackle illicit threats to nature such as the illegal wildlife trade (IWT) as serious organized crimes, including intensifying efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes.

On 29 September 2021, the Ministry of Ecological Transition's Undersecretary Ilaria Fontana announced the need to increase the number of marine protected areas in Antarctica due to threats to wildlife including illegal fishing while attending the 40th annual meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Living Marine Resources of Antarctica.<sup>903</sup>

On 30 October 2021, Italy hosted the G20 Summit in Rome and committed in its final declaration to continue to pursue efforts to combat crimes against the environment such as illegal logging, illegal mining, and illegal wildlife trade.<sup>904</sup> The Italian National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research contributed to drafting the chapters dedicated to the environment.

On 20 December 2021, the Ministry of Ecological Transition, in collaboration with the governments of France and Monaco, announced the establishment of the "Pelagos Voluntary Fund," in order to provide financial support for the protection of the Pelagos Cetacean Sanctuary.<sup>905</sup> The Ministry of the Ecological Transition's Undersecretary Ilaria Fontana stated that the agreement is part of Italy's commitment to protect marine mammals and prevent illegal and unregulated fishing.

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to recognize and tackle illicit threats to nature such as IWT as serious organized crimes and to intensify efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes. They have consistently recognized IWT as an organized crime and have taken measures to prevent it, however, there has been no effort to combat money laundering related to such crimes.

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<sup>902</sup> Peru: Reaching Milestones in Rainforest Protection, Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (Berlin) 6 November 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021.

<https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/peru-reaching-key-milestones-in-rainforest-protection>

<sup>903</sup> Environment: Increase the number of marine protected areas in Antarctica, Ministry of the Ecological Transition (Rome) 29 September 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.mite.gov.it/notizie/ambiente-aumentare-il-numero-di-aree-marine-protette-antartide>

<sup>904</sup> G20 Rome Leaders' Declaration, Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale (Rome) 31 October 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.isprambiente.gov.it/en/archive/news-and-other-events/ispra-news/files2021/notizie/g20-rome-leaders-declaration.pdf>

<sup>905</sup> "Pelagos": the Conference of the Parties establishes a voluntary fund, Ministry of the Ecological Transition (Rome) 20 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 January 2022.

<https://www.mite.gov.it/notizie/pelagos-la-conferenza-delle-parti-istituisce-un-fondo-volontario>

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Anabit Hakobyan*

### **Japan: -1**

Japan has failed to comply with its commitment to recognise and tackle illicit threats to nature such as the illegal wildlife trade (IWT) as serious organized crimes and to intensify efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes.

On 29 October 2021, Japan reaffirmed its commitment to protecting the environment at the G20 Summit in Rome, Italy, and the G20 Rome Leaders' Declaration included efforts to protect and conserve natural resources, take steps to combat illegal fishing and overfishing and tackle crimes that endanger the environment including the illegal wildlife trade.<sup>906</sup>

Japan only recognized illicit threats to nature as organised crimes and has not taken any action or made any collaborative commitments to tackle illicit threats to nature such as the illegal wildlife trade (IWT) as serious organised crimes, including intensifying efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes.

Thus, Japan receives a score of -1.<sup>907</sup>

*Analyst: Armaan Ahmad*

### **United Kingdom: 0**

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to recognise and tackle illicit threats to nature such as the illegal wildlife trade (IWT) as serious organized crimes and to intensify efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes.

On 15 August 2021, Minister of State for the Pacific and the International Environment Zac Goldsmith announced new legislation set to ban the import and export of shark fin products.<sup>908</sup> Endangered and overfished species including short fin mako shark and blue shark are among those to benefit from greater protections.

On 1 October 2021, the United Kingdom committed GBP7.2 million in funding to target the illegal wildlife trade and protect a variety of endangered animals through the seventh iteration of its Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund.<sup>909</sup> The funding supported 17 projects around the world including those dedicated to embedding financial investigation and asset recovery into illegal wildlife trade enforcement practice, disincentivizing poaching through strengthened enforcement and driving transparency and reducing corruption in judicial processes.

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<sup>906</sup> G20 Rome Leaders' Declaration, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 29 October 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/100253891.pdf>

<sup>907</sup> This score of non-compliance was determined after searching the following websites: <https://www.env.go.jp/en/index.html>, <https://www.mofa.go.jp/>, <https://japan.kantei.go.jp/index.html>, <https://www.npa.go.jp/english/index.html>, <https://www.meti.go.jp/english/index.html>, <https://www.moj.go.jp/EN/index.html>, <https://www.mof.go.jp/english/>, <https://asean.org/>, <https://cites.org/eng>, and <https://www.bbc.com>.

<sup>908</sup> Government to introduce world-leading ban on shark fin trade, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 15 August 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-introduce-world-leading-ban-on-shark-fin-trade>

<sup>909</sup> UK commits additional £7.2 million to tackling illegal wildlife trade, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 1 October 2021. Access Date: 30 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-commits-additional-72-million-to-tackling-illegal-wildlife-trade>

On 2 November 2021, the UK pledged GBP1.5 billion over five years to support the Global Forest Finance Pledge, which aims to tackle the causes of deforestation in developing countries.<sup>910</sup> The financial commitment includes GBP350 million for tropical forests in Indonesia, GBP200 million for the LEAF Coalition and up to GBP300 million intended for the Amazon.

On 10 November 2021, the UK passed the “Environment Act” into law, which includes legally binding environmental targets in species abundance, a new Office of Environmental Protection to uphold environmental law and prohibitions on use of commodities associated with illegal deforestation among other measures.<sup>911</sup> The Environment Act will crack down on illegal deforestation and strengthen initiatives to protect rainforests.

On 3 December 2021, the UK launched a public consultation, after the passing of the Environment Act on 10 November 2021, on how to best implement new measures to tackle illegal deforestation associated with UK supply chains.<sup>912</sup> The measures will make it illegal for larger businesses in the UK to use commodities whose production is associated with large-scale forest loss such as cocoa, beef, soy, coffee, maize and palm oil, when they have not been produced in line with relevant local laws.

On 10 December 2021, Environment Secretary George Eustice announced a new ban on the import of hunting trophies from endangered and threatened species into the UK as part of a wider push for international conservation.<sup>913</sup> The ban will protect nearly 7,000 endangered or critically threatened species and will be one of the toughest bans in the world.

On 27 January 2022, Minister Goldsmith announced the investment of an initial GBP2 million of UK Aid through the World Bank’s PROBLUE Fund, to protect over 500,000 kilometers of marine environments in the Eastern Pacific.<sup>914</sup> The initiative is supported by the UK’s Blue Planet Fund and will help coastal communities counter illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to recognize and tackle illicit threats to nature such as IWT as serious organized crimes and to intensify efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes. The United Kingdom has recognized IWT as a serious organized crime and has put forward initiatives and funding to tackle it but has not intensified efforts to combat money laundering of its criminal proceeds.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Anahit Hakobyan*

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<sup>910</sup> \$12 billion donor support to halt and reverse forest loss and protect land rights, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/12-billion-donor-support-to-halt-and-reverse-forest-loss-and-protect-land-rights>

<sup>911</sup> World-leading Environment Act becomes law, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-leading-environment-act-becomes-law>

<sup>912</sup> Government sets out plans to clean up the UK’s supply chains to help protect forests, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 3 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-sets-out-plans-to-clean-up-the-uks-supply-chains-to-help-protect-forests>

<sup>913</sup> Importing of hunting trophies banned to protect world’s threatened species, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 10 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/importing-of-hunting-trophies-banned-to-protect-worlds-threatened-species>

<sup>914</sup> UK supports international efforts to protect over 500,000 km of ocean with £2M investment, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 27 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-supports-international-efforts-to-protect-over-500000-km-of-ocean-with-2m-investment>

### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to recognise and tackle illicit threats to nature such as the illegal wildlife trade (IWT) as serious organized crimes and to intensify efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes.

On 23 June 2021, the Fish and Wildlife Service announced the completion of Operation Mitten Catcher, which prevented the import of over 15,500 Mitten Crabs.<sup>915</sup> By enforcing the ban on importing the crab under the Lacey Act, the Fish and Wildlife Service prevented this illegal trade and safeguarded the American ecosystem from an invasive species.

On 1 July 2021, the Department of Justice announced that a man pleaded guilty for attempting to smuggle USD86,000 worth of endangered glass eels from the United States.<sup>916</sup> He faces up to 10 years in prison and a USD250,000 fine. This plea and subsequent charges demonstrate that the US is complying with its commitment to recognize and tackle illegal wildlife trade.

On 21 September 2021, the US co-hosted the virtual Counter Wildlife Trafficking Partnership Forum with Thailand's Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation.<sup>917</sup> During the forum, the Chargé d'Affaires of the US Embassy in Thailand Michael Heath announced plans to continue counter wildlife trafficking efforts through a new program, the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) Reducing Demand for Wildlife program.

On 26 October 2021, the White House announced up to USD102 million in funding for new initiatives to expand the US government's partnership with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), where they agreed to invest and promote tools for combating illegal fishing.<sup>918</sup> This will be achieved through the USAID's new Sustainable Fish Asia project, which aims to strengthen ASEAN's role in fisheries, enhance fisheries' trade and compliance as well as promote tools to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the ASEAN region.

On 6 December 2021, the White House released the first ever US Strategy on Countering Corruption.<sup>919</sup> The strategy's second core pillar focuses on curbing illicit finance, including explicitly targeting deficiencies in the US anti-money laundering regime as it relates to IWT.<sup>920</sup>

On 13 December 2021, the Department of State imposed visa restrictions on eight nationals from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in order to disrupt wildlife trafficking networks by making it harder to

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<sup>915</sup> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Clamps Down on the Illegal Mitten Crab Trade, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (Washington D.C.) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. [https://www.fws.gov/news/ShowNews.cfm?ref=us-fish-and-wildlife-service-clamps-down--on-the-illegal-mitten-crab-&\\_ID=36943](https://www.fws.gov/news/ShowNews.cfm?ref=us-fish-and-wildlife-service-clamps-down--on-the-illegal-mitten-crab-&_ID=36943)

<sup>916</sup> Resident of Hong Kong Who Smuggled Endangered Glass Eels from the United States Pleads Guilty, Department of Justice (Washington D.C.) 1 July 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ct/pr/resident-hong-kong-who-smuggled-endangered-glass-eels-united-states-pleads-guilty>

<sup>917</sup> New Partners' Group to Build Upon U.S., Thai Success to Counter Wildlife Trafficking, United States Agency for International Development (Bangkok) 23 September 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.usaid.gov/asia-regional/press-releases/sep-23-2021-new-partners-group-build-upon-us-thai-success-wildlife-trafficking>

<sup>918</sup> Fact Sheet: New Initiatives to Expand the U.S.-ASEAN Strategic Partnership, The White House (Washington D.C.) 26 October 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/10/26/fact-sheet-new-initiatives-to-expand-the-u-s-asean-strategic-partnership/>

<sup>919</sup> Fact Sheet: U.S. Strategy on Countering Corruption, The White House (Washington D.C.) 6 December 2021. Access Date: 7 February 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/12/06/fact-sheet-u-s-strategy-on-countering-corruption/>

<sup>920</sup> United States Strategy on Countering Corruption, The White House (Washington D.C.) 6 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/United-States-Strategy-on-Countering-Corruption.pdf>

smuggle illegal wildlife and/or timber.<sup>921</sup> Under the Immigration and Nationality Act, wildlife and timber traffickers who are believed to be or have been involved in IWT will not be allowed to enter the US. This visa policy seeks to halt wildlife trafficking while also sending the message that wildlife traffickers are not welcomed in the US.

On 15 December 2021, the White House held a teleconference where they discussed the introduction of the U.S. Council on Transnational Organized Crime and the implementation of targeted sanctions against individuals and organizations within the illegal wildlife trade and timber trafficking.<sup>922</sup> These new measures seek to actively combat the illegal wildlife trade and disrupt and dismantle the various transnational organizations crime networks and their support infrastructures.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to recognise and tackle illicit threats to nature such as IWT as serious organised crimes, including intensifying efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes. The United States has launched operations to tackle IWT while also further investigating and prosecuting IWT activities through visa restrictions, judicial processes and new governmental strategies. The United States also has signalled its readiness to address the issue multilaterally with international actors.

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

*Analyst: Armaan Ahmad*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to recognise and tackle illicit threats to nature such as the illegal wildlife trade (IWT) as serious organized crimes and to intensify efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes.

On 8 October 2021, the European Union launched a public consultation to evaluate and revise its existing Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking.<sup>923</sup> This consultation will collect information and views from both citizens and stakeholder organizations to improve current efforts to curb wildlife trafficking, one of the most profitable forms of organized crime in the EU.

On 17 November 2021, the European Commission adopted a proposal for a regulation to curb EU-driven deforestation and forest degradation.<sup>924</sup> The proposal aims to address any deforestation, including through illegal logging, driven by agricultural expansion to produce the commodities in the scope of the regulation. This proposal also aims to ensure that products that EU citizens consume on the EU market do not contribute to the continuation of deforestation or forest degradation within the EU and outside the EU.

On 15 December 2021, the European Commission adopted a proposal for a new EU Directive to crack down on environmental crime that intends to make protection of the environment more effective by obliging

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<sup>921</sup> U.S. Imposes Visa Restrictions on Wildlife Traffickers in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Department of State (Washington D.C.) 13 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-imposes-visa-restrictions-on-wildlife-traffickers-in-the-democratic-republic-of-congo-drc/>

<sup>922</sup> Background Press Call by Senior Administration Officials on New Efforts to Counter Transnational Criminal Organizations and Illicit Drugs, the White House (Washington, D.C.) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2021/12/15/background-press-call-by-senior-administration-officials-on-new-efforts-to-counter-transnational-criminal-organizations-and-illicit-drugs/>

<sup>923</sup> European Green Deal: Commission launches public consultation on the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking, European Commission (Brussels) 8 October 2021. Access Date: 24 November 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/environment/news/european-green-deal-commission-launches-public-consultation-eu-action-plan-against-wildlife-2021-10-08\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/news/european-green-deal-commission-launches-public-consultation-eu-action-plan-against-wildlife-2021-10-08_en)

<sup>924</sup> Proposal for a Regulation on deforestation-free products, European Commission (Brussels) 17 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ec.europa.eu/environment/forests/deforestation-proposal.htm>

its Member States to take criminal law measures on activities such as the illicit trafficking of wildlife or IWT.<sup>925</sup> The proposal sets new EU environmental criminal offences such as illegal timber trade, provides for support of inspectors, police, prosecutors and judges through training, investigative tools, coordination and cooperation and helps cross-border investigation and prosecution. The proposal also directs criminal proceedings and trials of environmental crime to address the involvement of international organized crime, corruption, cyber-crime and money laundering.<sup>926</sup>

On 16 December 2021, the European Commission adopted the revised “Guidance on the EU regime governing ivory trade,” which suspends trade in raw ivory on the EU market except for the exclusive purpose of repairing objects containing ancient ivory.<sup>927</sup> The measures reaffirm and deliver on the EU’s commitment to take further action against elephant poaching and ivory trafficking globally.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to recognise and tackle illicit threats to nature such as IWT as serious organised crimes, including intensifying efforts to combat money laundering of the criminal proceeds of these crimes. The European Union has especially focused on criminal law measures associated with IWT.

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

*Analyst: Nivaal Rehman*

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<sup>925</sup> European Green Deal: Commission proposes to strengthen the protection of the environment through criminal law, European Commission (Brussels) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_6744](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_6744)

<sup>926</sup> Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of the environment through criminal law and replacing Directive 2008/99/EC, European Commission (Brussels) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/1\\_1\\_179760\\_prop\\_dir\\_env\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/1_1_179760_prop_dir_env_en.pdf)

<sup>927</sup> Ivory trade: Commission updates rules to end most forms of ivory trade in the EU, European Commission (Brussels) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_6887](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6887)

## 8. Environment: Halting and Reversing Biodiversity Loss

“We will support and drive the protection, conservation and restoration of ecosystems critical to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and environmental degradation, and to tackle climate change.”

*G7 2030 Nature Compact*

### 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 (100%)	

### Background

On 13 June 2021, at the Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders committed to “support and drive the protection, conservation and restoration of ecosystems critical to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and environmental degradation, and to tackle climate change.”<sup>928</sup> The G7 Leaders’ pledge to take the necessary actions required to achieve their goal to “halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030” builds on the G7 Metz Charter on Biodiversity and the Leader’s Pledge for Nature. Additionally, the commitment is a step towards meeting Sustainable Development Goals and promoting a “green, inclusive and resilient recovery from COVID-19.”

On 17 March 2007, at the G8 Environment Ministers Meeting, G8 leaders called for an economic analysis of the cost of biodiversity loss compared to the cost of conservation efforts, including supporting research, enforcing the protection of protected marine areas, preventing and controlling invasive species, combating illegal wildlife trade, and promoting production and consumption habits compatible with halting and reversing biodiversity loss.<sup>929</sup> The Potsdam Initiative: Biological Diversity 2010 called for an integration of climate and biodiversity policies and underlined the “global economic benefit of biological diversity.”

On 26 May 2008, the 2008 Kobe Call for Action for Biodiversity produced by the G8 Environment Ministers Meeting reiterated the urgency of achieving the goals outlined by the Potsdam Initiative: Biological Diversity 2010.<sup>930</sup> In addition, G8 leaders emphasized the need for international scientific and political collaboration, “sustainable forest management,” and increased engagement with the private sector.

On 24 April 2009, the “Carta di Siracusa” on Biodiversity issued by G8 Environment Ministers called for the use of investments in green infrastructure as a strategy to tackle both biodiversity loss and the Great Recession, and outlined a “post-2010 framework on biodiversity.”<sup>931</sup>

<sup>928</sup> G7 2030 Nature Compact, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-nature-compact.html>

<sup>929</sup> Potsdam Initiative, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 March 2007. Access Date: 25 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/g8\\_potsdam\\_initiative\\_en.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/g8_potsdam_initiative_en.pdf)

<sup>930</sup> G8 Environment Ministers Meeting: 2008 Kobe Call for Action for Biodiversity, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 May 2008. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/env080526-BD.html>

<sup>931</sup> “Carta di Siracusa” on Biodiversity, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 24 April 2009. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/env090424-biodiversity.pdf>



On 26 June 2010, at the Muskoka Summit, G8 leaders expressed regret at the international community's failure to meet its 2010 biodiversity loss target and called for a strengthened "science-policy interface" to tackle biodiversity loss, expressing support for the establishment of an "Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services."<sup>932</sup>

On 27 May 2011, at the Deauville Summit, G8 leaders called for "green growth" to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss and committed to "[intensify] efforts to slow the loss biodiversity."<sup>933</sup>

On 8 June 2015, at the Elmau Summit, the G7 Elmau Progress Report was released, examining the progress made by G7 leaders in slowing the loss of biodiversity since the Deauville Summit in 2011.<sup>934</sup> The report touted G7 countries' record on bilateral biodiversity aid, measures taken to "directly conserve biodiversity" such as "fighting poaching, illegal logging and wildlife trafficking" and to tackle the direct and indirect drivers of biodiversity loss. The report outlined the path toward future preservation of biodiverse ecosystems through more effective use and expanded sources of funds, and through connecting biodiversity loss with other development commitments.

On May 6 2019, the Metz Charter on Biodiversity issued by G7 leaders recognized the need for urgent, accelerated and intensified action to halt and reverse biodiversity loss.<sup>935</sup> The Metz Charter outlines the "co-benefits" of combating biodiversity loss "with regard to other global challenges ... including climate change, ecosystem degradation and natural disasters," and underscores the need for equitable, nature-based and multilateral environmental governance.

The G7 2030 Nature Compact report underlines that climate change is a key driver of biodiversity loss, and that in order to mitigate the effects of climate change, it is necessary to "protect, conserve and restore biodiversity."<sup>936</sup> G7 leaders have recognized that a key factor to any nation's sustainable development and economic growth is its reliance on a healthy climate and strong biodiversity. Moreover, with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts on public health, the economy, food systems and the environment, the G7 2030 Nature Compact report reaffirms that "the mission to tackle biodiversity loss" will help tackle a number of other important issues, including but not limited to, animal health, the prevention of future pandemics and the protection of human life and wildlife. In addition, the G7 Nature Compact report reaffirms its commitment to the G7 One Health Working Group and the International Zoonose Community of Experts (IZCE). The "One Health" approach works to integrate policy concerning human and animal health and the environment, particularly with respect to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>937</sup> The IZCE is "a voluntary initiative that will consist of G7 and guest countries' experts in zoonotic disease, drivers of emerging disease, and biodiversity loss from across government agencies, to facilitate international collaboration and capacity building, surveillance and analysis and improved technology."<sup>938</sup>

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<sup>932</sup> Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2010. Access Date: 25 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>

<sup>933</sup> G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 25 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html#climate>

<sup>934</sup> G7 Elmau Progress Report, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) May 2015. Access Date: 25 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/G7-elmau-biodiversity-summary.pdf>

<sup>935</sup> Metz Charter on Biodiversity, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 May 2019. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/2019-metz-charter-on-biodiversity.html>

<sup>936</sup> G7 2030 Nature Compact, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-nature-compact.html>

<sup>937</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 25 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

<sup>938</sup> International Zoonoses Community of Experts (IZCE), G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 May 2021. Access Date: 25 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/2021-zoonoses.html>

## Commitment Features

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders committed to “support and drive the protection, conservation and restoration of ecosystems critical to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and environmental degradation, and to tackle climate change.”<sup>939</sup> The G7 2030 Nature Compact details “new global targets to conserve or protect at least 30 [per cent] of global land and at least 30 [per cent] of the global ocean by 2030,” and encourages the creation and delivery of targets “to prevent the loss, fragmentation and degradation of ecosystems and to restore significant areas of degraded and converted ecosystems.” G7 leaders also called for international cooperation to promote biodiversity through “significantly [reducing] overall extinction risk and eventually [stopping] human-induced extinctions,” particularly with respect to protecting oceans “outside of national jurisdiction.”

Thus, the G7 2030 Nature Compact outlines three spheres in which strong action is required to tackle biodiversity loss, and in turn, climate change: protecting and conserving ecosystems, restoring ecosystems, and halting and reversing biodiversity loss and environmental degradation.<sup>940</sup> Biodiverse ecosystems are resilient, able to provide ecosystem services in the face of climatic hazards.<sup>941</sup> The degradation of biodiverse ecosystems emits vast quantities of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, destroys valuable carbon stocks, and reduces their capacity for carbon sequestration. Thus, halting and reducing biodiversity loss is a crucial element of the fight against climate change.

“Support” is understood to describe “the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity,” in this instance, halting or reversing biodiversity loss.<sup>942</sup>

“Drive” is understood to mean “to compel to undergo ... a change,” in this instance, halting or reversing biodiversity loss.<sup>943</sup>

“Protection” is understood to mean “to cover or shield from exposure, injury, damage, or destruction,” in this instance, global land and ocean ecosystems.<sup>944</sup>

“Conservation” is understood to describe “a careful preservation and protection of something,” in this instance, “planned management of [natural resources] to prevent exploitation, destruction, or neglect.”<sup>945</sup>

“Restoration” is understood to describe “a bringing back to a former position or condition.”<sup>946</sup> The commitment outlines the necessity of degraded and/or converted ecosystems to be restored to their pre-degradation and/or pre-conversion conditions.

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<sup>939</sup> G7 2030 Nature Compact, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-nature-compact.html>

<sup>940</sup> G7 2030 Nature Compact, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-nature-compact.html>

<sup>941</sup> Addressing climate change: Why biodiversity matters, United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (Cambridge) 2014. Access Date: 25 October 2021. <https://www.unclearn.org/wp-content/uploads/library/unep248.pdf>

<sup>942</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

[http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>943</sup> Drive, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) 18 February 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/drive>

<sup>944</sup> Protect, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) 18 February 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/protect>

<sup>945</sup> Conservation, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) 18 February 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/conservation>

<sup>946</sup> Restoration, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) 18 February 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/restoration>

“Ecosystem” is understood to describe “all living things (plants, animals and organisms) in a given area, as well as their interactions with each other, and with their non-living environments (weather, earth, sun, soil, climate, atmosphere).”<sup>947</sup>

“Halting” is understood to mean to “discontinue” or to “terminate,” and “reversing”, in this context, refers to the act of “undoing or negating the effect of something.”<sup>948</sup>

“Biodiversity” is understood to describe “the variety of life on Earth and the natural patterns it forms.”<sup>949</sup> The commitment seeks to facilitate international cooperation to develop institutions and systems that will protect and conserve existing biodiverse ecosystems, while restoring ecosystems whose biodiversity has decreased as a result of degradation or conversion to other land uses.

“Environmental degradation” is understood to describe “the deterioration in environmental quality from ambient concentrations of pollutants and other activities and processes such as improper land use and natural disasters.”<sup>950</sup>

“Climate change” is understood to describe “a change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods.”<sup>951</sup>

This commitment has a depth component examining the strength of actions taken by each G7 member. A G7 member must take strong action in multiple spheres to achieve full compliance.

Strong domestic actions may include, but are not limited to: policy action, domestic legislation, allocation of funding, and/or changes to monetary policy designed to precipitate increased biodiversity and support the conservation, protection, and restoration of land and ocean ecosystems, the establishment of a new committee, task force, or other institutional mechanism to examine biodiversity loss, funding of research into biodiversity loss, or direct actions towards greater conservation, protection, and restoration of domestic land and water. Weak actions on the domestic level include verbal reaffirmation of the commitment or attending meetings that discuss biodiversity loss.

Strong international actions include the provision of international financial support (either directly or through international institutions), or participating, joining, or financing organizations addressing biodiversity loss. Weak actions at the international level include information sharing and development of international legislation, including participation in negotiations for an “international legally binding instrument under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction.”<sup>952</sup>

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<sup>947</sup> Water and Ecosystems, United Nations Water (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

<https://www.unwater.org/water-facts/ecosystems/>

<sup>948</sup> Halt, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) 18 February 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/halt>; Reverse, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) 18 February 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/reverse>

<sup>949</sup> UNEP and Biodiversity, United Nations Environment Programme (Nairobi) September 2020. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

<https://www.unep.org/unep-and-biodiversity>

<sup>950</sup> Environmental Degradation, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 25 September 2001. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://stats.oecd.org/glossary/detail.asp?ID=821>

<sup>951</sup> United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, United Nations (New York, Rio de Janeiro) 9 May 1992. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

[https://unfccc.int/files/essential\\_background/background\\_publications\\_htmlpdf/application/pdf/conveng.pdf](https://unfccc.int/files/essential_background/background_publications_htmlpdf/application/pdf/conveng.pdf)

<sup>952</sup> G7 2030 Nature Compact, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-nature-compact.html>

Strong actions related to the protection and conservation of ecosystems may include the creation of new protected lands, new legislation that prohibits actions that degrade the environment, or legislation restricting the extraction of natural resources that would lead to the loss of biodiversity or exacerbate the climate crisis.

Strong actions related to the restoration of ecosystems may include the implementation of programs to improve water, soil, or air quality, initiatives to introduce a species whose population had decreased as a result of human degradation.

Strong actions related to the reversal of biodiversity loss and environmental degradation may include new legislation banning a practice that degrades the environment, initiatives to prevent surface runoff from contaminating ecosystems, initiatives to remedy the damage caused by historic contamination, the planting of new trees, or any other action increasing the biodiversity of an ecosystem.

With this commitment, the leaders of the G7 recognize the significance and the urgency that the reversal of biodiversity loss has on climate change and other issues of domestic and international importance. In order to receive full compliance, a state must demonstrate that it has taken the necessary action to tackle biodiversity loss and climate change.

To achieve full compliance, the G7 member can take strong actions in two spheres and some action in one sphere to halt and reverse biodiversity loss: protecting and conserving ecosystems, restoring ecosystems, and halting and reversing biodiversity loss and environmental degradation. Alternatively, the G7 member can take strong action in all three aforementioned spheres to tackle biodiversity loss and climate change.

For a score of partial compliance, the G7 member has taken strong action in one sphere and some actions in the other two spheres to halt and reverse biodiversity loss: protecting and conserving ecosystems, restoring ecosystems, and halting and reversing biodiversity loss and environmental degradation. Alternatively, the G7 member can take strong actions in at least one of the three aforementioned spheres to halt and reverse biodiversity loss.

For a score of non-compliance, the G7 member has completed less than the aforementioned criteria.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has NOT taken strong steps to halt and reverse biodiversity loss in ANY of the following three spheres: protecting and conserving ecosystems, restoring ecosystems, and halting and reversing biodiversity loss and environmental degradation, OR the G7 member has taken weak steps in only ONE of the three spheres.
0	The G7 member has taken strong steps to halt and reverse biodiversity loss in at least ONE of the following three spheres: protecting and conserving ecosystems, restoring ecosystems, and halting and reversing biodiversity loss and environmental degradation, OR the G7 member has taken strong steps in ONE sphere and weak steps in the other TWO spheres.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong steps to halt and reverse biodiversity loss in ALL of the following three spheres: protecting and conserving ecosystems, restoring ecosystems, and halting and reversing biodiversity loss and environmental degradation, OR the G7 member has taken strong steps in at least TWO spheres and weak steps in ONE other sphere.

*Compliance Director: Quinn Teague-Colfer  
Lead Analyst: Ali Nadhum*

### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to support and drive the protection, conservation and restoration of ecosystems critical to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and environmental degradation and to tackle climate change.

On 23 July 2021, Environment and Climate Change Canada announced upwards of CAD25 million “in funding to enhance, conserve and restore critical wetlands and grasslands in Prairie provinces,” including

funding for Ducks Unlimited Canada (CAD19.28 million), Nature Conservancy of Canada (CAD4.05 million) and the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation (CAD2.4 million).<sup>953</sup> These organizations aim to restore croplands, grasslands and wetlands in the Prairie provinces while supporting wildlife habitat.

On 18 July 2021, Minister of Seniors Deb Schulte announced on behalf of then Minister of Environment and Climate Change Jonathan Wilkinson CAD9 million in funding for grassland and wetland conservation projects led by Conservation Ontario and other regional conservation authorities.<sup>954</sup>

On 12 August 2021, Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Environment and Climate, Terry Duguid, signed a ten-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Manitoba's Minister of Agriculture and Resource Development Ralph Eichler to renew their commitment to collaborate on the conservation of Lake Winnipeg.<sup>955</sup> The protection of water quality and engagement with Indigenous stakeholders were priorities of the new MOU.

On 12 August 2021, Environment and Climate Change Canada announced an investment of up to CAD340 million to support Indigenous-led conservation efforts.<sup>956</sup> The support includes collaboration with Indigenous leaders to utilize their perspectives for habitat protection and conservation of biodiverse ecosystems.

On 13 August 2021, Environment and Climate Change Canada announced funding of up to CAD796 million to protect nature nationally.<sup>957</sup> The investment comes as part of the "Enhance Nature Legacy" launched by the government "to support territories, provinces and other partners' actions to recover species at risk and conserve and protect freshwater and lands."

On 6 November 2021, Environment and Climate Change Canada announced increased investment in nature protection to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss.<sup>958</sup> This target involves protecting 25 per cent of Canadian lands and oceans by 2025 and "working toward" 30 per cent by the year 2030. The federal government also announced an investment of CAD460 million to "protect and expand 22 of Canada's national wildlife areas."

On 6 November 2021, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Steven Guilbeault announced at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, Scotland, that the federal government planned to allocate 20 per cent of its international climate finance funding to help combat biodiversity loss in developing

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<sup>953</sup> Canada invests \$25 million to protect wetlands and grasslands in the Prairies, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Winnipeg) 23 July 2021. Access Date: 27 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/07/canada-invests-25-million-to-protect-wetlands-and-grasslands-in-the-prairies.html>

<sup>954</sup> Canada invests \$9 million for nature conservation across southern Ontario, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Newmarket) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022.

<sup>955</sup> Canada and Manitoba renew commitment to protect Lake Winnipeg and its basin, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Winnipeg) 12 August 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/08/canada-and-manitoba-renew-commitment-to-protect-lake-winnipeg-and-its-basin.html>

<sup>956</sup> Government of Canada announces \$340 million to support Indigenous-led conservation, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-announces-340-million-to-support-indigenous-led-conservation.html>

<sup>957</sup> Canada invests \$796 million to collaborate with provinces, territories and other partners to protect nature across the country, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/08/canada-invests-796-million-to-collaborate-with-provinces-territories-and-other-partners-to-protect-nature-across-the-country.html>

<sup>958</sup> The Government of Canada increases nature protection ambition to address dual crises of biodiversity loss and climate change, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 6 November 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/11/the-government-of-canada-increases-nature-protection-ambition-to-address-dual-crises-of-biodiversity-loss-and-climate-change.html>

countries over the next five years.<sup>959</sup> Funding will focus on the development of nature-based solutions to support the restoration and preservation of wetlands and other carbon-rich ecosystems.

On 4 December 2021, Parks Canada announced a five-year investment of CAD14.7 million in conservation projects at five mountain national parks.<sup>960</sup> Funding will be allocated to mountain national parks struggling with aquatic invasive species, particularly invasive mussels: Waterton Lakes, Kootenay, Banff, Jasper and Yoho.

On 7 December 2021, Environment and Climate Change Canada announced funding of CAD200 million to projects supporting the reduction of Canada's greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>961</sup> Funding will be allocated to projects focused on "conserving, restoring and enhancing the management of critical ecosystems" to tackle climate change.

On 8 December 2021, Minister Guilbeault announced three-year funding of more than CAD3.1 million to support the Great Lakes Protection Initiative.<sup>962</sup> The Great Lakes Protection Initiative's projects support the restoration of Great Lakes freshwater ecosystems and water quality. Minister Guilbeault's announcement emphasizes the initiative's "engagement with Indigenous Peoples and the public."

On 8 December 2021, Environment and Climate Change Canada announced funding for habitat protection of species at risk.<sup>963</sup> CAD5.4 million will be allocated to conservation projects managed by the Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk and the Habitat Stewardship Program.

On 15 December 2021, Fisheries and Oceans Canada launched a call for proposals to support marine conservation efforts across Canada.<sup>964</sup> The Oceans Management Contribution Program will facilitate the call for proposals and provide access to at least CAD5 million in funding to successful proposals.

On 17 December 2021, Minister Guilbeault announced funding of nearly CAD5 million to support the EcoAction Community Funding Program.<sup>965</sup> The EcoAction Community Funding Program funds projects of non-profit and non-governmental organizations supporting the restoration and protection of freshwater ecosystems and water quality.

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<sup>959</sup> Canada earmarks 20 percent of climate funding to address biodiversity loss, CTV News (Ottawa) 6 November 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.ctvnews.ca/climate-and-environment/canada-earmarks-20-per-cent-of-climate-funding-to-address-biodiversity-loss-1.5655432>

<sup>960</sup> Government of Canada invests \$14.7M in conservation projects in five mountain national parks to prevent and manage aquatic invasive species, Parks Canada (Banff) 4 December 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/parks-canada/news/2021/12/government-of-canada-invests-147m-in-conservation-projects-in-five-mountain-national-parks-to-prevent-and-manage-aquatic-invasive-species.html>

<sup>961</sup> Government of Canada announces \$200M to address climate change by restoring carbon-rich ecosystems through nature-based solutions, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 27 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/12/government-of-canada-announces-200m-to-address-climate-change-by-restoring-carbon-rich-ecosystems-through-nature-based-solutions.html>

<sup>962</sup> Canada invests \$3.1 million to protect the Great Lakes and launches new call for proposals, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Gatineau) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/12/canada-invests-31-million-to-protect-the-great-lakes-and-launches-new-call-for-proposals.html>

<sup>963</sup> Government of Canada announces funding for protection of species at risk and their habitats, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/12/government-of-canada-announces-funding-for-protection-of-species-at-risk-and-their-habitats.html>

<sup>964</sup> Government of Canada launches Call for Proposals to support marine conservation efforts across Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Ottawa) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2021/12/government-of-canada-launches-call-for-proposals-to-support-marine-conservation-efforts-across-canada.html>

<sup>965</sup> Canada supports community-based action on freshwater protection through the EcoAction Program, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Gatineau) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/12/canada-supports-community-based-action-on-freshwater-protection-through-the-ecoaction-program.html>

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to halt and reverse biodiversity loss. Canada has taken strong action to protect, conserve and restore ecosystems and to reverse biodiversity loss, including strong investment in Indigenous-led conservation efforts and the development of targeted initiatives for high-risk biodiverse ecosystems.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Julian Lam*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to support and drive the protection, conservation and restoration of ecosystems critical to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and environmental degradation and to tackle climate change.

On 28 June 2021, the Government of France submitted a national plan for public consultation regarding measures to halt the decline of pollinating insects and preserve these species and their environment.<sup>966</sup> The initiative highlights the essential role of pollinators in reproduction of plant species, supporting wider efforts to halt biodiversity loss.

On 5 September 2021, Secretary of State for Biodiversity Bérangère Abba recognized the Bay of Audierne, a popular summer tourist destination in Finistère, France, as a wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention.<sup>967</sup> The Bay of Audierne experiences a high influx of tourists in summer months. Home to more than 1,000 animal species, the biodiverse Bay of Audierne will be protected from ecological degradation and pollution.

On 6 September 2021, Secretary Abba announced the creation of five new nationally protected areas.<sup>968</sup> These protected areas include the creation of a Roche Grande integral reserve comprised of the Mercantour National Park and Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur; a significant extension of the Iroise National Nature Reserve; the creation of the Corbières Fenouillèdes Regional Natural Park (Occitanie); the creation of the Regional Natural Park of Doubs Horloger (Bourgogne Franche-Comté) and the extension of the Natura 2000 site of the Mue valley (Normandy). The initiative will reduce the threat of environmental degradation and contribute to the preservation of biodiversity in the aforementioned ecosystems.

On 5 October 2021, Secretary Abba renewed France's commitment to protecting marine biodiversity at the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR).<sup>969</sup> In a joint effort with other OSPAR member states, France pledged to create a new international marine protected area in the North Atlantic Current of the Evlanov basin. The initiative will protect this region's ecosystem, which

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<sup>966</sup> National plan for pollinating insects and pollination 2021-2026, Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Paris) 21 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/plan-national-en-faveur-des-insectes-pollinisateurs-et-de-la-pollinisation-2021-2026-0>

<sup>967</sup> IUCN World Conservation Congress – The Bay of Audierne (Finistere) becomes the 51<sup>st</sup> “wetland of international importance” under the Ramsar Convention, Ministry for Ecological Transition (Paris) 5 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 January 2022. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/congres-mondial-nature-luicn-baie-daudierne-finistere-devient-51eme-zone-humide-dimportance>

<sup>968</sup> IUCN World Conservation Congress: To preserve exceptional natural areas, France is creating 5 new protected areas, including 2 under strong protection, Ministry for Ecological Transition (Paris) 6 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 January 2022. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/congres-mondial-nature-luicn-preserver-des-espaces-naturels-exceptionnels-france-cree-5-nouvelles>

<sup>969</sup> Bérangère Abba renews France's commitments for the protection of the marine environment of the North-East Atlantic during the annual commission of the OSPAR convention, Ministry for Ecological Transition (Paris) 5 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 January 2022. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/berangere-abba-renouvelle-engagements-france-protection-du-milieu-marin-latlantique-nord-est-lors>

serves as an important feeding ground for many species of seabirds and as a marine passage for migratory species.

On 8 October 2021, Secretary Abba reaffirmed France's commitment to restoring the ecological continuity of the Rhine.<sup>970</sup> France pledged EUR80 million for the construction of two new river passages. The initiative will contribute to the restoration of proper circulation of Rhine aquatic species unable to reach spawning grounds in recent years as a result of human development. Circulation of aquatic species is necessary to ensure genetic mixing and foster resilient, biodiverse river ecosystems.

On 25 October 2021, Secretary Abba launched an initiative to “identify sites of national interest likely to host a twelfth national park, dedicated to wetlands.”<sup>971</sup> In addition, Secretary Abba recognized the Pinail site in Vienne, France as a wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention. Secretary Abba's announcement highlighted the importance of ecosystem services provided by biodiversity wetlands in mitigating climate change and natural disasters. The creation of a new national park would enhance protection of wetland ecosystems' biodiversity.

On 4 November 2021, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian attended the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26).<sup>972</sup> France aided in finalizing international legislation for the COP26 commitment to cap global warming at 2°C. Furthermore, France reaffirmed its commitment to allocating EUR6 billion per year to accelerate decarbonization in emerging countries and tackle climate change.

On 12 November 2021, Minister for Ecological Transition Barbara Pompili, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian, and Minister for the Economy, Finance and of the Recovery Bruno Le Maire jointly announced France's decision to end foreign public funding of fossil energy projects by the end of 2022.<sup>973</sup> The joint announcement will reduce France's carbon footprint and decarbonize its export financing. Atmospheric pollution and destruction of biodiverse ecosystems from fossil fuel extraction and use contribute to biodiversity decline.

On 23 November 2021, Secretary Abba and Minister of the Overseas Sébastien Lecornu began public consultation of the draft decree for a second extension to the National Nature Reserve of the French Southern Territories.<sup>974</sup> This second extension plans to protect the exclusive economic zones of Saint-Paul and Amsterdam, Crozet and Kerguelen, which remain ecologically rich, containing highly biodiverse marine mammal populations and the world's largest population of seabirds. This joint initiative will ensure the continued protection of biodiversity in these territories.

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<sup>970</sup> Restoration of ecological continuity on the Rhine: Bérangère Abba announces the launch of work to create two new fish passes on the Rhine, on the hydroelectric dams of Rhinau and Marckolsheim, Ministry for Ecological Transition (Paris) 8 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 January 2022. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/restauration-continue-ecologique-sur-rhin-berangere-abba-annonce-lancement-des-travaux-creation>

<sup>971</sup> Protection of wetlands: Bérangère Abba welcomes the labelling of the Pinail site in Vienne under the Ramsar Convention, and launches a mission to identify sites of national interest, Ministry for Ecological Transition (Paris) 25 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 January 2022. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/protection-des-zones-humides-berangere-abba-se-felicite-labellisation-du-site-du-pinail-dans-vienne>

<sup>973</sup> COP26: France signs an agreement reaffirming its commitment to end foreign public funding of fossil fuel projects, Ministry for Ecological Transition (Paris) 12 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/cop26-france-signe-accord-reaffirmant-engagement-mettre-fin-aux-financements-publics-letranger>

<sup>974</sup> Bérangère Abba et Sébastien Lecornu announce the public consultation of the draft decree extending the national nature reserve of the French Southern Territories, Ministry of Overseas (Paris) 23 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 January 2022. <https://www.outre-mer.gouv.fr/berangere-abba-et-sebastien-lecornu-annoncent-lamise-en-consultation-au-public-du-projet-de-decret>



France has made strong efforts to strengthen the protection and conservation of biodiversity through its pollinator's initiative and the creation of new protected lands and marine environments. Additionally, France's attention to reversing the environmental degradation along the Rhineland is significant to its ecological continuity. France has also taken strong action towards tackling climate change through allocating funds to accelerate decarbonization in emerging countries and reaffirming its commitment to cap global warming at 2°C.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Sara Schmidt*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to support and drive the protection, conservation and restoration of ecosystems critical to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and environmental degradation and to tackle climate change.

On 16 July 2021, then Parliamentary State Secretary for Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety Rita Schwarzelühr-Sutter announced the German target for climate-neutrality would be moved forward to 2045.<sup>975</sup> The announcement came at the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and included a discussion of the negative implications of COVID-19 on biodiversity and the climate crisis. This announcement reflects Germany's commitment to promoting a green and resilient recovery from COVID-19.

On 7 September 2021, Federal Development Minister Gerd Müller hosted representatives of the ten countries around the Congo Basin at the Berlin Tropical Forest Symposium. Germany committed to increasing its support for the tropical forest countries in Central Africa.<sup>976</sup> Furthermore, representatives from Germany and the ten countries jointly signed the Declaration on the Protection of the Congo Basin Rainforest. This declaration outlines greater forest protection measures and aims to protect and restore 127 million hectares of forest by 2030.

On 11 September 2021, 40 farms in Lower Saxony announced they would join the project KOOOPERATIV, which promotes biodiversity at the landscape level.<sup>977</sup> The project is a part of the Federal Biological Diversity Program and is funded by the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation. The Federal Biological Diversity Program provides funding for sustainable agri-environmental measures and thus halts any further loss of biological diversity caused by disruptive farming practices.

On 11 October 2021, Federal Environment Minister Svenja Schulze emphasized the urgency of restoration for degraded ecosystems at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on

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<sup>975</sup> UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development: Germany calls for a sustainable and climate-friendly post-COVID recovery based on the 2030 Agenda, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (Berlin) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 19 January 2022. <https://www.bmuv.de/en/pressrelease/un-high-level-political-forum-on-sustainable-development-germany-calls-for-a-sustainable-and-climate-friendly-post-covid-recovery-based-on-the-2030-agenda>

<sup>976</sup> Development Minister Müller calls for 'Fair Deal' for forest protection, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 8 September 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/archive-press-releases/minister-mueller-calls-for-new-deal-for-forest-protection-92650>

<sup>977</sup> More biological diversity on agricultural land, Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (Berlin) 11 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.bmuv.de/pressemitteilung/mehr-biologische-vielfalt-auf-landwirtschaftlichen-flaechen>

Biological Diversity (COP15).<sup>978</sup> The main priorities advocated by Germany during negotiations for the mandated goals of COP15 included a push for 30 per cent of the Earth's terrestrial and marine area to be protected by 2030, a decrease in environmental pollution and restoration of degraded ecosystems to halt the global loss of biodiversity.

On 20 October 2021, the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission, which currently operates under the chairmanship of Germany, presented the Baltic Sea Action Plan for the 2021-2030 period.<sup>979</sup> The aims of the plan include reducing beach waste by 50 per cent, improving the protection of marine species, and maintaining "one-third of the Baltic Sea under strict protection and management by 2030." The joint initiative with other Baltic Sea countries mitigates challenges affecting the Baltic Sea marine life and ecosystems.

On 1 November 2021, Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel announced that Germany will join the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People (HAC) and support its goal of protecting 30 per cent of the planet's land and ocean by 2030.<sup>980</sup> This initiative aims to create a global system of protected ecosystems and thus conserve biodiversity. In addition, under the German Council Presidency, the European Union will also adopt the HAC's target goal.

On 11 November, the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection announced the German government would increase its multilateral commitment to adaptation finance by EUR150 million directed to the Global Environment Facility fund for least developed countries.<sup>981</sup> The Least Developed Countries Fund of the Global Environment Facility funds climate change adaptation measures including those safeguarding against biodiversity loss.

On 24 November 2021, the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection allocated EUR4.5 million in funding to two research projects that intend to test climate-friendly alternatives to the use of fossil fuels in the glass industry.<sup>982</sup> This funding supports the decarbonization of energy-intensive industrial sectors in Germany and development of manufacturing practises in accordance with biodiversity and climate change targets.

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<sup>978</sup> Svenja Schulze: The UN Biodiversity Conference in Kunming aims to halt the destruction of nature and biodiversity loss, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (Berlin) 11 October 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/svenja-schulze-the-un-biodiversity-conference-in-kunming-aims-to-halt-the-destruction-of-nature-and-biodiversity-loss>

<sup>979</sup> HELCOM adopts 10-year plan for the Baltic Sea to reduce litter, noise and fertiliser input, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (Berlin) 20 October 2021. Access Date: 20 January 2022. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/helcom-adopts-10-year-plan-for-the-baltic-sea-to-reduce-litter-noise-and-fertiliser-input>

<sup>980</sup> One Planet Summit: Germany supports stronger global biodiversity protection, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation Building and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 1 November 2021. Access Date: 2 January 2022. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/one-planet-summit-germany-supports-stronger-global-biodiversity-protection>

<sup>981</sup> Germany commits 150 million euros for climate change adaptation in developing countries, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (Berlin) 8 November 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/germany-commits-150-million-euros-for-climate-change-adaptation-in-developing-countries>

<sup>982</sup> The Federal Environment Ministry is funding decarbonization projects in the glass industry for the first time, Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (Berlin) 24 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 January 2022. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/bundesumweltministerium-foerdert-erstmalig-dekarbonisierungsprojekte-der-glasindustrie>

On 20 December 2021, Federal Environment Minister Steffi Lemke and State Secretary Patrick Graichen attended the EU Environment Council to discuss issues of climate and environmental protection.<sup>983</sup> Germany supported legislative proposals for the Fit for 55 package, which aims to reduce the EU's emissions. Other matters discussed and supported by Germany included battery regulation with environmental and climate protection criteria and EU soil and biodiversity strategy.

On 18 January 2022, the Federal Environment Ministry agreed on strengthening the Natural Climate Protection Action Program at the annual German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection Agricultural Congress.<sup>984</sup> This initiative serves to reorient agricultural policy to reward nature conservation and find economic opportunities in the conservation of forests, moors and soil. By reducing the use of pesticides and banning glyphosate by the end of 2023, Germany will promote the restoration of ecosystems negatively affected by pesticide use.

Germany has taken significant action to support the protection, conservation and restoration of ecosystems through creating newly protected lands and marine environments nationally and internationally. Germany has also made strong efforts to precipitate increased biodiversity by implementing sustainable agriculture programs and to address the climate emergency through funding research into climate-friendly alternatives to fossil fuels.

Thus, Germany has received a score of +1.

*Analyst: Sara Schmidt*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to support and drive the protection, conservation and restoration of ecosystems critical to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and environmental degradation and to tackle climate change.

On 29 September 2021, Undersecretary to the Ministry of Ecological Transition Ilaria Fontana called for an increase to the number of marine protected areas in Antarctica, highlighting the increasingly urgent need for protection due to “cumulative anthropogenic pressures, such as pollution, illegal overfishing, acidification and the introduction of invasive alien species.”<sup>985</sup> Speaking at the preparatory Ministerial Conference of the 40th annual meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, Undersecretary Fontana called for a special session dedicated to the marine protected areas, “specifically, to the proposals for the designation of new areas in East Antarctica, in the Weddell Sea and in the Antarctic Peninsula.”

On 1 October 2021, the Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies announced that EUR6.2 million would be allocated for the creation and implementation of projects focused on preparing a model for small-

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<sup>983</sup> Federal Environment Minister Steffi Lemke and State Secretary Patrick Graichen are taking part in the EU Environment Council, Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (Berlin) 20 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 January 2022.

<https://www.bmuv.de/pressemitteilung/bundesumweltministerin-steffi-lemke-und-staatssekretaer-patrick-graichen-nehmen-gemeinsam-am-eu-umweltrat-teil>

<sup>984</sup> Working together for the environment, agriculture and climate, Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (Berlin) 18 January 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 20 January 2022. <https://www.bmuv.de/pressemitteilung/gemeinsam-fuer-umwelt-landwirtschaft-und-klima>

<sup>985</sup> Environment: Increase the number of marine protected areas in Antarctica, Ministry of Ecological Transition (Rome) 29 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.mite.gov.it/notizie/ambiente-aumentare-il-numero-di-aree-marine-protette-antartide>

scale coastal fishing standards in protected areas.<sup>986</sup> The initiative aims to protect and restore marine ecosystems and their biodiversity while promoting sustainable fishing.

On 11 November 2021, the Ministry of Ecological Transition launched public consultation on the Program of Measures of the Strategy for the marine environment.<sup>987</sup>

On 20 December 2021, the Ministry of Ecological Transition announced the establishment of the Pelagos Voluntary Fund to support initiatives of the Pelagos Agreement between Italy, France and Monaco to provide further protection of marine mammals in the Pelagos Sanctuary.<sup>988</sup> Undersecretary Fontana emphasized the alarming rate of biodiversity loss in the Pelagos Sanctuary and reiterated Italy's commitment to the restoration of biodiversity in the sanctuary with coordinated international action.

Italy has taken strong action to protect and conserve ecosystems and to halt biodiversity loss through its funding of domestic and joint international actions regarding the marine environment. This includes by providing funding to restore the biodiversity in the Pelagos Sanctuary and to protect and conserve ecosystems by enforcing fishing regulations to prevent degradation.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pantéa Jamshidi Nouri*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to support and drive the protection, conservation and restoration of ecosystems critical to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and environmental degradation and to tackle climate change.

On 30 July 2021, the Ministry of the Environment announced the amendment of Act No. 78 of 2004 relating to combating the adverse environmental impacts of foreign alien species.<sup>989</sup> The revision involves the inclusion of *Spilococcus maculatus*, a species recently identified as alien to Japan, to the Act.

On 12 October 2021, Minister of the Environment Tsuyoshi Yamaguchi, announced a pledge of USD17 million to support developing countries with the protection of biodiversity.<sup>990</sup> The funding encourages “developing nations to set national strategies for biodiversity and expand their natural reserves.”

On 18 November 2021, the Ministry of the Environment announced that the Izumi Wintering Habitat of Cranes located in the Kagoshima prefecture was added to the “List of Wetlands of International Importance”

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<sup>986</sup> EMFF – Public notice for the disbursement of a grant pursuant to art.12, Law n.241/1990, relying on the resources referred to in Measure 40 lett. D), e) and f) “Protection and restoration of biodiversity and marine ecosystems and compensation schemes in the context of sustainable fishing activities” of Regulation (EU) no. 508/2014., Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies (Rome) 1 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 January 2022.

<https://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/17400>

<sup>987</sup> Public consultation on the update of the Marine Strategy Programs of Measures, Ministry of Ecological Transition (Rome) 11 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 January 2022.

<https://www.mite.gov.it/notizie/consultazione-pubblica-sull-aggiornamento-dei-programmi-di-misure-della-strategia-l-ambiente>

<sup>988</sup> “Pelagos”: the Conference of the Parties establishes a voluntary fund, Ministry of Ecological Transition (Rome) 20 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.mite.gov.it/notizie/pelagos-la-conferenza-delle-parti-istituisce-un-fondo-volontario>.

<sup>989</sup> The amendment to the Regulations for Enforcement of the Act on the Prevention of Adverse Ecological Impacts Caused by Designated Invasive Alien Species Relating to *Spilococcus maculatus*, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 30 July 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2530.html>

<sup>990</sup> Japan Pledges 17 M. Dlr for Biodiversity in Developing Nations, Nippon (Tokyo) 12 October 2021. Access Date: 27 December 2021. <https://www.nippon.com/en/news/yjj2021101201048/>

under the Ramsar Convention, an international treaty for the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands.<sup>991</sup> Over 10,000 endangered Hooded and White-naped Cranes migrate to Izumi City each winter.

On 21 December 2021, the 14th Japan-Mongolia Environmental Policy Dialogue concluded with Japan pledging to cooperate with Mongolia on the Satoyama Initiative to support biodiversity.<sup>992</sup> Japan and Mongolia pledged to support the target to designate 30 per cent of their land as protected areas by 2030, and initiated dialogue to foster collaboration on conservation and reforestation projects.

On 26 December 2021, the Japanese Ministry of the Environment indicated its desire to collaborate with and provide technical support to the Government of Haryana in India on biodiversity conservation.<sup>993</sup> A visit by a Japanese embassy official explored the possibility of creating a “center of excellence” related to combatting various environmental issues.

On 11 January 2022, the Central Environment Council (CEC) submitted a final report to Minister Yamaguchi and Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Genjiro Kaneko regarding “[necessary] measures to be taken in the future based on the state of enforcement of the Act on the Prevention of Ecosystem Damage by Designated Invasive Alien Species.”<sup>994</sup> The CEC submitted this report to the Minister of the Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries after public input and consultation with relevant organizations.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and to protect and conserve ecosystems, including domestic initiatives to protect wetlands and endangered species and international collaborative efforts with Mongolia and Haryana state in India. However, Japan has not taken action to restore ecosystems negatively impacted by biodiversity loss.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Julian Lam*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to support and drive the protection, conservation and restoration of ecosystems critical to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and environmental degradation and to tackle climate change.

On 18 June 2021, the Environment Agency and Natural England announced the reintroduction of the 1000<sup>th</sup> hazel dormouse into UK wildlife by wildlife charity People’s Trust for Endangered Species, Natural England and the University of Cumbria.<sup>995</sup> Dormouse reintroductions are part of a wider species recovery programme entitled “Back On Our Map,” led by the University of Cumbria, Morecambe Bay Partnership and supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

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<sup>991</sup> Newly Designated Ramsar Site, Izumi Wintering Habitat of Cranes, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2557.html>

<sup>992</sup> Results of the 14th Japan-Mongolia Environmental Policy Dialogue, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 23 December 2021. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2577.html>

<sup>993</sup> Japan keen to work with Haryana on climate change, environmental issues, The Print (New Delhi) 26 December 2021. Access Date: 27 December 2021. <https://theprint.in/india/japan-keen-to-work-with-haryana-on-climate-change-environmental-issues/788553/>

<sup>994</sup> The Central Environment Council reports on “Necessary measures to be taken in the future based on the state of enforcement of the Invasive Alien Species Act, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 11 January 2022. Access Date: 18 January 2022. <https://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2572.html>

<sup>995</sup> 1,000th hazel dormouse reintroduced to the UK, Environment Agency and Natural England (London) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 3 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/1000th-hazel-dormouse-reintroduced-to-the-uk>

On 7 July 2021, the Environment Agency issued 14 notices for illegal angling during a multi-agency operation, Derbyshire, after 166 spot checks were carried out.<sup>996</sup>

On 12 July, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Nature Recovery and the Domestic Environment Rebecca Pow called on the general population to take five actions to care for bees and other pollinators.<sup>997</sup> These actions marked the beginning of the Bees' Needs Week when DEFRA and other green organizations including the Royal Horticultural Society and Bumblebee Conservation Trust collaborated to encourage a healthy habitat for pollinators and "boosting biodiversity."

On 13 July 2021, the Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS) announced that funding of GBP16.2 million from the Blue Planet Fund was released.<sup>998</sup> Using this funding, CEFAS will provide technical assistance to support developing countries to tackle marine pollution, develop sustainable seafood practices and establish designated, well-managed and enforced marine protected areas.

On 17 July 2021, DEFRA launched consultation on extending the near-total ban on import, export and dealing of items containing elephant ivory to other ivory-bearing species.<sup>999</sup> DEFRA outlined its proposals to ban the trade in hippo, narwhal, walrus, killer whale and sperm whale ivory in the Action Plan for Animal Welfare.

On 21 July 2021, DEFRA, the Environment Agency and Natural England announced a range of nature projects that will benefit from a new fund aimed to drive private investment in the environment and tackle climate change.<sup>1000</sup> The 27 schemes across England include initiatives restoring kelp forests, creating new woodlands and improving water quality. Organizations have been awarded up to GBP100,000 each, drawn from the GBP10 million Natural Environment Investments Readiness Fund.

On 27 July 2021, Natural England's Chair, Tony Juniper joined his Royal Highness The Prince of Wales on the Sandringham Estate to release one of the UK's most threatened species: the Eurasian curlew.<sup>1001</sup> The releases aimed to expand an existing breeding population of curlew in Breckland, creating a new curlew nature recovery network.

On 29 July, Natural England declared Johnson's Meadows, 16 acres of unspoiled grasslands in Leicestershire, rich in rare wildflowers, a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).<sup>1002</sup> The site joined 4,100 SSSI's that "form the backbone of nature conservation in England."

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<sup>996</sup> Clampdown on illegal fishing in Derbyshire, Environment Agency (London) 7 July 2021. Access Date: 20 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/clampdown-on-illegal-fishing-in-derbyshire>

<sup>997</sup> Buzzing for Bees' Needs Week 2021, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs and Natural England (London) 12 July 2021. Access Date: 20 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/buzzing-for-bees-needs-week-2021>

<sup>998</sup> Cefas to partner on government's support to protect the world's oceans with boost for marine recovery, Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (London) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 20 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cef-as-to-partner-on-governments-support-to-protect-the-worlds-oceans-with-boost-for-marine-recovery>

<sup>999</sup> Government seeks views on extending world-leading ivory ban to protect hippos, walruses and narwhals, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 17 July 2021. Access Date: 20 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-seeks-views-on-extending-world-leading-ivory-ban-to-protect-hippos-walruses-and-narwhals>

<sup>1000</sup> Boost to drive investment in Essex, Norfolk and Lincolnshire environment, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs, Environment Agency and Natural England (London) 21 July 2021. Access Date: 20 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/boost-to-drive-investment-in-essex-norfolk-and-lincolnshire-environment>

<sup>1001</sup> Eurasian Curlews released on the Sandringham Estate, Natural England (London) 27 July 2021. Access Date: 20 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/eurasian-curlews-released-on-the-sandringham-estate>

<sup>1002</sup> Leicestershire beauty spot declared SSSI, Natural England (London) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 20 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/leicestershire-beauty-spot-declared-sssi>

On 30 July 2021, Natural England launched a new scheme in Yorkshire to help conserve local populations of great crested newts and promote sustainable development.<sup>1003</sup> The scheme created a network of ponds across Yorkshire to provide habitat for the great crested newt; 37 ponds were created or restored.

On 10 August 2021, the UK government opened a consultation on plans for new Local Nature Recovery Strategies across England.<sup>1004</sup> The Local Nature Recovery Strategies aimed to “drive up the recovery of local landscapes and wildlife” and support nature-based solutions to mitigate climate change, including tree-planting or the restoration of peatland for carbon sequestration.

On 15 August 2021, DEFRA introduced a ban on the import and export of detached shark fins and products containing them.<sup>1005</sup> The ban will promote shark conservation and challenge unsustainable fishing practices.

On 16 August 2021, the Environment Agency launched a public consultation on a flood risk activity permit application from Natural England as part of a project to restore Hoveton Great Broad and Hudson’s Bay in Norfolk.<sup>1006</sup> The permit is a prerequisite to the installation of permeable fish barriers that would allow water fleas to clean and restore the aforementioned water bodies without interference from fish entering the Broad.

On 25 August 2021, DEFRA and Natural England launched a consultation on the reintroduction of beavers into the wild in England.<sup>1007</sup> This consultation is a step toward further reintroductions and establishing native beaver populations.

On 22 September 2021, five UK statutory nature agencies published a report that stated that “[greater] action, investment and embracing natural solutions are crucial to halting biodiversity loss by 2030.”<sup>1008</sup> In the report, the agencies outlined how the UK can meet its commitments in the Leaders’ Pledge for Nature and ensure that recovery of biodiversity is prioritized on the path to net zero.

On 22 September 2021, Natural England, Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust, Dorset Wildlife Trust, Forestry England, National Trust, Rempstone Estate, and the RSPB agreed to a 20-year vision, a Memorandum of Understanding and the first-ever joint management plan for a ‘super’ National Nature Reserve.<sup>1009</sup>

On 22 September 2021, Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced that the Biodiversity Landscapes Fund will invest in six of the most environmentally critical landscapes, spanning eighteen countries, to help to combat

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<sup>1003</sup> New innovative scheme to protect newts and promote sustainable development is rolled out across Yorkshire, Natural England (London) 30 July 2021. Access Date: 20 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-innovative-scheme-to-protect-newts-and-promote-sustainable-development-is-rolled-out-across-yorkshire>

<sup>1004</sup> Local communities urged to help shape the natural world around them, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs and Natural England (London) 10 August 2021. Access Date: 20 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/local-communities-urged-to-help-shape-the-natural-world-around-them>

<sup>1005</sup> Government to introduce world-leading ban on shark fin trade, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs and Natural England (London) 15 August 2021. Access Date: 20 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-introduce-world-leading-ban-on-shark-fin-trade>

<sup>1006</sup> New consultation for Norfolk habitat restoration project, Environment Agency and Natural England (London) 16 August 2021. Access Date: 20 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-consultation-for-norfolk-habitat-restoration-project>

<sup>1007</sup> Landmark consultation launched on the reintroduction of beavers in England, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs and Natural England (London) 25 August 2021. Access Date: 20 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/landmark-consultation-launched-on-the-reintroduction-of-beavers-in-england>

<sup>1008</sup> It’s not too late to reverse biodiversity decline by 2030, UK’s five leading nature bodies say, Natural England and Joint Nature Conservation Committee (London) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 20 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/its-not-too-late-to-reverse-biodiversity-decline-by-2030-uks-five-leading-nature-bodies-say>

<sup>1009</sup> Partners agree 20-year vision for Purbeck Heaths super NNR, Natural England (London) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 20 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/partners-agree-20-year-vision-for-purbeck-heaths-super-nnr>

climate change and protect rare and endangered species.<sup>1010</sup> The fund will be considered Official Development Assistance as part of the UK's commitment to international development.

On 29 September 2021, Natural England designated the Cotswold Water Park as a Site of Special Scientific Interest, offering greater protection for the park's biodiverse populations of waterbirds and aquatic plants.<sup>1011</sup>

On 1 October 2021, the UK government announced funding for conservation projects to protect species including tigers, orangutans and pangolins.<sup>1012</sup> The Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund (WTCF) will provide seventeen projects with over GBP7 million in funding. The WTCF "provides essential support to projects that tackle illegal wildlife trade for the benefit of wildlife, nature, local communities and economies, and global security."

On 5 October 2021, DEFRA published the Implementation Plan for the Healthy Bees Plan 2030 which outlines guidelines for beekeepers, bee farmers, bee associations and government to protect and augment populations of honeybees.<sup>1013</sup>

On 14 October 2021, Natural England reported that the Environment Agency approved the Hoveton Great Broad Restoration Project.<sup>1014</sup> This project will help to reverse pollution in Norfolk broad and aid in ecosystem restoration.

On 15 October 2021, the Environment Agency and Natural England published a report by the Catchment Based Approach's Chalk Stream Restoration Group.<sup>1015</sup> The report outlines recommendations of how chalk streams can be restored, enhanced and looked at ways to restore the River Rase.

On 2 November 2021, the UK pledged GBP1.5 billion over five years to the Global Forest Finance Pledge.<sup>1016</sup> The funding includes GBP350 million allocated to tropical forests in Indonesia, GBP200 million to the LEAF Coalition and up to GBP300 million to the Amazon.

On 5 November 2021, the Environment Agency along with other environmental organisations released and published environment handbooks that outlined guidance for how to carry out best practice in regards to estuarine and coastal habitat creation projects across the UK and Ireland.<sup>1017</sup>

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<sup>1010</sup> Honduras to benefit from lifeline for some the world's most precious biodiverse habitats, British Embassy Guatemala City (Guatemala City) 23 September 2021. Access Date: 20 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/honduras-to-benefit-from-lifeline-for-some-the-worlds-most-precious-biodiverse-habitats>

<sup>1011</sup> Cotswold Water Park confirmed as a Site of Special Scientific Interest, Natural England (London) 29 September 2021. Access Date: 20 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cotswold-water-park-confirmed-as-a-site-of-special-scientific-interest>

<sup>1012</sup> UK commits additional £7.2 million to tackling illegal wildlife trade, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs and Natural England (London) 1 October 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-commits-additional-72-million-to-tackling-illegal-wildlife-trade>

<sup>1013</sup> A boost for bees as Defra works with beekeepers to implement the Healthy Bees Plan 2030, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs and Natural England (London) 5 October 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/a-boost-for-bees-as-defra-works-with-beekeepers-to-implement-the-healthy-bees-plan-2030>

<sup>1014</sup> Ambitious project to reverse decades of pollution in Norfolk broad, Natural England (London) 14 October 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ambitious-project-to-reverse-decades-of-pollution-in-norfolk-broad>

<sup>1015</sup> Chalk stream strategy launched to protect 'England's rainforests', Environment Agency and Natural England (London) 15 October 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chalk-stream-strategy-launched-to-protect-englands-rainforests>

<sup>1016</sup> \$12 billion donor support to halt and reverse forest loss and protect land rights, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy and Cabinet Office (London) 3 November 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/12-billion-donor-support-to-halt-and-reverse-forest-loss-and-protect-land-rights>



On 10 November 2021, the UK government passed legislation that intends to “clean up the country’s air, restore natural habitats, increase biodiversity, reduce waste and make better use of [its] resources.”<sup>1018</sup> The UK hopes to halt the decline in species by 2030, which will necessitate new developments to “improve or create habitats for nature, and tackle deforestation overseas.”

On 3 December 2021, the Environment Agency announced that it planted over six hundred trees in Suffolk in 2021 and plans to plant over 500 trees between December 2021 and March 2022.<sup>1019</sup>

On 16 December 2021, the Environment Agency announced the initiation of survey work as part of a pilot program tracing native and non-native crayfish in North East and Yorkshire rivers.<sup>1020</sup> The GBP20,000 National Crayfish Monitoring Programme will utilise environmental DNA surveying to identify the presence of native white-clawed crayfish, invasive signal crayfish and crayfish plague.

On 18 December 2021, DEFRA, Natural England and the Welsh Government announced plans to seek consultations on a proposed ban on the use of peat in horticulture in England and Wales, in an effort to protect precious peatland habitats and meet net-zero carbon targets.<sup>1021</sup>

The UK has fully complied with its commitment to support and drive the protection, conservation and restoration of ecosystems critical to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and environmental degradation and to tackle climate change. The UK has taken consistent strong action to promote biodiversity domestically and internationally, including through the reintroduction of threatened species back into the wild, passing of legislation to protect endangered species, initiatives to thwart negative externalities brought by climate change and degradation of ecosystems and initiatives to restore wildlife habitats and reforestation efforts.

Thus, the UK receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Tanmaya Ramprasad*

#### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to support and drive the protection, conservation and restoration of ecosystems critical to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and environmental degradation and to tackle climate change.

On 21 June 2021, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack issued a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) proclamation to recognize the designation of the week of June 21–27, 2021 as National Pollinator

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<sup>1017</sup> Restoration Handbooks published to give best practice advice on creating new estuarine and coastal habitats, Environment Agency (London) 5 November 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/restoration-handbooks-published-to-give-best-practice-advice-on-creating-new-estuarine-and-coastal-habitats>

<sup>1018</sup> World-leading Environment Act becomes law, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs, Forestry Commission, Environment Agency and Natural England (London) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-leading-environment-act-becomes-law>

<sup>1019</sup> More than 1,000 trees to be planted in Suffolk, Environment Agency (London) 3 December 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/more-than-1000-trees-to-be-planted-in-suffolk>

<sup>1020</sup> Pilot project aims to help safeguard native white-clawed crayfish, Environment Agency (London) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pilot-project-aims-to-help-safeguard-native-white-clawed-crayfish>

<sup>1021</sup> Plans to phase out the use of peat in the amateur horticulture sector, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs, Forestry Commission, Environment Agency and Natural England (London) 18 December 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/plans-to-phase-out-the-use-of-peat-in-the-amateur-horticulture-sector>

Week.<sup>1022</sup> The proclamation aids in the protection and conservation of birds, bats, bees and other insects that play an important role in producing more than 100 crops grown in the United States.

On 15 July 2021, the USDA announced the Southeast Alaska Sustainability Strategy.<sup>1023</sup> As part of the new strategy, the USDA ended large-scale old-growth timber sales on the Tongass National Forest and shifted focus to “support forest restoration, recreation and resilience, including for climate, wildlife habitat and watershed improvement.”

On 9 September 2021, the USDA announced an investment of USD464 million to build or improve renewable energy infrastructure.<sup>1024</sup> The funding will allow agricultural producers and rural small businesses to purchase and install renewable energy systems, reducing their contribution to biodiversity decline and the climate emergency.

On 30 September 2021, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that they will provide USD1,855,200 to the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection.<sup>1025</sup> This funding will be used to restore water quality that was degraded from surface runoff.

On 30 September 2021, the EPA announced that they will provide USD1.2 million to the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control.<sup>1026</sup> This funding will help to restore water quality.

On 4 October 2021, the EPA announced that they will provide USD1.78 to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality.<sup>1027</sup> The funding will help to restore water quality in rivers.

On 4 October 2021, the EPA announced that they will provide almost USD5 million to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.<sup>1028</sup> The funding will help to improve and restore the water quality in rivers and streams.

On 5 October 2021, the EPA announced that they will provide USD2.3 million to the Maryland Department of Environment.<sup>1029</sup> The funding will help to restore water quality.

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<sup>1022</sup> Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack Issues USDA Proclamation Recognizing National Pollinator Week, Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 22 January 2022. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2021/06/21/agriculture-secretary-tom-vilsack-issues-usda-proclamation>

<sup>1023</sup> USDA Announces Southeast Alaska Sustainability Strategy, Initiates Action to Work with Tribes, Partners and Communities, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 22 January 2022. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2021/07/15/usda-announces-southeast-alaska-sustainability-strategy-initiates>

<sup>1024</sup> USDA Invests \$464 Million in Renewable Energy Infrastructure to Help Rural Communities, Businesses and Ag Producers Build Back Better, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 9 September 2021. Access Date: 22 January 2022. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2021/09/09/usda-invests-464-million-renewable-energy-infrastructure-help-rural>

<sup>1025</sup> EPA awards \$1.8 million to West Virginia to control polluted runoff, restore water quality, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 30 September 2021. Access Date: 8 February 2022. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-18-million-west-virginia-control-polluted-runoff-restore-water-quality-0>

<sup>1026</sup> EPA awards \$1.2 million to Delaware to control polluted runoff, restore water quality, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 30 September 2021. Access Date: 8 February 2022. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-12-million-delaware-control-polluted-runoff-restore-water-quality>

<sup>1027</sup> EPA awards \$1.78 million to Virginia to control polluted runoff, restore water quality, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 4 October 2021. Access Date: 8 February 2022. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-178-million-virginia-control-polluted-runoff-restore-water-quality>

<sup>1028</sup> EPA awards almost \$5 million to Pennsylvania to control polluted runoff, restore water quality, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 4 October 2021. Access Date: 8 February 2022. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-almost-5-million-pennsylvania-control-polluted-runoff-restore-water-quality>

On 5 October 2021, the EPA announced that they will provide USD1 million to the District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment.<sup>1030</sup> The funding will be used to help restore water quality in rivers.

On 7 October 2021, the EPA announced that they will provide USD500,000 to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.<sup>1031</sup> The funding will be used to enhance the states wetlands, state parks and forests.<sup>1032</sup>

On 7 October 2021, the USDA released its climate adaptation and resilience plan outlining how the department will prepare for current and future impacts of climate change.<sup>1033</sup> The new plan will “[integrate] climate change into USDA’s planning and decision making”, invest in soil and forest health to build resilience, provide accessible climate data at regional and local levels, support climate-related research and development, and broaden outreach and education to promote adaptation strategies.

On 7 October 2021, the EPA announced that they are providing USD667,621 to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality.<sup>1034</sup> This funding will be used to support wetlands protection, as well as to preserve water quality and natural resources. Some funding will also be used to assess the health and state of the wetlands in order to determine which areas need to be restored.

On 7 October 2021, the EPA announced that they are providing USD299,362 to the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection.<sup>1035</sup> This funding will be used to support wetlands protection, as well as to preserve water quality and natural resources. Some funding will also be used to assess the health and state of the wetlands in order to determine which areas need to be restored.

On 7 October 2021, the EPA announced that they are providing USD599,273 to the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control.<sup>1036</sup> The funding will be used to support wetlands protection, as well as to preserve water quality and natural resources.

On 12 October 2021, the EPA announced that they are providing USD144,202 in federal funding to the Maryland Department of Environment.<sup>1037</sup> The funding will be used to enhance Delaware’s wetlands and “protect, restore or enhance” coastal habitats.

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<sup>1029</sup> EPA awards \$2.3 million to Maryland to control polluted runoff, restore water quality, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 5 October 2021. Access Date: 8 February 2022. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-23-million-maryland-control-polluted-runoff-restore-water-quality>

<sup>1030</sup> EPA awards \$1 million to the District of Columbia to control polluted runoff, restore water quality, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 5 October 2021. Access Date: 8 February 2022. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-1-million-district-columbia-control-polluted-runoff-restore-water-quality-0>

<sup>1031</sup> EPA awards nearly \$500k to Pennsylvania to enhance wetlands on state parks, forests, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 8 February 2022. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-nearly-500k-pennsylvania-enhance-wetlands-state-parks-forests>

<sup>1032</sup> EPA awards nearly \$500k to Pennsylvania to enhance wetlands on state parks, forests, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 8 February 2022. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-nearly-500k-pennsylvania-enhance-wetlands-state-parks-forests>

<sup>1033</sup> USDA Announces Plan to Integrate Climate Adaptation Into its Missions and Programs, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 22 January 2022. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2021/10/07/usda-announces-plan-integrate-climate-adaptation-its-missions-and>

<sup>1034</sup> EPA awards \$668K to Virginia for wetlands protection, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 8 February 2022. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-668k-virginia-wetlands-protection>

<sup>1035</sup> EPA awards \$300K to West Virginia for wetlands protection, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 8 February 2022. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-300k-west-virginia-wetlands-protection>

<sup>1036</sup> EPA awards \$600,000 to Delaware for wetlands protection, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 8 February 2022. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-600000-delaware-wetlands-protection>

<sup>1037</sup> EPA awards \$144,000 to Maryland to enhance wetlands, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 12 October 2021. Access Date: 8 February 2022. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-144000-maryland-enhance-wetlands>

On 20 October 2021, the USDA and the Department of the Interior announces actions to protect the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and surrounding watershed in Northeastern Minnesota as the area is vital to the National Wilderness Preservation System.<sup>1038</sup> Some of the actions included a twenty-year withdrawal of key portions of the national forest lands from under mineral and geothermal leasing laws, prohibiting any prospective permits or leases in the area.

On 2 November 2021, the US and the United Arab Emirates officially launched the Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate (AIM for Climate) alongside thirty-one countries and over forty-eight non-government partners.<sup>1039</sup> AIM for Climate is intended to raise global climate ambition and increase investment and public-private involvement in climate-smart agriculture and food systems.

On 19 November 2021, the USDA announced that it is taking steps to repeal the 2020 Alaska Roadless Rule and “restore protections to more than nine million acres of inventoried roadless areas on the Tongass National Forest.”<sup>1040</sup>

On 17 December 2021, the USDA, Department of the Interior and Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency announced the establishment of a Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission.<sup>1041</sup> The Commission will recommend “federal policies and strategies to effectively prevent, mitigate, suppress and manage wildland fires, including the rehabilitation of land affected from wildland fires.”

On 10 January 2022, the USDA invested USD50 million in 118 partnerships to expand access to conservation assistance for climate-smart agriculture and forestry.<sup>1042</sup> The funding is aimed to support projects that prioritize “[improving] soil health and water quality, [providing] habitat for at-risk wildlife, [improving] natural resources and productivity on agricultural lands and/or [building] and strengthening local and regional food systems and markets.

On 12 January 2022, the USDA announced “a USD9 million investment in new Cooperative Extension and USDA Climate Hubs partnerships to bolster climate research, connect and share climate-smart solutions directly with the agricultural community.”<sup>1043</sup>

On 13 January 2022, the USDA announced USD225 million in funding for the Regional Conservation Program.<sup>1044</sup> Initiatives by the Regional Conservation Program leverage collective resources to find solutions to address natural resource challenges on agricultural land.

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<sup>1038</sup> Biden Administration Takes Action to Complete Study of Boundary Waters Area Watershed, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 20 October 2021. Access Date: 22 January 2022. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2021/10/20/biden-administration-takes-action-complete-study-boundary-waters>

<sup>1039</sup> Launching Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 20 October 2021. Access Date: 22 January 2022. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2021/11/02/launching-agriculture-innovation-mission-climate>

<sup>1040</sup> USDA Announces Steps to Restore Roadless Protections on Tongass National Forest, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 19 November 2021. Access Date: 3 January 2022. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2021/11/19/usda-announces-steps-restore-roadless-protections-tongass-national>

<sup>1041</sup> USDA, DOI, and FEMA Jointly Establish New Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 3 January 2022. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2021/12/17/usda-doi-and-fema-jointly-establish-new-wildland-fire-mitigation>

<sup>1042</sup> USDA Invests \$50 million in Partnerships to Improve Equity in Conservation Programs, Address Climate Change, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 10 January 2022. Access Date: 22 January 2022. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2022/01/10/usda-invests-50-million-partnerships-improve-equity-conservation>

<sup>1043</sup> USDA Invests \$9M to Expand Reach and Increase Adoption of Climate-Smart Practices, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 12 January 2022. Access Date: 22 January 2022. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2022/01/12/usda-invests-9m-expand-reach-and-increase-adoption-climate-smart>

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to protect and conserve ecosystems through the investment of vast amounts of financial capital into initiatives focused on the protection and conservation of habitats. It has also fully complied with its commitment to tackle climate change with its consistent flow of financial aid to organizations and rural farmlands to improve and enact climate-smart agricultural practices.

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

*Analyst: Tanmaya Ramprasad*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to support and drive the protection, conservation and restoration of ecosystems critical to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and environmental degradation and to tackle climate change.

On 17 June 2021, the European Commission endorsed Denmark's EUR1.5 billion recovery and resilience plan, "paving the way for the EU to disburse EUR1.5 billion in grants under the Recovery and Resilience Facility over the period 2021-2026."<sup>1045</sup> Strengthening environmental protection and protecting biodiversity are highlighted as priorities in Denmark's green and digital recovery.

On 17 June 2021, the European Commission endorsed Greece's EUR30.5 billion recovery and resilience plan to support Greece's green and digital transition.<sup>1046</sup> The plan includes investments towards fire prevention and a national reforestation programme to enhance biodiversity protection.

On 18 June 2021, the European Commission endorsed Luxembourg's EUR93 million recovery and resilience plan to support Luxembourg's green and digital transition.<sup>1047</sup> Under the plan, 61 per cent of expenditures will support climate goals, including a plan to encourage municipalities to protect biodiversity and the environment.

On 21 June 2021, the European Commission endorsed Austria's EUR3.5 billion recovery and resilience plan to support Austria's green and digital transition.<sup>1048</sup> Under the plan, 59 per cent of the expenditures will support climate goals, including investments towards biodiversity.

On 22 June 2021, the European Commission endorsed Italy's EUR191.5 billion recovery and resilience plan to support Italy's green and digital transition.<sup>1049</sup> As a part of the plan, 37 per cent of expenditures will support climate-related objectives, including biodiversity protection.

On 23 June 2021, the European Commission endorsed Belgium's EUR5.9 billion recovery and resilience plan to support its green and digital transition.<sup>1050</sup> The plan will invest directly in the preservation of biodiversity in

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<sup>1044</sup> USDA to Invest up to \$225 Million in Partner-Driven Conservation on Agricultural and Forest Land, U.S Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 13 January 2022. Access Date: 22 January 2022. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2022/01/13/usda-invest-225-million-partner-driven-conservation-agricultural>

<sup>1045</sup> NextGenerationEU: European Commission endorses Denmark's EUR1.5 billion recovery and resilience plan, European Commission (Brussels) 17 June 2021. Access Date: 19 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3024](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3024)

<sup>1046</sup> NextGenerationEU: European Commission endorses Greece's EUR30.5 billion recovery and resilience plan, European Commission (Brussels) 17 June 2021. Access Date: 19 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3022](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3022)

<sup>1047</sup> NextGenerationEU: European Commission endorses Luxembourg's EUR93 million recovery and resilience plan, European Commission (Brussels) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 19 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3047](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3047)

<sup>1048</sup> NextGenerationEU: European Commission endorses Austria's recovery and resilience plan, European Commission (Brussels) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 19 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3052](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3052)

<sup>1049</sup> NextGenerationEU: European Commission endorses Italy's EUR191.5 billion recovery and resilience plan, European Commission (Brussels) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 19 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3126](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3126)

<sup>1050</sup> Questions and answers: European Commission endorses Belgium's EUR5.9 billion recovery and resilience plan, European Commission (Brussels) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 19 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda\\_21\\_3148](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda_21_3148)

protected areas, enhancement of resilient forest management, creation of wetlands, ecological restoration operations and development of green infrastructure.

On 23 June 2021, the European Commission endorsed France's EUR39.4 billion recovery and resilience plan to support its green and digital transitions.<sup>1051</sup> Under the plan, 46 per cent of expenditures will support climate goals, including investments in protected areas, ecological restoration, forest management and expansion of wooded areas to preserve biodiversity.

On 14 July 2021, the European Commission adopted proposals to decrease greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55 per cent by 2030. The EU Forest Strategy plans to plant 3 billion trees across Europe by 2030 and support foresters and the forest-based bioeconomy to "improve the quality, quantity and resilience of EU forests."<sup>1052</sup>

On 22 September 2021, President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen announced the EU will double its external funding for biodiversity in the EU's new seven-year budget, prioritizing the most vulnerable countries.<sup>1053</sup> The funding aims to support a more effective new Global Biodiversity Framework and to strengthen cooperation on biodiversity protection.

On 8 October 2021, the European Commission launched a public consultation to evaluate and revise the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking.<sup>1054</sup> The public consultation will collect information from citizens and stakeholder organizations about the effectiveness and added value of the Action Plan in minimizing wildlife trafficking.

On 12 October 2021, the European Commission issued a guidance document under the Habitats Directive for the protection of animals, including wolves, bears and dolphins.<sup>1055</sup> The new document includes recent Court of Justice rulings, which will help to ensure more effective implementation of biodiversity protection rules in the EU. The new guidance document serves to assist Member States in the implementation of the Habitats Directive.

On 29 October 2021, Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries Virginijus Sinkevičius called for world leaders "to address climate change and biodiversity loss in an integrated manner" ahead of the United Nations Climate Change Conference.<sup>1056</sup>

On 17 November 2021, the European Commission adopted three new initiatives for the implementation of the European Green Deal.<sup>1057</sup> The new initiatives include "new rules to curb EU-driven forestation, as well as

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<sup>1051</sup> NextGenerationEU: European Commission endorses France's EUR39.4 billion recovery and resilience plan, European Commission (Brussels) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 19 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3153](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3153)

<sup>1052</sup> European Green Deal: Commission proposes transformation of EU economy and society to meet climate ambitions, European Commission (Brussels) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 27 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3541](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3541)

<sup>1053</sup> EU at UNGA: Leading the movement for a nature-positive, carbon neutral and equitable, Directorate-General for Environment (Brussels) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 27 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/environment/news/eu-unga-leading-movement-nature-positive-carbon-neutral-and-equitable-world-2021-09-22\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/news/eu-unga-leading-movement-nature-positive-carbon-neutral-and-equitable-world-2021-09-22_en)

<sup>1054</sup> European Green Deal: Commission launches public consultation on the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking, Directorate-General for Environment (Brussels) 8 October 2021. Access Date: 27 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/environment/news/european-green-deal-commission-launches-public-consultation-eu-action-plan-against-wildlife-2021-10-08\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/news/european-green-deal-commission-launches-public-consultation-eu-action-plan-against-wildlife-2021-10-08_en)

<sup>1055</sup> Habitats Directive: New guidance on protected species, Directorate-General for Environment (Brussels) 12 October 2021. Access Date: 27 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/environment/news/habitats-directive-new-guidance-protected-species-2021-10-12\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/news/habitats-directive-new-guidance-protected-species-2021-10-12_en)

<sup>1056</sup> Bridging COP26 and COP15: EU highlights the need to tackle the nature and climate crises together, Directorate-General for Environment (Brussels) 29 October 2021. Access Date: 27 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/environment/news/bridging-cop26-and-cop15-2021-10-29\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/news/bridging-cop26-and-cop15-2021-10-29_en)

new rules to facilitate intra-EU waste shipments to promote circular economy and tackle the export of illegal waste and waste challenges to third countries...[and] a new Soil strategy to have all European soils restored, resilient, and adequately protected by 2050.” The new initiatives aim to lower the global impact on biodiversity loss.

On 25 November 2021, the European Commission approved over EUR290 million of investment in 132 projects under the LIFE programme for the environment and climate action<sup>1058</sup> The new LIFE projects will contribute to the EU’s green recovery after Covid-19 and aid in efforts to recover Europe’s biodiversity by 2030 and make Europe climate-neutral by 2050.

On 9 December 2021, the European Commission and the European Environment Agency announced a project to publish a data tool called ‘MapMyTree’ for organizations to contribute to the pledge of planting three billion trees by 2030 and to register and keep track of their contribution to the EU’s target.<sup>1059</sup> The MapMyTree data tool forms part of the EU’s Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 and aims to “increase the EU forest area and resilience, enhance biodiversity and help with climate change mitigation and adaptation.”

On 15 December 2021, the Commission launched two online tracking tools to measure progress made in implementing the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030.<sup>1060</sup> Both tracking tools aim to strengthen EU governance in the biodiversity sector by “improving the knowledge and evidence base for biodiversity policy, increasing accountability for implementation, ensuring transparent and effective progress monitoring and review.”

On 16 December 2021, the European Commission banned most forms of trade in ivory as part of its Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 to fight environmental crime and protect biodiversity.<sup>1061</sup> The only form of trade in ivory allowed in the EU market will be for the reparation of objects already containing ancient ivory.

On 21 December 2021, the European Commission’s College of Commissioners endorsed new guidelines on aid for States with respect to climate, environmental protection and energy.<sup>1062</sup> The guidelines support the “protection and restoration of biodiversity” and cover aid for “biodiversity and for the remediation of environmental damage.”

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to halt and reverse biodiversity loss. The European Union has taken strong steps in protecting and conserving ecosystems, restoring ecosystems and halting and reversing biodiversity loss by creating guidelines to assist the Member States in creating the EU

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<sup>1057</sup> European Green Deal: Commission adopts new proposals to stop deforestation, innovate sustainable waste management and make soils healthy for people, nature and climate, Directorate-General for Environment (Brussels) 17 November 2021. Access Date: 27 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_5916](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5916)

<sup>1058</sup> LIFE Programme: More than EUR290 million in EU funding for nature, environment and climate action projects, European Commission (Brussels) 25 November 2021. Access Date: 19 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_6178](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6178)

<sup>1059</sup> Biodiversity: Three billion additional trees by 2030 – launch of MapMyTree tool, Directorate-General for Environment (Brussels) 9 December 2021. Access Date: 27 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/environment/news/mapmytree-new-data-tool-count-planted-trees-europe-2021-12-09\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/news/mapmytree-new-data-tool-count-planted-trees-europe-2021-12-09_en)

<sup>1060</sup> Commission launches new tools for strengthened EU biodiversity governance, Directorate-General for Environment (Brussels) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 27 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/environment/news/commission-launches-new-mechanisms-strengthened-eu-biodiversity-governance-2021-12-15\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/news/commission-launches-new-mechanisms-strengthened-eu-biodiversity-governance-2021-12-15_en)

<sup>1061</sup> Ivory trade: Commission updates rules to end most forms of ivory trade in the EU, Directorate-General for Environment (Brussels) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 27 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_6887](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6887)

<sup>1062</sup> EU endorses new climate, environmental protection and energy guidelines for state aid, New Europe (Brussels) 23 December 2021. Access Date: 27 December 2021. <https://www.neweurope.eu/article/eu-endorses-new-climate-environmental-protection-and-energy-guidelines-for-state-aid/>

Forest Strategy and Soil Strategy, funding the recovery and resilience plan of most Member States and banning most forms of ivory trade within the EU.

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

*Analyst: Pantéa Jamsbidi Nouri*



## 9. Environment: Marine Health and Litter

“Addressing the adverse impact of human activity, such as litter and unsustainable fishing practices, on the marine environment: building on the Osaka Blue Ocean Vision, we will accelerate action to tackle the increasing levels of plastic pollution in the ocean from all sources - land and marine - including by working through the UN Environment Assembly on options including strengthening existing instruments and a potential new global agreement or other instrument to address marine plastic litter, including at UNEA-5.”

*G7 2030 Nature Compact*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France		0	
Germany		0	
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
United Kingdom		0	
United States		0	
European Union		0	
Average		+0.13 (56%)	

### Background

Marine environments are essential to human well-being. They support livelihoods, provide nutrition and aid global climate regulation by absorbing heat and sequestering carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>).<sup>1063</sup> Marine environments are vulnerable to unsustainable human activity resulting in environmental degradation, pollution (including marine litter), overfishing and climate change. For instance, an estimated 11 million metric tonnes of plastic end up in the ocean each year where it ultimately harms marine life and damages habitats.<sup>1064</sup> Unabated climate change leading to “high climate warming scenarios” could result in a decrease of fish biomass of up to 25 per cent by the end of the century.<sup>1065</sup> This is compounded with the fact that approximately 33 per cent of fish populations are currently being harvested at unsustainable levels. Simultaneously, coastal hypoxic (low oxygen) zones caused by fertilizer run-off cause marine life to die or leave for water with higher oxygen content, putting ecosystems and livelihoods at risk. Such unsustainable human activity has already put an estimated 100 to 300 million people living in coastal areas at risk due to coastal habitat loss.

Given the importance of marine environments to human well-being, the health of marine environments and reductions to marine litter have repeatedly been an area of concern for the G7, as well as for the G20 (such as at the 2019 Osaka Summit) and the United Nations (with the United Nations Environment Assembly), among other organizations.<sup>1066</sup>

<sup>1063</sup> Goal 14: Life below water, United Nations Environment Programme (Nairobi) n.d. Access Date: 17 September 2021.

<https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/sustainable-development-goals/why-do-sustainable-development-goals-matter/goal-14>

<sup>1064</sup> Breaking the Plastic Wave: A Comprehensive Assessment Of Pathways Towards Stopping Ocean Plastic Pollution, The Pew Charitable Trusts (Philadelphia) 23 July 2020. Access Date: 17 September 2021. [https://www.pewtrusts.org/-/media/assets/2020/10/breakingtheplasticwave\\_mainreport.pdf](https://www.pewtrusts.org/-/media/assets/2020/10/breakingtheplasticwave_mainreport.pdf)

<sup>1065</sup> UN Report: Nature’s Dangerous Decline ‘Unprecedented’; Species Extinction Rates ‘Accelerating’, United Nations (Paris) 6 May 2019. Access Date: 17 September 2021. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/blog/2019/05/nature-decline-unprecedented-report/>

<sup>1066</sup> G20 Report on Actions against Marine Plastic Litter: Third Information Sharing based on the G20 Implementation Framework, Ministry of Ecological Transition (Rome) 20 July 2021. Access Date: 17 September 2021. [https://g20mpl.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/G20MPL\\_report\\_2021.pdf](https://g20mpl.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/G20MPL_report_2021.pdf)

As a reflection of its importance, the protection and fostering of marine environments is a key focus of the United Nations, featuring in its sustainable development goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 14.1 which states “by 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution,” as well as Goal 14.2 which calls for sustainable management and protection of marine and coastal ecosystems including through restoration and actions to strengthen their resiliency.<sup>1067</sup>

G7 leaders acknowledged the importance of protecting marine environments dating back to the 1989 Paris Summit.<sup>1068</sup> While the G7 recognized the importance of marine biodiversity, health and sustainability as far back as the 1985 Bonn Summit (regarding the protection of water and seas) and 1987 Venice Summit (where it was mentioned in passing as part of a broader commitment to “encourage action” against climate change), it was not until the 1989 Paris Summit that the fostering of marine health was seen as an issue area of its own.<sup>1069</sup> G7 members condemned the dumping of polluting waste into the ocean, recognized the importance of international co-operation in preserving and conserving marine environments, called for the United Nations to prepare a report on the state of the world’s oceans and encouraged countries to implement the international conventions for the prevention of oil pollution in the ocean and to make use of the latest monitoring and cleanup technologies.<sup>1070</sup>

During the 1990 Houston Summit, the G7 called for the development of a strategy to address land-based sources of marine pollution, urged the entry into enforcement of the International Maritime Organization’s (IMO) Convention on oil spills and expressed concern over the impact of environmental degradation of unregulated fishing practices on marine resources.<sup>1071</sup> They further encouraged all countries to respect current conservation regimes. The G7 also highlighted the developmental pressures on estuaries, wetlands and coral reefs, and the destruction of biological diversity as a result of human activity. Finally, they also committed to expand projects to conserve biodiversity, assist developing countries in environmental efforts and work with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to achieve these objectives.

The 1991 London Summit saw the G7 seek to promote a comprehensive approach to the conservation and sustainable management of marine environments in the context of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.<sup>1072</sup> G7 leaders also encouraged the implementation of measures to protect against overfishing and other harmful practices on marine life in accordance with international law. They also urged “control of marine pollution and compliance with the regimes established by regional fisheries organisations through effective monitoring and enforcement measures.”

At the 1997 Denver Summit, the G8 leaders reaffirmed the importance of the world’s oceans, stating their intention to “ensure an effective and integrated effort to deal with key issues, including sustainable fishing,

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<sup>1067</sup> Sustainable Development Goal 14, Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform (New York) Access Date: 23 September 2021. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg14>

<sup>1068</sup> Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 1989. Access Date: 19 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/1989paris/communique/index.html#environment>

<sup>1069</sup> G7/8 Conclusions on Oceans, 1975-2017, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) n.d. Access Date 19 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/conclusions/oceans.pdf>

<sup>1070</sup> Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 1989. Access Date: 19 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/1989paris/communique/index.html#environment>

<sup>1071</sup> Houston Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 July 1990. Access Date: 19 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/1990houston/declaration.html#environment>

<sup>1072</sup> Economic Declaration: Building World Partnership, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 July 1991. Access Date: 19 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1991london/communique/index.html>

shipping, marine pollution from land-based and off-shore activities.”<sup>1073</sup> They also agreed to “enhance cooperation in monitoring the ecology in the Northern Pacific.”

During the 2003 Evian Summit, the G8 committed to ratifying the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) which established the legal framework for maritime activities.<sup>1074</sup> UNCLOS “imposes duties on all states to ensure, through proper conservation and management measures, the long-term sustainability of fish resources,” and also outlines rules for the protection and preservation of marine environments, presenting states with duties to protect the oceans from various pollutants.<sup>1075</sup> The G8 members also committed to developing and facilitating the use of diverse approaches and tools for the purpose of protecting sea and ocean environments, the elimination of illegal and unregulated fishing, as well as to the “urgent restoration and maintenance of fish stocks.”<sup>1076</sup> The summit also resulted in measures to accelerate the phasing out of single-hulled tankers, act on the environmental threat posed by large cargo vessels and a commitment to address the risk posed by the carrying of oil by single-hulled tankers.

The 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit saw a focus on marine litter, with the G7 members committing to take action to remove litter, improve education and outreach and address land and sea-based sources of marine litter, particularly focusing on plastic litter.<sup>1077</sup> The G7 members released an action plan outlining various instruments for combating marine litter in conjunction with their commitment.<sup>1078</sup> This action plan also recognized the global challenge presented by marine litter, encouraging the sharing of best practices with developing countries as well as the provision of international assistance and funding.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, the G7 members tied action towards reducing marine litter and ensuring marine environment health to resource efficiency, the three Rs and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.<sup>1079</sup> In the Leaders’ Declaration, the G7 affirmed their commitment to address marine litter, highlighting the importance of resource efficiency and the 3Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle) for reducing marine litter from land-based sources. The G7 also indicated their support for scientific work that enhances global observation and assessment of marine resources, allowing for management, conservation and more sustainable use of marine resources. The importance of addressing marine litter and maintaining healthy marine biodiversity was also a topic of discussion at the G7 Environment Ministers’ meeting.<sup>1080</sup>

During the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, the G7 nations endorsed the Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, which included provisions to address ocean plastic waste and marine litter.<sup>1081</sup> In addition to commitment towards broad action towards healthy oceans and against marine litter,

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<sup>1073</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 June 1997. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g8final.htm>

<sup>1074</sup> Marine Environment and Tanker Safety: A G8 Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 June 2003. Access Date: 20 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/marine\\_en.html](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/marine_en.html)

<sup>1075</sup> Law of the Sea: United Nations convention, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 27 April 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/corporate/international-affairs/partnerships-organizations/law-sea-united-nations-convention.html>

<sup>1076</sup> Marine Environment and Tanker Safety: A G8 Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 June 2003. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/marine\\_en.html](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/marine_en.html)

<sup>1077</sup> Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>1078</sup> Annex to the Leaders’ Declaration G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-annex-en.pdf>

<sup>1079</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html#development>

<sup>1080</sup> Communiqué G7 Toyama Environment Ministers’ Meeting, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 May 2016. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/2016-environment.html>

<sup>1081</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

and included as an annex for the Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, the G7 members (with the exception of Japan and the United States) also endorsed the G7 Ocean Plastics Charter which problematizes and outlines methods to improve current ways of producing, using, managing and disposing of plastics for the good of marine environments and human health with the goal of a zero-plastic waste model.<sup>1082</sup> Some of the actions committed to in the Ocean Plastics Charter include: making all plastics recyclable by 2030, reducing the use of single-use plastics and promoting the use of recycled plastic, as well as improving and expanding recycling infrastructure and promoting the research, development and use of new technologies for monitoring, removing and recycling plastics.<sup>1083</sup>

In the aftermath of the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, the G7 nations released the G7 Innovation Challenge to Address Marine Plastic Litter on 20 September 2018. The objective of the G7 Innovation Challenge was to incentivize the development of technological and social solutions for sustainable management of plastics with the goal of increasing resource efficiency and reducing marine plastic pollution.

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to biodiversity protection, ocean conservation and the fight against marine litter.<sup>1084</sup> The G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to fund climate innovation and members discussed several initiatives already underway. They also listened to expert testimony and made an official statement welcoming the Osaka G20 Blue Ocean Vision and Implementation Framework for Actions on Marine Plastic Litter.

During the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders agreed to a shared global agenda which included the goal of protecting at least 30 per cent of global oceans by 2030.<sup>1085</sup> This commitment was part of the larger G7 2030 Nature Compact, which also included provisions for restoring lost habitat and biodiversity and encouraged increased global cooperation for ocean protection and conservation.<sup>1086</sup> The agreement also advocated building on the Osaka Blue Ocean Vision's goal of reducing additional pollution by marine plastic litter to zero by 2050, accelerating action to tackle pollution from land and sea-based sources, encouraging and enforcing international legal action against illegal and unreported fishing and taking measures against overfishing. The G7 also published the "G7 Ocean Decade Navigation Plan" policy paper on 21 May 2021 under the UK presidency in which the G7 agreed to "collaborate and advance [their] collective work on ocean science, ocean observing and ocean action throughout the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)."<sup>1087</sup> The G7 members committed to support the UN Ocean Decade and its outcomes which include: "A Clean Ocean where sources of pollution are identified and reduced or removed," "A Healthy and Resilient Ocean where marine ecosystems are understood, protected, restored and managed," and "A Productive Ocean supporting sustainable food supply and a sustainable ocean economy."

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<sup>1082</sup> Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html>; The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

<sup>1083</sup> Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html>

<sup>1084</sup> Biarritz Chair's Summary on Climate, Biodiversity and Oceans, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/chairs-summary-climate.html>

<sup>1085</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

<sup>1086</sup> G7 2030 Nature Compact, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-nature-compact.html>; G20 Osaka Leaders' Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 2019. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2019/2019-g20-osaka-leaders-declaration.html>

<sup>1087</sup> G7 Ocean Decade Navigation Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 May 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/2021-ocean-navigation.html>

## Commitment Features

On 13 June 2021, G7 leaders at the Cornwall Summit adopted the present commitment: “Addressing the adverse impact of human activity, such as litter and unsustainable fishing practices, on the marine environment: building on the Osaka Blue Ocean Vision, we will accelerate action to tackle the increasing levels of plastic pollution in the ocean from all sources - land and marine - including by working through the UN Environment Assembly on options including strengthening existing instruments and a potential new global agreement or other instrument to address marine plastic litter, including at UNEA-5.”<sup>1088</sup>

“Address” is understood to mean “to give attention to or deal with a matter or problem.”<sup>1089</sup> “Adverse” is defined as “acting against or in a contrary direction” and “opposed to one’s interests.”<sup>1090</sup> “Impact” is defined as “the force of impression of one thing on another: a significant or major effect.”<sup>1091</sup> Taken together then, “adverse impact” means significant effects from a given action against the subject’s interests, which is the marine environment.

“Human Activity” is understood to mean action, defined as “to do something; to act in order to get a particular result” undertaken by humans.<sup>1092</sup>

Litter is defined as any solid material that is improperly disposed of and enters the natural environment.<sup>1093</sup> “Marine Litter” in particular is defined as any “persistent, manufactured or processed solid material discarded, disposed of or abandoned in the marine and coastal environment from any source.”<sup>1094</sup>

“Unsustainable” is understood to mean “not capable of being prolonged or continued.”<sup>1095</sup> “Fishing” is defined as the “the capture of aquatic organisms in marine, coastal and inland areas.”<sup>1096</sup> “Practices” is better understood as “method” in this context which is defined as “a way, technique, or process of or for doing something.”<sup>1097</sup> Taken together, unsustainable fishing practices are ways or techniques of capturing aquatic organisms that are not capable of being prolonged or continued.

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<sup>1088</sup> G7 2030 Nature Compact, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-nature-compact.html>

<sup>1089</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>1090</sup> Adverse, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/adverse>

<sup>1091</sup> Impact, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/impact>

<sup>1092</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>1093</sup> Reasons, Consequences and Possible Solutions of Littering, Caucasus Environmental NGO Network (Tbilisi) n.d. Access Date: 23 October 2021. <http://environment.cenn.org/waste-management/publications/reasons-consequences-possible-solutions-littering/>; Solid Waste and Marine Litter, United Nations Environment Programme (Nairobi) n.d. Access Date: 23 October 2021. <https://www.unep.org/cep/solid-waste-and-marine-litter>

<sup>1094</sup> Solid Waste and Marine Litter, United Nations Environment Programme (Nairobi) n.d. Access Date: 23 October 2021. <https://www.unep.org/cep/solid-waste-and-marine-litter>

<sup>1095</sup> Unsustainable, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 23 October 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/unsustainable>

<sup>1096</sup> Fisheries, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Rome) n.d. Access Date: 23 October 2021. <https://www.fao.org/fisheries/en/>

<sup>1097</sup> Method, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) Access Date: 23 October 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/method>

“Building” is defined as “to develop according to a systematic plan, by a definite process, or on a particular base.”<sup>1098</sup> “Building on” the Osaka Blue Ocean initiative in this context then means to work towards more expansive action using the Osaka Blue Ocean initiative as a base for future policy-making and action. The Osaka Blue Ocean Vision, first put forward at the 2019 G20 Osaka Summit, “aim[s] to reduce additional pollution by marine plastic litter to zero by 2050 through a comprehensive life-cycle approach that includes reducing the discharge of mismanaged plastic litter by improved waste management and innovative solutions while recognizing the important role of plastics for society.”<sup>1099</sup>

“Will” is “used to talk about what is going to happen in the future, especially things that you are certain about or things that are planned.”<sup>1100</sup> This verb indicates a high politically binding obligation meaning that it signifies a commitment and is a strong catalyst for compliance.<sup>1101</sup>

“Accelerate” is defined as “to bring [something] about at an earlier time” or “to hasten or progress the development of [something].”<sup>1102</sup> This indicates that the commitment deals with some process that has already been started, in this instance what is being accelerated is action to reduce rising levels of plastic pollution.

“Instrument” is defined as “a means whereby something is achieved, performed, or furthered.”<sup>1103</sup> Instruments then are the means by which G7 members will comply with their commitments. This includes economic instruments at both national and international levels including taxes or tariffs, permits, subsidies, etc.<sup>1104</sup> It also includes actions such as budget allocations domestically and for international financing, international and domestic law-making, industry action-plans, etc.<sup>1105</sup>

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) defines marine litter as “any persistent, manufactured or processed solid material which is lost or discarded and ends up in the marine and coastal environment.”<sup>1106</sup> This includes “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.”<sup>1107</sup> Other factors to consider when assessing marine health include pollution levels, ocean eutrophication (excessive algal or plant growth), marine area management, the creation of protected areas and conservation.<sup>1108</sup>

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<sup>1098</sup> Build, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) Access Date: 23 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/build>

<sup>1099</sup> G20 Osaka Leaders Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 2019. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2019/2019-g20-osaka-leaders-declaration.html>

<sup>1100</sup> Will, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/will>

<sup>1101</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>1102</sup> Accelerate, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/accelerate>

<sup>1103</sup> Instrument, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/instrument>

<sup>1104</sup> Policy Instruments for the Environment, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 2 November 2017. Access Date: 24 September 2021. [https://www.oecd.org/environment/tools-evaluation/PINE\\_database\\_brochure.pdf](https://www.oecd.org/environment/tools-evaluation/PINE_database_brochure.pdf)

<sup>1105</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>1106</sup> Understanding The State Of The Ocean: A Global Manual On Measuring Sdg 14.1.1, Sdg 14.2.1 And Sdg 14.5.1, United Nations Environment Programme (Nairobi) n.d. Access Date: 17 September 2021. <https://wedocs.unep.org/handle/20.500.11822/35086>

<sup>1107</sup> Marine Litter: A Global Challenge, United Nations Environment Programme (Nairobi) April 2009. Access Date: 17 September 2021. [https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/7787/-Marine%20Litter\\_%20A%20Global%20Challenge%20%282009%29-2009845.pdf?sequence=3&isAllowed=y](https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/7787/-Marine%20Litter_%20A%20Global%20Challenge%20%282009%29-2009845.pdf?sequence=3&isAllowed=y)

<sup>1108</sup> Understanding The State Of The Ocean: A Global Manual On Measuring Sdg 14.1.1, Sdg 14.2.1 And Sdg 14.5.1, United Nations Environment Programme (Nairobi) n.d. Access Date: 17 September 2021. <https://wedocs.unep.org/handle/20.500.11822/35086>

The inclusion of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) in the commitment marks it as a core international institution which is defined as “a separate international organization (as an organization) that has a particular focus on the issue in the commitment at hand.”<sup>1109</sup> The UNEA is a United Nations agency that is the “the world’s highest-level decision-making body on the environment.”<sup>1110</sup> According to the text of the commitment, the UNEA is a specified agent, which indicates that it is an institution that G7 members could work through in order to comply with the commitment.<sup>1111</sup> The term “including” indicates that greater weight should be placed on working through or with the UNEA in order to comply with the commitment. “UNEA-5” is also mentioned in the text and refers to the fifth-session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, the first session of which was held on 22 and 23 February 2021, with an additional assembly, dealing with more substantive matters that require in-depth negotiations, planned for the period from 28 February 2022 to 2 March 2022.<sup>1112</sup>

There are two component areas for this commitment, national action and international action. International action is emphasized in the text of the commitment through references to UNEA and UNEA-5, as well as through mentioning a “new global agreement.”<sup>1113</sup> Further, at the national and international level, compliance action can take the form of either strengthening existing instruments or creating new instruments that address the problem of marine litter and health.

To achieve full compliance, or a score of +1, G7 members must take strong and concrete action to strengthen existing instruments as well as work on a new global agreement through participation at UNEA-5. Referring back to the definition of instruments, concrete national actions to strengthen existing instruments include measures such as budget allocation, implementing policies, amending or creating new laws, providing technical or financial assistance to programs, projects and businesses, which includes subsidies or grants. International action meanwhile can include global law-making or revision to current laws, financing, as well as agreements or target-setting between nations.

For partial compliance, or a score of 0, G7 members take less than strong action to strengthen existing instruments or work on a new global agreement at UNEA-5. If a G7 member takes strong action in one area, say creating new instruments at the national level, but does not take action internationally or only takes partial or weak actions such as attending meetings or re-affirming the commitment, then the G7 member will be found to be in partial compliance. A G7 member will also achieve partial compliance if they fulfill all aspects of the commitment (national, international, strengthening institutions and creating new instruments) but only do so through weak actions that are not binding.

For non-compliance (-1), G7 members must take no action to strengthen existing instruments or create new instruments or agreements at either the national or international level.

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<sup>1109</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>1110</sup> About The United Nations Environment Assembly, UN Environment Assembly (Nairobi) n.d. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/about-united-nations-environment-assembly>

<sup>1111</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>1112</sup> Fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, UN Environment Assembly (Nairobi) n.d. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea5>

<sup>1113</sup> G7 2030 Nature Compact, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-nature-compact.html>

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	The G7 member does NOT take strong and concrete action to reduce marine litter through strengthening existing instruments or by working on a new global agreement at UNEA-5 and does NOT take additional action to address overall marine health.
0	The G7 member takes less than strong action to reduce marine litter in one or both of the constituent features and takes additional action to accelerate a reduction in marine pollution and increase overall marine health.
+1	The G7 member takes strong and concrete action to reduce marine litter through strengthening existing instruments AND by working on a new global agreement through the United Nations Environment Assembly at UNEA-5 AND takes additional action to accelerate a reduction in marine pollution and increase overall marine health.

*Compliance Director: Karči Aldridge Végi*

*Lead Analyst: Maryanna Diab*

**Canada: 0**

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to address the adverse impact of human activity on the marine environment, with a particular focus on dealing with plastic pollution through strengthening current instruments and working on a new global agreement at UNEA-5.

On 15 June 2021, the Government of Canada launched the Ocean Partnership Forum under the Canada-EU Ocean Partnership Declaration to promote ocean sustainability through cooperation.<sup>1114</sup> The joint statement also reaffirmed their intention to conclude, as soon as possible, a new agreement under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea for conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction. They aim to report on the progress on conservation and sustainable use of marine resources at the second UN Ocean Conference in 2022. This action is consistent with Canada's commitment to increasing marine health.

On 13 July 2021, the Governments of Canada and the United States announced the signing of a four-year action plan to jointly protect and manage the health of the Salish Sea ecosystem.<sup>1115</sup> In the action plan, Canada and the United States indicated that they will continue to collaborate with their partners through information sharing, improving transboundary coordination, and reporting on ecosystem health.

On 14 July 2021, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard Bernadette Jordan announced funding of CAD707,000 for oil spill and fisheries science research.<sup>1116</sup> The funding supports two projects lasting between two to five years that focus on improving detection and cleanup of oil spills as well as improving the sustainability of fisheries. This is conducive to the goal of increasing marine health by investing in new technologies and research to reduce the impact or improve prevention of pollution from oil spills as well as improve sustainable harvesting of fish species.

On 22 July 2021, Minister Jordan announced a CAD976 million investment, allocated as part of the 2021 budget, for the purpose of continuing marine conservation efforts with the goal of protecting 25 per cent of

<sup>1114</sup> Canada-European Union Summit-Joint Statement, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2021/06/15/canada-european-union-summit-joint-statement>

<sup>1115</sup> Canada and the United States release new action plan for Salish Sea Ecosystem, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Vancouver) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/07/canada-and-the-united-states-release-new-action-plan-for-salish-sea-ecosystem.html>

<sup>1116</sup> Government of Canada invests in research to help protect Atlantic fisheries and ecosystems, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Ottawa) July 14, 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2021/07/government-of-canada-invests-in-research-to-help-protect-atlantic-fisheries-and-ecosystems.html>



Canada's oceans by 2025 and 30 percent by 2030.<sup>1117</sup> Furthermore, a report titled, "The Current - Managing Oceans Act MPAs Now, For the Future" was launched to ensure that the government had been achieving their conservation targets.

On 4 August 2021, the Government of Canada announced that new vessels will be used to respond to large whale and marine mammal incidents such as fishing gear entanglements in order to ensure the safety of marine mammals.<sup>1118</sup> The CAD379,000 investment will also increase the overall capacity and resources to train rescue and response teams so they can "safely disentangle large whales." Furthermore, investments in more vessels will ensure that marine mammal teams respond to rescue efforts more efficiently and effectively. This action is conducive to reducing the impact of marine litter on marine animals, increasing overall marine health.

On 10 August 2021, the Government of Canada announced the Call for Proposals for the Canada Nature Fund for Aquatic Species at Risk to "support the recovery and protection of aquatic species at risk by enabling multi-species, place-based and threat-based approaches to recovery."<sup>1119</sup> The CAD29 million fund will take place over five years and prioritize the protection of the Atlantic salmon, Pacific Salmon and North Atlantic right whales in Newfoundland, Labrador and the Arctic. This action is conducive to the goal of increasing overall marine health through the protection of vulnerable marine animals.

On 11 August 2021, Minister Jordan announced the CAD20 million Whalesafe Gear Adoption Fund and a first call for proposals for the fund.<sup>1120</sup> The fund will help fisheries adopt whalesafe gear in advance of the 2023 ban on fishing gear that is not whalesafe and is conducive to Canada's commitment to protect and improve overall marine health through encouraging sustainable practices and protecting marine animals.

On 11 August 2021, Minister Jordan announced CAD8.7 million in funding for Ocean Networks Canada to support their research in collecting and sharing data on ocean conditions.<sup>1121</sup> Ocean Networks Canada provides research for the purpose of understanding the potential challenges of protecting marine environments. Furthermore, the Government of Canada is developing an initiative called the Blue Economy Strategy which seeks to secure future federal investments for the protection of Canada's coasts and waters.

On 12 August 2021, Minister Jordan announced an investment of CAD228,000 over three years to further assess how population sizes of Canadian Arctic species are affected by climate change.<sup>1122</sup> The project aims to find new data on the genetics, health and populations of Narwhals, bowhead whales, and belugas in order to preserve and protect these species and prevent population decrease due to environmental changes and climate concerns.

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<sup>1117</sup> Government of Canada making significant progress and investments to protect Canada's oceans, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Ottawa) 22 July 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2021/07/government-of-canada-making-significant-progress-and-investments-to-protect-canadas-oceans.html>

<sup>1118</sup> Government of Canada increases marine mammal response capacity in the southern Gulf of St. Lawrence, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Shippagan) 4 August 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-increases-marine-mammal-response-capacity-in-the-southern-gulf-of-st-lawrence.html>

<sup>1119</sup> The Government of Canada launches Call for Proposals for projects that protect aquatic species at risk, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Ottawa) 10 August 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2021/08/the-government-of-canada-launches-call-for-proposals-for-projects-that-protect-aquatic-species-at-risk.html>

<sup>1120</sup> Government of Canada launches new \$20 million fund to make fishing gear safer for whales, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Ottawa) 1q August 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-launches-new-20-million-fund-to-make-fishing-gear-safer-for-whales.html>

<sup>1121</sup> Government of Canada invests in ocean observation science to help protect Canada's oceans, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Ottawa) 11 August 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-invests-in-ocean-observation-science-to-help-protect-canadas-oceans.html>

<sup>1122</sup> Government of Canada invests in research to better understand whale populations in the Arctic, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Ottawa) 12 August 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-invests-in-research-to-better-understand-whale-populations-in-the-arctic.html>

On 16 November 2021, the Government of Canada, on behalf of the Canadian Coast Guard, announced a CAD2 million contract Navenco Marine Inc. for the production of offshore booms.<sup>1123</sup> In the event of an oil spill, the booms will be used to prevent pollution from spreading from the source and to help recover the spilled pollutants. The funding contract is part of Canada's Oceans Protection Plan and thus is conducive to the commitment to take actions that improve or sustain marine health.

On 30 November 2021, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry François-Philippe Champagne announced a CAD3.5 million investment in Montréal-based Polystyvert through Sustainable Development Technology Canada.<sup>1124</sup> The company will use the investment to complete the scale-up of its patented recycling technology to enable the full circular economy of polystyrene which will help keep polystyrene out of the oceans.

On 2 December 2021, Minister Champagne and Minister of Natural Resources Jonathan Wilkinson announced an investment of CAD2.8 million in Open Robotics through Sustainable Development Technology Canada.<sup>1125</sup> The investment helps the company continue to advance its cleantech solution for gathering ocean data and protecting the marine environment with its SeaSense initiative, which aims to protect the marine environment with the latest generation of zero-emission autonomous vessels, artificial intelligence and advanced sensors.

On 15 December 2021, the Government of Canada launched the Call for Proposals to support marine conservation efforts across Canada.<sup>1126</sup> The first national Call for Proposals provides access to CAD5 million in funding for marine conservation projects and CAD20 million “for specific agreements to support ocean conservation and planning in regions across Canada.” These initiatives contribute to the government's marine conservation efforts to protect 25 per cent of Canada's oceans by 2025, and ultimately 30 per cent by 2030.

On 20 December 2021, the Government of Canada, on behalf of the Canadian Coast Guard, announced a CAD6 million contract for three offshore skimmers to GRIFFIN Engineered Systems Inc. and a CAD3.5 million contract for five high-speed sweep systems to Navenco Marine Inc.<sup>1127</sup> These vehicles will help the Canadian Coast Guard contain oil spills and recover the spilled oil.

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to address the adverse impact of human activity on the marine environment, with a particular focus on dealing with plastic pollution through strengthening current instruments and working on a new global agreement at UNEA-5. It has strengthened existing instruments through the allocation of funding towards capacity building, research, development and uptake of new technologies and litter reducing methods. This is also conducive to accelerating the reduction of marine

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<sup>1123</sup> New equipment for Canadian Coast Guard will help clean up oil spills, Canadian Coast Guard (Ottawa) 16 November 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-coast-guard/news/2021/11/new-equipment-for-canadian-coast-guard-will-help-clean-up-oil-spills.html>

<sup>1124</sup> Government of Canada supports leading-edge company specializing in polystyrene recycling that helps protect the environment, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Montréal) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/11/government-of-canada-supports-leading-edge-company-specializing-in-polystyrene-recycling-that-helps-protect-the-environment.html>

<sup>1125</sup> Government of Canada backs visionary company's high-tech solution for better protecting marine environments through innovative data-collection technology, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Victoria) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/12/government-of-canada-backs-visionary-companys-high-tech-solution-for-better-protecting-marine-environments-through-innovative-data-collection-techn.html>

<sup>1126</sup> Government of Canada launches Call for Proposals to support marine conservation efforts across Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Ottawa) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2021/12/government-of-canada-launches-call-for-proposals-to-support-marine-conservation-efforts-across-canada.html>

<sup>1127</sup> New equipment for Canadian Coast Guard will help clean up oil spills, Canadian Coast Guard Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-coast-guard/news/2021/12/new-equipment-for-canadian-coast-guard-will-help-clean-up-oil-spills.html>

pollution and increasing overall marine health. In addition to this, Canada has signed agreements with its allies to work together for the conservation of marine environments and has indicated its intent to work on new international treaties. However, Canada has yet to take action regarding establishing a new global agreement at UNEA-5.

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Nwal Amwar*

### **France: 0**

France has partially complied with its commitment to address the adverse impact of human activity on the marine environment, with a particular focus on dealing with plastic pollution through strengthening current instruments and working on a new global agreement at UNEA-5.

On 19 June 2021, France sent a team of marine conservation experts to Sri Lanka in cooperation with Italy and the European Union under the United Nations Environment Programme to assist Sri Lanka in addressing the environmental impact of the MV X-Press Pearl disaster.<sup>1128</sup> The team is working closely with the Sri Lankan government to plan ways to mitigate the adverse effects of the 348 tons of oil and billions of small plastic pellets that have spilled into the Indian Ocean and will produce a report with recommendations for cleanup measures and preventative measures for future maritime incidents.<sup>1129</sup>

On 19 July 2021, the Government of France reaffirmed their commitments to protecting oceans and biodiversity in the final declaration of the France-Oceania summit.<sup>1130</sup> The declaration recognizes the importance of the ocean in combating climate change and preserving biodiversity and calls for more action to protect the ocean. Additionally the declaration advocates for 30 per cent of the ocean to be designated as marine protected areas and to work towards an international treaty that recognizes the ocean in areas beyond national jurisdiction as a global common to be preserved. It targets illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing practices and indicates the intention to work together to remove the products of IUU fishing from trade flows, as well as build capacity to prevent IUU fishing through training and using technology such as satellites to reinforce maritime surveillance. The declaration also supports launching intergovernmental negotiations on global plastic pollution to create binding agreements and protect marine ecosystems, particularly at the second session of UNEA-5.

On 10 September 2021, the World Conservation Congress of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), hosted by France in Marseille, released the Marseille Manifesto.<sup>1131</sup> France as the host country committed to increase its national protected areas, achieving 30 per cent of protected areas nationally by 2022 and 5 per cent of its Mediterranean maritime area under strong protection by 2027, as well as to help advance the international agenda for the protection of the oceans by organizing a One Ocean Summit and

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<sup>1128</sup> UN-EU experts deploy to support Sri Lanka address the environmental impact of MV X-press Pearl disaster, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (New York City) 19 June 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022.

<https://reliefweb.int/report/sri-lanka/un-eu-experts-deploy-support-sri-lanka-address-environmental-impact-mv-x-press>  
<sup>1129</sup> Oil, acid, plastic: Inside the shipping disaster gripping Sri Lanka, United National Environment Programme (Nairobi) 22 July 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/oil-acid-plastic-inside-shipping-disaster-gripping-sri-lanka>

<sup>1130</sup> Final declaration - 5th France-Oceania Summit, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 19 July 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/asia-and-oceania/news/article/final-declaration-5th-france-oceania-summit-19-jul-21>

<sup>1131</sup> France welcomes the international mobilization and the progress made to preserve and restore biodiversity, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 10 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/france-se-felicite-mobilisation-internationale-et-des-avancees-obtenues-preserve-et-restaurer>

also promote a treaty on plastic pollution.<sup>1132</sup> The IUCN also adopted resolutions regarding protecting deep-ocean ecosystems through a moratorium on seabed mining and for biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction.<sup>1133</sup>

On 17 September 2021, France partook in the Athens Declaration which emphasized the importance of protecting the Mediterranean and its biodiversity.<sup>1134</sup> In the declaration, the southern countries of the European Union agreed to work together on regional climate challenges and also stressed the importance of maritime areas as both suffering from the effects of climate change and as a crucial area to act on in order to mitigate its effects. The declaration also reaffirmed the parties' commitment to protect marine biodiversity.

On 1 October 2021, France, as part of the Contracting Parties of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR Commission), agreed on the establishment of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Seamount (NACES) marine protection area and adopted the OSPAR Environment Strategy for the period of 2021 to 2030.<sup>1135</sup> The OSPAR Environmental Strategy is based around four themes: clean seas, biologically diverse seas, productive and sustainably used seas and seas resilient to climate change and ocean acidification.<sup>1136</sup> It will track various aspects of ocean health, including the reduction of marine pollution, particularly by instituting standards and certification schemes to reduce the entrance of plastic pellets into the marine environment.

On 26 November 2021 Minister of State for Tourism Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne chaired a meeting of the Indian Ocean Commission.<sup>1137</sup> In the meeting Lemoyne announced a workshop devoted to strengthening capabilities for preventing and responding to marine pollution.

On 26 November 2021, France and Italy signed a treaty wherein they agreed to increased bilateral cooperation.<sup>1138</sup> The treaty also emphasized the importance of working together in the management of protected areas and reaffirmed the goal of preserving and cleaning the Mediterranean. The signing of the treaty indicates France's willingness to cooperate on an international level on the issue of marine health.

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<sup>1132</sup> The Marseille Manifesto, IUCN Congress (Marseille) 10 September 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. [https://iucn.s3.eu-west-3.amazonaws.com/en/CGR-2021-1.6\\_2\\_Marseille\\_Manifesto\\_IUCN\\_World\\_Conservation\\_Congress\\_10\\_%20September\\_2021.pdf](https://iucn.s3.eu-west-3.amazonaws.com/en/CGR-2021-1.6_2_Marseille_Manifesto_IUCN_World_Conservation_Congress_10_%20September_2021.pdf)

<sup>1133</sup> World Conservation Congress Mobilizes Attention ahead of Climate, Biodiversity COPs, International Institute for Sustainable Development (Winnipeg) 16 September 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <http://sdg.iisd.org/news/world-conservation-congress-mobilizes-attention-ahead-of-climate-biodiversity-cops/>

<sup>1134</sup> Athens Declaration on Climate Change and Environment in the Mediterranean, The Élysée Palace (Athens) 17 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2021/09/17/declaration-dathenes-sur-le-changement-climatique-et-lenvironnement-dans-la-meditteranee>

<sup>1135</sup> North-East Atlantic countries create one of the largest marine protected areas in the world, Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 1 October 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022.

<https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/north-east-atlantic-countries-create-one-of-the-largest-marine-protected-areas-in-the-world>

<sup>1136</sup> OSPAR Ministerial 2021, OSPAR Commission (Cascais) 1 October 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022.

<https://www.ospar.org/news/ospar-ministerial-2021>

<sup>1137</sup> Indian Ocean Commission – Participation of M. Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Saint-Denis) 26 November 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/africa/france-in-the-south-west-indian-ocean/france-and-the-indian-ocean-commission/article/indian-ocean-commission-participation-of-m-jean-baptiste-lemoyne-saint-denis>

<sup>1138</sup> Treaty between the French Republic and the Italian Republic for enhance bilateral cooperation, The Élysée Palace (Paris) 26 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2021/11/26/traite-entre-la-republique-francaise-et-la-republique-italienne-pour-une-cooperation-bilaterale-renforcee>

On 30 November 2021, the France Ocean Committee met and expressed interest in several new measures for protecting marine biodiversity.<sup>1139</sup> These projects include accelerating the creation of educational Marine areas, increasing efforts against marine litter, and establishing working groups to increase biodiversity awareness around marine infrastructure projects.

On 22 December 2021, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian visited Costa Rica where discussed cooperation on environmental challenges including ocean protection.<sup>1140</sup> Among the topics discussed was the goal to expand the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People goal which aims to conserve 30 per cent of the sea by 2030 and preparations for the Ocean One Summit set to be held in Brest on 11 February 2022.

France has partially complied with its commitment to address the adverse impact of human activity on the marine environment, with a particular focus on dealing with plastic pollution through strengthening current instruments and working on a new global agreement at UNEA-5. Rather than providing funding for research or capacity building for existing instruments, France's actions have focused on forming agreements and agreeing to long term goals at a regional and international level. Some of France's actions also involve sending aid to other countries, like Sri Lanka, in dealing with marine pollution. However, France has yet to take action regarding establishing a new global agreement at UNEA-5.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Luke Ovenden*

### **Germany: 0**

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to address the adverse impact of human activity on the marine environment, with a particular focus on dealing with plastic pollution through strengthening current instruments and working on a new global agreement at UNEA-5.

From 6 July 2021 to 15 July 2021, Germany attended the annual UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, the principal body concerned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).<sup>1141</sup> Germany presented its second voluntary national review on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and underscored the need to address three environmental crises in particular as the globe emerges from the Covid-19 pandemic: the climate crisis, the biodiversity crisis, and the increase in marine litter. This action demonstrates transparency in reporting its implementation of the SDGs and reaffirms its commitment to addressing the marine litter crisis on the national level.

From 1 September 2021 to 2 September 2021, Germany organized the Ministerial Conference on Marine Litter and Plastic Pollution organized in partnership with the governments of Ecuador, Ghana and Vietnam

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<sup>1139</sup> Protection of the marine environment: Bérangère Abba mobilizes the France Ocean Committee upstream of the Interministerial Committee for the Sea and the One Ocean Summit, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/protection-des-milieux-marins-berangere-abba-mobilise-comite-france-ocean-en-amont-du-comite>

<sup>1140</sup> Costa Rica – Visit by Jean-Yves Le Drian, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (San Jose) 22 December 2021. Access Date 15 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/costa-rica/events/article/costa-rica-visit-by-jean-yves-le-drian-dec-22-23-2021>

<sup>1141</sup> UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development: Germany calls for a sustainable and climate-friendly post-COVID recovery based on the 2030 Agenda, Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/un-high-level-political-forum-on-sustainable-development-germany-calls-for-a-sustainable-and-climate-friendly-post-covid-recovery-based-on-the-2030-agenda>

and sponsored by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).<sup>1142</sup> Representatives of the four governments developed a ministerial statement to be forwarded to the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-5) calling for the establishment of an intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC) towards a new global agreement to combat marine litter and plastic pollution. This action demonstrates Germany's commitment to addressing marine health on an international level, endorsing the creation of a new concrete instrument through the UNEA.

On 1 October 2021, Germany, as part of the Contracting Parties of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR Commission), agreed on the establishment of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Seamount (NACES) marine protection area and adopted the OSPAR Environment Strategy for the period of 2021 to 2030.<sup>1143</sup> The OSPAR Environmental Strategy is based around four themes, clean seas, biologically diverse seas, productive and sustainably used seas and seas resilient to climate change and ocean acidification.<sup>1144</sup> It will track various aspects of ocean health, including the reduction of marine pollution, particularly by instituting standards and certification schemes to reduce the entrance of plastic pellets into the marine environment. This action demonstrates Germany's commitment to addressing ocean litter and marine health on a regional and national level.

On 25 November 2021, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research launched a webinar series on "Plastics in the Environment," to share research and collaborative projects on the issue.<sup>1145</sup> These webinars cover topics from fighting against plastic pollution in the North Sea and Baltic Sea to identifying microplastics in wastewater.

On 20 October 2021, members of the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM), whose Chairmanship is currently held by Germany, presented the Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP) for the period of 2021 to 2030 with an emphasis on combating ocean pollution caused by marine litter and eutrophication caused by over-fertilization.<sup>1146</sup> HELCOM, further, updated its Marine Litter Action Plan that by 2025 30 per cent, and by 2030 50 per cent, less litter should end up on Baltic Sea beaches. In addition, the HELCOM partners endorsed the call for a new global agreement on marine pollution drafted at the Ministerial Conference on Marine Litter and Plastic Pollution. This action again demonstrates Germany's concrete regional leadership and national commitment to combating marine litter.

On 10 February 2022, the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Svenja Schulze announced an additional EUR20 million funding for the World Bank's PROBLUE fund.<sup>1147</sup> This funding is aimed at promoting efforts to combat marine litter and marine pollution as well as encouraging the sustainable management of marine and coastal environments.

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<sup>1142</sup> Ministerial Calls for Global Agreement on Marine Litter, Plastic Pollution, International Institute for Sustainable Development (Winnipeg) 7 September 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/ministerial-calls-for-global-agreement-on-marine-litter-plastic-pollution/>

<sup>1143</sup> North-East Atlantic countries create one of the largest marine protected areas in the world, Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 1 October 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022.

<https://www.bmuv.de/en/pressrelease/north-east-atlantic-countries-create-one-of-the-largest-marine-protected-areas-in-the-world>

<sup>1144</sup> OSPAR Ministerial 2021, OSPAR Commission (Cascais) 1 October 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022.

<https://www.ospar.org/news/ospar-ministerial-2021>

<sup>1145</sup> Plastics in the Environment: Webinar Series, Federal Ministry of Education and Research - Plastic in the Environment (Bonn) 25 November 2021. Access Date: 8 March 2022. <https://bmbf-plastik.de/en/node/406>

<sup>1146</sup> HELCOM adopts 10-year plan for the Baltic Sea to reduce litter, noise and fertilizer input, Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 20 October 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022.

<https://www.bmuv.de/en/pressrelease/helcom-adopts-10-year-plan-for-the-baltic-sea-to-reduce-litter-noise-and-fertiliser-input>

<sup>1147</sup> Federal government goes on the offensive for clean oceans, the protection of marine biodiversity and against marine litter, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 10 February 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 March 2022. <https://www.bmz.de/de/aktuelles/aktuelle-meldungen/bundesregierung-geht-in-die-offensive-fuer-saubere-ozeane-104052>

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to address the adverse impact of human activity on the marine environment, with a particular focus on dealing with plastic pollution through strengthening current instruments and working on a new global agreement at UNEA-5. Rather than providing funding for research or capacity building for existing instruments, Germany's actions have focused on forming agreements and agreeing to long term goals at a regional and international level. However, Germany has yet to take action regarding establishing a new global agreement at UNEA-5.

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Abigail Potter*

### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to address the adverse impact of human activity on the marine environment, with a particular focus on dealing with plastic pollution through strengthening current instruments and working on a new global agreement at UNEA-5.

On 19 June 2021, Italy sent a team of marine conservation experts to Sri Lanka in cooperation with the European Union and France under the United Nations Environment Programme to assist Sri Lanka in addressing the environmental impact of the MV X-Press Pearl disaster.<sup>1148</sup> The team is working closely with the Sri Lankan government to plan ways to mitigate the adverse effects of the 348 tons of oil and billions of small plastic pellets that have spilled into the Indian Ocean and will produce a report with recommendations for cleanup measures and preventative measures for future maritime incidents.<sup>1149</sup>

On 22 June 2021, Prime Minister Mario Draghi and President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen announced the approval of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) as part of the Next Generation EU economic recovery project, marking the beginning of the “Italia Domani” or “Italy Tomorrow” plan to boost the nation’s digital and environmental transitions.<sup>1150</sup> The plan includes EUR191.5 billion with EUR68.6 billion being allocated to the green revolution and ecological transition sector which tackles issues such as plastic waste management, monitoring marine and coastal areas, and protecting marine habitats.<sup>1151</sup> EUR400 million is being invested in increasing the protection for the seabed and restoring marine habitats using new technology.<sup>1152</sup> This action indicates Italy’s ongoing commitment to protecting ocean health by providing funding for conservation, waste management and pollution control.

On 13 July 2021, the Council of Ministers signed a decree banning large ships from entering the Venetian lagoon from 1 August 2021 to protect the “local landscape and environment.”<sup>1153</sup> The ban prevents ships

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<sup>1148</sup> UN-EU experts deploy to support Sri Lanka address the environmental impact of MV X-press Pearl disaster, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (New York City) 19 June 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022.

<https://reliefweb.int/report/sri-lanka/un-eu-experts-deploy-support-sri-lanka-address-environmental-impact-mv-x-press>  
<sup>1149</sup> Oil, acid, plastic: Inside the shipping disaster gripping Sri Lanka, United Nations Environment Programme (Nairobi) 22 July 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/oil-acid-plastic-inside-shipping-disaster-gripping-sri-lanka>

<sup>1150</sup> Press conference with PM Draghi and President von der Leyen on the approval of Italy’s NRRP, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/press-conference-pm-draghi-and-president-von-der-leyen-approval-italy-s-nrrp/17409>

<sup>1151</sup> The National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP), The Ministry of Economy and Finance (Rome) 26 May 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.mef.gov.it/en/focus/The-National-Recovery-and-Resilience-Plan-NRRP/>

<sup>1152</sup> Restoring and protecting the seabed and marine habitats, Italia Domani (Rome) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022. <https://italiadomani.gov.it/en/Interventi/investimenti/ripristino-e-tutela-dei-fondali-e-degli-habitat-marini.html>

<sup>1153</sup> Ban on large ships and new authorities for the Venetian lagoon: statement by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/ban-large-ships-and-new-authorities-venetian-lagoon-pm-draghi-s-statement/17481>

heavier than 25,000 tons or longer than 180 meters from entering parts of historical Venice.<sup>1154</sup> This action indicates Italy's ongoing commitment to protecting ocean health.

On 19 July 2021, the Higher Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA) announced the beginning of a dissemination campaign titled "The sea you don't expect."<sup>1155</sup> The campaign aims to share research conducted by experts in the field of monitoring ocean health to raise awareness on the importance of the marine environment to our well-being.

On 2 September 2021, Minister of Ecological Transition Roberto Cingolani signed a decree to invest EUR27 million in "plastic eating" eco-compactors which allow for more efficient plastic recycling.<sup>1156</sup> The "Mangiaplastica" program aims at reducing plastic waste and promoting the nation's goal of creating a circular economy.<sup>1157</sup> This investment is consistent with Italy's commitment to reduce plastic pollution.

On 17 September 2021, Italy partook in the Athens Declaration which emphasized the importance of protecting the Mediterranean and its biodiversity.<sup>1158</sup> In the declaration, the southern countries of the European Union agreed to work together on regional climate challenges and also stressed the importance of maritime areas as both suffering from the effects of climate change and as a crucial area to act on in order to mitigate its effects. The declaration also reaffirmed the parties' commitment to protect marine biodiversity.

On 28 September 2021, Minister Cingolani signed the publication of circular economy decrees, introducing EUR2.6 billion in funds for improving waste management systems for plastics, paper and cardboard and textiles.<sup>1159</sup> EUR1.5 billion is earmarked for the construction of new waste management plants, EUR600 million for the modernization of existing plants and EUR500 million for monitoring and prevention mechanisms.<sup>1160</sup> The investment addresses the problem of rising plastic pollution.

On 26 November 2021, Italy and France signed a treaty wherein they agreed to increased bilateral cooperation.<sup>1161</sup> The treaty also emphasized the importance of working together in the management of protected areas and reaffirmed the goal of preserving and cleaning the Mediterranean. The signing of the treaty indicates Italy's willingness to cooperate on an international level on the issue of marine health.

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<sup>1154</sup> Italy's Government to Ban Cruise Ships From Venice, New York Times (New York City) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/07/13/world/europe/venice-italy-cruise-ship-ban.html>

<sup>1155</sup> "The sea you don't expect", Italian National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (Rome) 19 July 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.isprambiente.gov.it/en/news/the-sea-you-dont-expect>

<sup>1156</sup> Waste: from MiTE 27 million euros for "plastic-eating" eco-compactors, Ministry of Ecological Transition (Rome) 21 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.mite.gov.it/comunicati/rifiuti-dal-mite-27-milioni-di-euro-gli-eco-compattatori-mangiaplastica>

<sup>1157</sup> "Mangiaplastica Experimental Program" – Contributions to Municipalities in order to reduce plastic waste, Ministry of Ecological Transition (Rome) 2 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.mite.gov.it/bandi/programma-sperimentale-mangiaplastica-contributi-ai-comuni-al-fine-di-ridurre-i-rifiuti>

<sup>1158</sup> Athens Declaration on Climate Change and Environment in the Mediterranean, The Élysée Palace (Athens) 17 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2021/09/17/declaration-dathenes-sur-le-changement-climatique-et-lenvironnement-dans-la-mediterranee>

<sup>1159</sup> PNRR – Publication of Circular Economy Decrees, Ministry of Ecological Transition (Rome) 28 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 January 2022. <https://www.mite.gov.it/pagina/pnrr-pubblicazione-decreti-economia-circolare>

<sup>1160</sup> The decrees signed by Minister Roberto Cingolani have been published, Ministry of Ecological Transition (Rome) 29 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 January 2022. <https://www.mite.gov.it/comunicati/pubblicati-i-decreti-firmati-dal-ministro-roberto-cingolani>

<sup>1161</sup> Treaty between the French Republic and the Italian Republic for enhance bilateral cooperation, The Élysée Palace (Paris) 26 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2021/11/26/traite-entre-la-republique-francaise-et-la-republique-italienne-pour-une-cooperation-bilaterale-renforcee>



On 9 December 2021, the Ministry of Ecological Transition and ISPRA signed protocols on marine habitat restoration marking the beginning of close collaboration between the two entities in carrying out the NRRP.<sup>1162</sup> Specifically, the ministry and ISPRA will handle the EUR400 million investment in monitoring coastal ecosystems and restoring the surrounding seabed.

On 9 December 2021, the Ministry of Ecological Transition signed a decree allocating EUR2 million to co-finance research projects aimed at “developing technologies for the prevention, recovery, and treatment of waste.”<sup>1163</sup> The ministry aims to incentivize eco-innovation to achieve a sustainable circular economy.<sup>1164</sup> This is conducive to the goal of reducing the amount of litter and pollution in the ocean.

On 13 December 2021, President of ISPRA Prefect Stefano Laporta and Chief of Defense Staff Admiral Giuseppe Cavo Dragone signed a five-year agreement encouraging collaboration between ISPRA and the military in the planning and implementation of activities.<sup>1165</sup> The agreement includes protection of the soil, air, marine and coastal environment with ISPRA providing technical support in monitoring potentially environmentally hazardous operations undertaken by the military. This is conducive to preventing or reducing the impact of human activities on the marine environment.

On 17 December 2021, the Ministry of Ecological Transition approved the funding of EUR198,135 to Tuscia University as part of the initiative to fund research aimed at reducing single-use plastic waste.<sup>1166</sup> The research will explore the possibility of integrating single-use plastic PPE in reinforced asphalt.<sup>1167</sup> This is conducive to reducing the amount of plastic pollution that ends up in the oceans.

On 24 December 2021, the Ministry of Ecological Transition, ISPRA, and Ministry of Defense signed a memorandum of understanding to collaborate in constructing a multipurpose naval vessel with state-of-the-art ocean research capabilities.<sup>1168</sup> The vessel will be available to ISPRA to conduct research activities in the Mediterranean Sea such as monitoring the seabed and marine habitats. The ship will be built with particular emphasis on reducing its impact on the environment with low levels of underwater noise and electric propulsion.

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<sup>1162</sup> PNRR: MiTE-Ispra protocol signed for the restoration of the seabed and marine habitats, Ministry of Ecological Transition (Rome) 9 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 January 2022.

<https://www.mite.gov.it/comunicati/pnrr-firmato-protocollo-mite-ispra-il-ripristino-dei-fondali-e-degli-habitat-marini>

<sup>1163</sup> DIREZIONE GENERALE ECONOMIA CIRCOLARE, Ministry of Ecological Transition (Rome) 9 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 January 2022. [https://www.mite.gov.it/sites/default/files/archivio/bandi/ECI/2021-12-09\\_dd\\_83.pdf](https://www.mite.gov.it/sites/default/files/archivio/bandi/ECI/2021-12-09_dd_83.pdf)

<sup>1164</sup> Call for the co-financing of research projects aimed at the development of technologies for the prevention, recovery, recycling and treatment of waste not falling within the categories already served by supply chain consortia, for the eco-design of products, Ministry of Ecological Transition (Rome) 9 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 January 2022. <https://www.mite.gov.it/bandi/bando-il-cofinanziamento-di-progetti-di-ricerca-volti-allo-sviluppo-di-tecnologie-la>

<sup>1165</sup> Framework agreement on environmental protection signed between ISPRA and Italian Defence Staff, Italian National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (Rome) 13 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022.

<https://www.isprambiente.gov.it/en/news/framework-agreement-on-environmental-protection-signed-between-ispra-and-italian-defence-staff>

<sup>1166</sup> Call for the funding of research activities aimed at reducing single-use plastic waste – 2021 Edition, Ministry of Ecological Transition (Rome) 17 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 January 2022.

<https://www.mite.gov.it/bandi/bando-il-finanziamento-di-attivita-di-ricerca-volta-alla-riduzione-dei-rifiuti-prodotti-da>

<sup>1167</sup> DIREZIONE GENERALE ECONOMIA CIRCOLARE, Ministry of Ecological transition (Rome) 17 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 January 2022. [https://www.mite.gov.it/sites/default/files/archivio/bandi/ECI/dd\\_eci\\_94\\_17\\_12\\_2021\\_graduatoria\\_bando\\_riduzione\\_plastica\\_monouso.pdf](https://www.mite.gov.it/sites/default/files/archivio/bandi/ECI/dd_eci_94_17_12_2021_graduatoria_bando_riduzione_plastica_monouso.pdf)

<sup>1168</sup> MITE-DEFESA-ISPRA memorandum of understanding signed for the construction of a new hydro-oceanographic naval unit, Ministry of Ecological Transition (Rome) 24 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 January 2022. <https://www.mite.gov.it/comunicati/firmato-protocollo-d-intesa-mite-difesa-ispra-la-realizzazione-di-una-nuova-unita-navale>

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to address the adverse impact of human activity on the marine environment, with a particular focus on dealing with plastic pollution through strengthening current instruments and working on a new global agreement at UNEA-5. It has strengthened existing instruments through the allocation of funding towards research on waste reduction and plastic pollution reduction and has invested heavily in the protection and restoration of the marine environment in the Mediterranean Sea as part of the NRRP. This is also conducive to accelerating the reduction of marine pollution and increasing overall marine health. In addition to this, Italy has collaborated with other countries, like Sri Lanka, in dealing with marine pollution and has worked closely with its allies under the United Nations Environment Programme. However, Italy has yet to take action regarding establishing a new global agreement at UNEA-5.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Kenji Tan*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to address the adverse impact of human activity on the marine environment, with a particular focus on dealing with plastic pollution through strengthening current instruments and working on a new global agreement at UNEA-5.

On 20 August 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs launched the “Marine Initiative” to further the realization of the “Osaka Blue Ocean Vision” which aims to phase out marine litter by 2050.<sup>1169</sup> The “Marine Initiative” focuses on combating plastic litter through the management of wastes, recovery of marine litter, innovation and empowerment.<sup>1170</sup> The plan includes official development assistance focused in Southeast Asia, providing developing nations with technical expertise, national action plans, and waste management frameworks.<sup>1171</sup>

On 31 August 2021, the Ministry of the Environment launched the “Demonstration Project for a Plastic Resource Circulation System toward a Decarbonized Society” and selected six projects to implement to improve Japan’s recycling techniques.<sup>1172</sup> These projects include developing chemical recycling systems for plastic composite materials and new technologies for difficult-to-recycle plastics which contribute to a reduction in marine plastic litter. This is consistent with Japan’s aim to reduce marine litter as part of the “Osaka Blue Ocean Vision.”

On 6 December 2021, the Government of Japan submitted a draft resolution to the United Nations Environment Programme on “an international legally binding instrument on marine plastic pollution” to be discussed at UNEA-5.<sup>1173</sup> The framework is based on the Osaka Blue Ocean Vision approved in June 2019, aiming to eliminate additional plastic litter by 2050 while acknowledging its uses in society.<sup>1174</sup> The resolution

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<sup>1169</sup> Japan’s “MARINE Initiative” toward Realization of the Osaka Blue Ocean Vision, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 20 August 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ge/page25e\\_000317.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ge/page25e_000317.html)

<sup>1170</sup> “MARINE” Initiative, Global Partnership on Marine Litter (Nairobi) 20 August 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.gpmarinelitter.org/resources/information-documents/marine-initiative>

<sup>1171</sup> “MARINE Initiative” toward Realization of the Osaka Blue Ocean Vision, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 20 August 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000493728.pdf>

<sup>1172</sup> MOEJ launched the “Demonstration Project for a Plastic Resource Circulation System toward a Decarbonized Society” and selected 6 projects, Ministry of the Environment Japan (Tokyo) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2537.html>

<sup>1173</sup> Japan Seeks Int’l Framework to Tackle Marine Plastic Waste, Nippon.com (Tokyo) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.nippon.com/en/news/yjj2021120700576/>

<sup>1174</sup> Draft Resolution on an international legally binding instrument on marine plastic pollution Proposed by: JAPAN, Government of Japan (Tokyo) 6 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. [https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/37625/Draft%20Resolution%20on%20an%20international%20legally%20binding%20instrument%20on%20marine%20plastic%20pollution\\_Japan.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y](https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/37625/Draft%20Resolution%20on%20an%20international%20legally%20binding%20instrument%20on%20marine%20plastic%20pollution_Japan.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y)

focuses on plastic waste management in a life-cycle approach with emphasis on both upstream and downstream stages of plastic handling to promote resource efficiency and a circular economy.

On 14 January 2022, the Cabinet approved an ordinance ordering businesses to reduce 12 types of disposable plastic materials, including straws and cutlery, starting April 2022 in a push to protect the marine environment.<sup>1175</sup> The government is allowing businesses flexibility in how they carry out such measures with options ranging from sustainable alternatives to plastic to providing customers incentives to not use disposable plastics.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to address the adverse impact of human activity on the marine environment, with a particular focus on dealing with plastic pollution through strengthening current instruments and working on a new global agreement at UNEA-5. Domestically, Japan has passed legislation to limit the use of plastics in society and has worked to improve waste management infrastructure to better recycle the plastic that already exists. Internationally, Japan is taking a leading role in advocating for a legally binding instrument for countries to agree to during UNEA5.2 to ensure there is a global effort to protect the ocean.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Kenji Tan*

### **United Kingdom: 0**

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to address the adverse impact of human activity on the marine environment, with a particular focus on dealing with plastic pollution through strengthening current instruments and working on a new global agreement at UNEA-5.

On 18 June 2021, the Government of the United Kingdom announced that it would provide marine pollution expertise to help respond to the X-press Pearl disaster.<sup>1176</sup> The Centre for the Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science will provide expertise and analytical capacity to support plastic pollution monitoring, as well as environmental and socioeconomic impact assessments in cooperation with the Sri Lankan government.

On 13 July 2021, the Government of the United Kingdom announced EUR16.2 million in funding in order to increase marine protection, tackle plastic pollution and the decline of global coral reefs.<sup>1177</sup> The funding is part of the government's Blue Planet Fund. The projects receiving funding include the Ocean Country Partnership Programme, which will help developing countries access and partner with British scientists to better manage marine protected areas and develop our understanding of the impacts of climate change and contaminants in the ocean.

On 13 August 2021, the Government of the United Kingdom announced that a share of the Blue Planet Fund's GBP16.2 million will go towards the Global Plastic Action Partnership (GPAP) to help developing

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<sup>1175</sup> Japan to cut plastic waste from April via new Cabinet ordinance, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 14 January 2022. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2022/01/14/national/plastic-waste-cabinet-ordinance/>

<sup>1176</sup> UK Government marine experts to support Sri Lanka with X-press Pearl pollution response, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-marine-experts-to-support-sri-lanka-with-x-press-pearl-pollution-response>

<sup>1177</sup> Cefas to partner on government's support to protect the world's oceans with boost for marine recovery, Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (London) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cefas-to-partner-on-governments-support-to-protect-the-worlds-oceans-with-boost-for-marine-recovery>

countries combat plastic waste.<sup>1178</sup> This aims to protect marine species living in coastal regions and reduce mismanaged waste across several countries.

On 15 August 2021, the Government of the United Kingdom announced a trade ban on the import and export of detached shark fins and products containing them.<sup>1179</sup> The government intends this ban to help with shark conservation efforts, noting that the presence and variety of sharks in marine areas acts as a key indicator for ocean health and that sharks play a vital role in marine ecosystems by helping to maintain healthy levels of fish below them in the food chain.

On 25 August 2021, the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) announced four funding rounds amounting to GBP6.1 million in to support key areas of the marine and fisheries sector.<sup>1180</sup> The funding rounds are delivered by the MMO on behalf of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs as part of the Fisheries and Seafood Scheme and, in addition to supporting fishing businesses, will look to fund projects that contribute towards protecting the marine environment and deliver world class science and technological advancements.

On 1 October 2021, the United Kingdom, as part of the Contracting Parties of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR Commission), agreed on the establishment of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Seamount (NACES) marine protection area and adopted the OSPAR Environment Strategy for the period of 2021 to 2030.<sup>1181</sup> The OSPAR Environmental Strategy is based around four themes, clean seas, biologically diverse seas, productive and sustainably used seas and seas resilient to climate change and ocean acidification.<sup>1182</sup> It will track various aspects of ocean health, including the reduction of marine pollution, particularly by instituting standards and certification schemes to reduce the entrance of plastic pellets into the marine environment.

On 9 November 2021, the Government of the United Kingdom announced that the Environment Act has become law.<sup>1183</sup> The goal of the act is to “restore natural habitats, increase biodiversity and reduce waste.”<sup>1184</sup> Through the act, the government is introducing the Deposit Return Scheme for plastic containers where a deposit fee will be placed on containers in order to encourage recycling.<sup>1185</sup> The government is also introducing the Extended Producer Responsibility scheme which entails that packaging producers will cover

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<sup>1178</sup> Government scales up support to protect the world’s ocean with multimillion boost for marine recovery, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-scales-up-support-to-protect-the-worlds-ocean-with-multimillion-boost-for-marine-recovery>

<sup>1179</sup> Government to introduce world-leading ban on shark fin trade, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 15 August 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-introduce-world-leading-ban-on-shark-fin-trade>

<sup>1180</sup> Fisheries and Seafood Scheme funding rounds open for applications, Marine Management Organisation (London) 25 August 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/fisheries-and-seafood-scheme-funding-rounds-open-for-applications>

<sup>1181</sup> North-East Atlantic countries create one of the largest marine protected areas in the world, Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 1 October 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/north-east-atlantic-countries-create-one-of-the-largest-marine-protected-areas-in-the-world>

<sup>1182</sup> OSPAR Ministerial 2021, OSPAR Commission (Cascais) 1 October 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.ospar.org/news/ospar-ministerial-2021>

<sup>1183</sup> Environment Act 2021, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 9 November 2021. Access Date: 28 January 2022. <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/30/enacted>

<sup>1184</sup> World-leading Environment Act becomes law, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-leading-environment-act-becomes-law>

<sup>1185</sup> Plans unveiled to ban single-use plastics, Government of the United Kingdom (London), 20 November 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/plans-unveiled-to-ban-single-use-plastics>

the cost of recycling and disposing of their packaging. Furthermore, the Act will ensure that water companies do not discharge pollution such as sewage into rivers and coastlines.<sup>1186</sup>

On 17 November 2021, the Government of the United Kingdom launched the Blue Shield Programme which tackles “illegal fishing and unlawful marine activities” around the UK Overseas Territories.<sup>1187</sup> The programme will identify unregulated, unreported or otherwise illegal fishing activities which are harmful to marine health and threaten the sustainability of fish populations. The programme includes drone technology and satellite surveillance data to monitor all maritime activity across the UK Overseas Territories to manage any harmful fishing practices in oceans.

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to address the adverse impact of human activity on the marine environment, with a particular focus on dealing with plastic pollution through strengthening current instruments and working on a new global agreement at UNEA-5. The UK has taken measures to strengthen existing measures by allocating investments for research, setting regulations for companies to reduce emissions and marine pollution, and has further cooperated with other countries in order to protect endangered species, their habitats, and marine ecosystems. However, the United Kingdom has yet to take action regarding establishing a new global agreement at UNEA-5.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Nwal Anwar*

#### **United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to address the adverse impact of human activity on the marine environment, with a particular focus on dealing with plastic pollution through strengthening current instruments and working on a new global agreement at UNEA-5.

On 13 July 2021, the governments of the United States and Canada announced the signing of a four-year action plan to jointly protect and manage the health of the Salish Sea ecosystem.<sup>1188</sup> In the action plan, Canada and the United States indicated that they will continue to collaborate with their partners through information sharing, improving transboundary coordination, and reporting on ecosystem health.

On 16 September 2021, Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin, and the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Women Marise Payne and Minister for Defense Peter Dutton committed to taking greater action to protect oceans and biodiversity.<sup>1189</sup> The Secretaries and Ministers committed to conserving 30 per cent of global land and oceans as well as fighting marine plastic pollution in the Indo-Pacific by invigorate existing ocean related partnerships.

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<sup>1186</sup> World-leading Environment Act becomes law, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-leading-environment-act-becomes-law>

<sup>1187</sup> New ‘Blue Shield’ for UK Overseas Territories to Defend Oceans, Marine Management Organisation (London) 17 November 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-blue-shield-for-uk-overseas-territories-to-defend-oceans>

<sup>1188</sup> Canada and the United States release new action plan for Salish Sea Ecosystem, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Vancouver) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/07/canada-and-the-united-states-release-new-action-plan-for-salish-sea-ecosystem.html>

<sup>1189</sup> Joint Statement on Australia-U.S. Ministerial Consultations (AUSMIN) 2021, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 16 September 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.state.gov/joint-statement-on-australia-u-s-ministerial-consultations-ausmin-2021/>

On 7 October 2021, President Biden signed a proclamation restoring protections for the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts National Monument.<sup>1190</sup> The 4,913 square mile area which contains a diverse amount of marine life will be protected from harmful activities including injuring or disturbing monument resources, drilling or dredging.<sup>1191</sup> Commercial fishing will be prohibited in the area, with fishing for red crab and American lobster to be phased out by September 15, 2023, recreational fishing in the area will continue.<sup>1192</sup>

On 2 November 2021, during the United Nations Climate Change Conference, the United States announced its membership of the High-Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy (Ocean Panel).<sup>1193</sup> The Ocean Panel aims to promote effective protection, sustainable production and equitable prosperity for ocean habitats and the ocean economy. By joining the Ocean Panel, the United States is indicating its willingness to cooperate internationally in order to protect and preserve the ocean environment.

On 6 November 2021, the Government of the United States announced the passing of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.<sup>1194</sup> Included in the deal was a provision for the investment of USD17 billion in port infrastructure improvements to reduce congestion and emissions and drive electrification.<sup>1195</sup> Another USD1.959 billion was provided for environmental programs that protect estuaries, rivers and US coastal waters. The act also sets aside US100 million for pollution prevention, US275 million for “Save Our Seas 2.0” for cleaning up marine debris and US75 million for the RECYCLE Act.<sup>1196</sup>

On 16 November 2021, the Assistant Secretary of State Daniel J. Kritenbrink and Assistant Secretary of Defense Ely S. Ratner issued a statement during the United States-Philippines Bilateral Strategic Dialogue that the U.S. and Philippines are working towards the sustainability of marine resources.<sup>1197</sup> This includes rehabilitating coastal marine and terrestrial ecosystems, adopting transformative ocean science solutions. Additionally supporting the long-term sustainable management of fisheries and aquaculture.

On 18 November 2021, Secretary of State Antony Blinken spoke at an ocean plastics event announcing the United States would launch multilateral negotiations on ocean plastic pollution at the UN Environmental

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<sup>1190</sup> President Biden Restores Protections for Three National Monuments and Renews American Leadership to Steward Lands, Waters, and Cultural Resources, The White House (Washington D.C.) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/10/07/fact-sheet-president-biden-restores-protections-for-three-national-monuments-and-renews-american-leadership-to-steward-lands-waters-and-cultural-resources/>

<sup>1191</sup> Secretary Raimondo, Administration Leaders Applaud President Biden’s Restoration of National Monuments, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 8 October 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021 <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/10/secretary-raimondo-administration-leaders-applaud-president-bidens>

<sup>1192</sup> President Biden Restores Protections for Three National Monuments and Renews American Leadership to Steward Lands, Waters, and Cultural Resources, The White House (Washington D.C.) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/10/07/fact-sheet-president-biden-restores-protections-for-three-national-monuments-and-renews-american-leadership-to-steward-lands-waters-and-cultural-resources/>

<sup>1193</sup> The United States Of America Joins The High Level Panel For A Sustainable Ocean Economy, High Level Panel for Sustainable Ocean Economy (Glasgow) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.oceanpanel.org/news/usa-joins-hlp>

<sup>1194</sup> Fact Sheet: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal, The White House (Washington D.C.) 6 November 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/11/06/fact-sheet-the-bipartisan-infrastructure-deal/>

<sup>1195</sup> FACT SHEET: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal Boosts Clean Energy Jobs, Strengthens Resilience, and Advances Environmental Justice, The White House (Washington D.C.) 8 November 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/11/08/fact-sheet-the-bipartisan-infrastructure-deal-boosts-clean-energy-jobs-strengthens-resilience-and-advances-environmental-justice/>

<sup>1196</sup> FACT SHEET: EPA & The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 6 November 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.epa.gov/infrastructure/fact-sheet-epa-bipartisan-infrastructure-law>

<sup>1197</sup> Joint Vision for a 21st Century United States-Philippines Partnership, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 16 November 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.state.gov/joint-vision-for-a-21st-century-united-states-philippines-partnership/>

Assembly in February 2022.<sup>1198</sup> The goal of these negotiations would be to protect oceans for microplastics and remove persistent plastic waste.

The United States of America has partially complied with its commitment to address the adverse impact of human activity on the marine environment, with a particular focus on dealing with plastic pollution through strengthening current instruments and working on a new global agreement at UNEA-5. The US has cooperated internationally to conserve areas of the ocean from plastic pollution and harmful fishing. Additionally, the US has also acted domestically to ensure the protection of habitats by designating protected marine areas and has set aside funding to reduce pollutants of the marine environment and update marine port infrastructure. However, the US has yet to take action regarding establishing a new global agreement at UNEA-5.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Luke Ovenden*

### **European Union: 0**

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to address the adverse impact of human activity on the marine environment, with a particular focus on dealing with plastic pollution through strengthening current instruments and working on a new global agreement at UNEA-5.

On 19 June 2021, the European Union sent a team of marine conservation experts to Sri Lanka in cooperation with Italy and France under the United Nations Environment Programme to assist Sri Lanka in addressing the environmental impact of the MV X-Press Pearl disaster.<sup>1199</sup> The team is working closely with the Sri Lankan government to plan ways to mitigate the adverse effects of the 348 tons of oil and billions of small plastic pellets that have spilled into the Indian Ocean and will produce a report with recommendations for cleanup measures and preventative measures for future maritime incidents.<sup>1200</sup>

On 14 July 2021, the European Commission adopted a package of proposals to update its climate policies in line with its emission reduction goals.<sup>1201</sup> The adopted measures include an increase to emissions reduction targets for each member state for maritime transport emissions and waste industries as well as the launch of the FuelEU Maritime Initiative which will encourage the uptake of sustainable fuels used for maritime transport as well as the uptake of zero emission technologies by setting a cap on the amount of greenhouse gas energy usable by ships.

On 29 September 2021, the European Commission adopted five new EU Missions as part of the Horizon Europe funding programme which will support research to deliver on the Commission's main priorities.<sup>1202</sup> This includes the mission "Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030" focused on marine health. Planned under this mission is the joint provision of EUR500 million in seed funding, from the Horizon Europe programme,

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<sup>1198</sup> Secretary Antony J. Blinken at an Ocean Plastics Event, US Department of State (Nairobi) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.state.gov/secretary-antony-j-blinken-at-an-ocean-plastics-event/>

<sup>1199</sup> UN-EU experts deploy to support Sri Lanka address the environmental impact of MV X-press Pearl disaster, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (New York City) 19 June 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022.

<https://reliefweb.int/report/sri-lanka/un-eu-experts-deploy-support-sri-lanka-address-environmental-impact-mv-x-press>  
<sup>1200</sup> Oil, acid, plastic: Inside the shipping disaster gripping Sri Lanka, United Nations Environment Programme (Nairobi) 22 July 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/oil-acid-plastic-inside-shipping-disaster-gripping-sri-lanka>

<sup>1201</sup> European Green Deal: Commission proposes transformation of EU economy and society to meet climate ambitions, European Commission (Brussels) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_3541](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_3541)

<sup>1202</sup> Commission launches EU missions to tackle major challenges, European Commission (Brussels) 29 September 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_4747](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4747)

the European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund, Invest EU and other European Union funding programmes between 2021 and 2023.<sup>1203</sup> There are also plans to establish the “EU-wide ‘Blue Parks’ initiative” which will provide new restoration and conservation opportunities across the European Union. Finally, the mission will also support effective water management by instituting a digital knowledge system that includes a digital model of the ocean and improved environmental monitoring of ocean health.

On 1 October 2021, the Contracting Parties of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR Commission) agreed on the establishment of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Seamount (NACES) marine protection area and adopted the OSPAR Environment Strategy for the period of 2021 to 2030.<sup>1204</sup> The OSPAR Environmental Strategy is based around four themes, clean seas, biologically diverse seas, productive and sustainably used seas and seas resilient to climate change and ocean acidification.<sup>1205</sup> It will track various aspects of ocean health, including the reduction of marine pollution, particularly by instituting standards and certification schemes to reduce the entrance of plastic pellets into the marine environment. The plan will help European Union Member States protect their marine waters and achieve the commitments under the EU Biodiversity Strategy.<sup>1206</sup> This plan demonstrates the European Union’s leadership in coordinating concrete action to address ocean litter and marine health at the regional level.

On 20 October 2021, Contracting Parties of the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM) presented the Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP) for the period of 2021 to 2030 with an emphasis on combating ocean pollution caused by marine litter and eutrophication caused by over-fertilization.<sup>1207</sup> HELCOM, further, updated its Marine Litter Action Plan that by 2025 30 per cent, and by 2030 50 per cent, less litter should end up on Baltic Sea beaches. In addition, the HELCOM partners endorsed the call for a new global agreement on marine pollution drafted at the Ministerial Conference on Marine Litter and Plastic Pollution. This action again demonstrates the EU’s concrete regional commitment to combating marine litter.

On 25 November 2021, the European Commission announced EUR290 million in funding for 132 environmental projects as part of the LIFE Programme.<sup>1208</sup> Projects selected include LIFE ECOREST which works to restore the natural condition of seafloor habitats off the Catalan coast impacted by fishing activities, LIFE PortSounds which seeks to mitigate the impact of port noise on marine animals, LIFE SeaBiL which

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<sup>1203</sup> Restore our oceans and waters: concrete solutions for our greatest challenges, European Commission (Brussels) 29 September 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/575d4da8-2659-11ec-bd8e-01aa75ed71a1/language-en/format-PDF/source-233489300>

<sup>1204</sup> North-East Atlantic countries create one of the largest marine protected areas in the world, Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 1 October 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022.

<https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/north-east-atlantic-countries-create-one-of-the-largest-marine-protected-areas-in-the-world>

<sup>1205</sup> OSPAR Ministerial 2021, OSPAR Commission (Cascais) 1 October 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022.

<https://www.ospar.org/news/ospar-ministerial-2021>

<sup>1206</sup> EU welcomes 10-year marine strategy for the North-East Atlantic and the designation of a large Marine Protected Area, European Commission (Brussels) 1 October 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/environment/news/eu-welcomes-10-year-marine-strategy-north-east-atlantic-and-designation-large-marine-protected-area-2021-10-01\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/news/eu-welcomes-10-year-marine-strategy-north-east-atlantic-and-designation-large-marine-protected-area-2021-10-01_en)

<sup>1207</sup> HELCOM adopts 10-year plan for the Baltic Sea to reduce litter, noise and fertilizer input, Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 20 October 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022.

<https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/helcom-adopts-10-year-plan-for-the-baltic-sea-to-reduce-litter-noise-and-fertiliser-input>

<sup>1208</sup> LIFE Programme: More than €290 million in EU funding for nature, environment and climate action projects, European Commission (Brussels) 25 November 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_6178](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6178)



seeks to reduce the impact of marine litter on seabirds and LIFE SEA.NET which seeks to complete the implementation of the Natura2000 protected area network.<sup>1209</sup>

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to address the adverse impact of human activity on the marine environment, with a particular focus on dealing with plastic pollution through strengthening current instruments and working on a new global agreement at UNEA-5. The European Union has taken action to address ocean health, by financing research, monitoring and cleanup projects as well as updating maritime and waste emission reduction targets for member states and has taken action to reduce marine litter on the regional level, but has not yet taken concrete action in working on a new global agreement at UNEA-5.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Abigail Potter*

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<sup>1209</sup> Annex\* LIFE programme: short summaries of projects resulting from the LIFE 2020 Call for proposals 2020, European Commission (Brussels) 25 November 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022.  
[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda\\_21\\_6179](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda_21_6179)

## 10. Energy: Renewables

“[In our energy sectors, we will]...accelerate renewable and other zero emissions energy deployment.”

*Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué*

### 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			+1
Average		+0.88 (94%)	

### Background

Over the decades, there has been an increase in net-zero energy emissions pledges to combat climate change on the global stage. However, organizations like the International Energy Agency (IEA) argue that, even if positive changes have been made, current government strategies are in poor form to achieve their goals of net-zero energy emissions by 2050, never mind 2030.<sup>1210</sup> Despite its recent urgency, energy and its renewable alternatives have been pushed by the G7 since its early summits as a key way to move away from imported oil and, according to the G7, improve energy security.<sup>1211</sup>

At the 1978 Bonn Summit in Germany, the G7 leaders first introduced the importance of pursuing research and development (R&D) initiatives for renewable energy alternatives as a way to combat the worsening OPEC oil energy crisis.<sup>1212</sup> At the time, the leaders prioritized reducing their dependency on imported oils while also emphasizing the importance coal would play as an energy source in the long term.

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, the G7 leaders discussed renewable energy for the first time since 1981. This conversation preceded the findings of the G8 Environment Ministers' Meeting in Otsu and Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.<sup>1213</sup> At this summit, the leaders committed to investigate renewable energy barriers and solutions in developing countries as a way to combat pollution and climate change.

At the 2001 Trieste Summit in France, the leaders committed to take the lead by strengthening and implementing national programs and actions in order to reduce the GHG emissions and, to also promote renewable energies.<sup>1214</sup>

<sup>1210</sup> Net Zero by 2050, International Energy Agency (Paris) 18 May 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021.

<https://www.iea.org/reports/net-zero-by-2050>

<sup>1211</sup> Bonn Summit G7 Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 July 1978. Access Date: 24 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1978bonn/communique.html>

<sup>1212</sup> Bonn Summit G7 Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 July 1978. Access Date: 24 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1978bonn/communique.html>

<sup>1213</sup> G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 24 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.html>

<sup>1214</sup> G7/8 Environment Ministers Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 May 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/g7-commitments-environment.html>

At the 2002 Summit in Banff, Canada, the leaders committed to work together with governments and other partners to take effective actions in the field of energy.<sup>1215</sup> The leaders committed to increase energy efficiency, improving energy resources, developing new technologies and promoting the usage of renewable energy sources in all countries.

At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, the G8 leaders committed to tackle climate change and promote clean energy.<sup>1216</sup> The leaders committed to take measures to develop markets for clean energy technologies in order to increase their availability in developing nations, and to help vulnerable communities to adapt to the impact of climate change.

At the 2009 at the L'Aquila Summit in Italy, renewable energy was given a larger role in global climate talks following the 2008 Economic Crisis. At this summit, renewable energy was incorporated into action-based discussions on green recovery, technology-driven paths to tackle climate change, and the preliminary talks of carbon markets.<sup>1217</sup> However, a focus still was put on the importance of R&D of sustainable alternatives in developing countries.

At the 2014 Rome Summit in Italy, the energy ministers committed to promote the use of low carbon technologies like renewable energies.<sup>1218</sup> They also committed to work with known institutions like the International Renewable Energy Agency and international financial institutions to supply technical assistance for renewable energies in Ukraine and other European nations.

At the 2015 Hamburg Summit in Germany, the leaders committed to support the use of renewable energy sources.<sup>1219</sup> The leaders mentioned that their goal with the usage of renewable energy sources is to reduce the GHG emissions in their energy systems.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit in Japan, the G7 leaders committed to invest in the energy sectors such as innovations in renewable energy sources and other low carbon technologies in order to help to build an economic growth from carbon emissions.<sup>1220</sup> The leaders reaffirmed their commitment to enhance cooperation in energy technology innovation, research, development, and deployment, in order to accelerate the technological progress towards clean energy, including renewable energy sources.

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit in Canada, the US took the lead on the issue of renewable energy.<sup>1221</sup> The US committed to “work closely with other countries” to “help deploy renewable and other clean energy sources” to aid in the fight against climate change and foster sustainable development. The other members subsequently committed to work towards emissions reductions by fostering innovation.

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<sup>1215</sup> G7/8 Environment Ministers Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 May 2018. Access Date: 16 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/g7-commitments-environment.html>

<sup>1216</sup> Chairs' Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 16 October 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/summary.html>

<sup>1217</sup> Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.pdf>

<sup>1218</sup> Rome G7 Energy Initiative for Energy Security, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 May 2014. Access Date: 16 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/energy/140506-rome.html>

<sup>1219</sup> G7 Hamburg Initiative for Sustainable Energy Security, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 May 2015. Access Date: 16 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/energy/150512-hamburg.html>

<sup>1220</sup> G7 Kitakyushu Energy Ministerial Meeting Kitakyushu Initiative on Energy Security for Global Growth Joint Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2 May 2016. Access Date: 16 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/energy/160502-statement.html>

<sup>1221</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

Finally, at the 2021 at the Cornwall Summit, the G7 strived to push renewable energy alternatives as a way to holistically “build back better” from the COVID-19 pandemic, as per the roadmap designed by the International Energy Agency and adhere to the targets from the Paris Agreement.<sup>1222</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders strived to push renewable energy alternatives as a way to holistically “build back better” from the COVID-19 pandemic, as per the roadmap designed by the IEA in order to adhere to the targets from the Paris Agreement.<sup>1223</sup> The G7 leaders declared that “[in our energy sectors, we will]...accelerate renewable and other zero emissions energy deployment.” There are two criteria components of this commitment that must be fulfilled in order to achieve full compliance. These include accelerating renewable energy deployment and accelerating other zero emissions energy deployment. Since the commitment specifies “in our energy sectors” only domestic actions will count towards compliance.

To “accelerate” is understood to mean “to hasten the progress or development of.”<sup>1224</sup> In the context of this commitment, “accelerate” refers to increasing the rate of development of new projects or initiatives that seek to implement the deployment of renewable and other zero emissions energy. In addition, “accelerate” also refers to increasing the rate of pre-established initiatives that work towards this goal.

“Renewable energy” is understood to mean, “any naturally occurring, theoretically inexhaustible source of energy, such as biomass, solar, wind, tidal, wave, and hydroelectric power, that is not derived from fossil or nuclear fuel.”<sup>1225</sup> In the context of this commitment, examples of strong action to accelerate renewable energy can include, but are not limited to: funding the utilization of solar, wind and hydro power; supporting research and development initiatives that promote renewable energy; and implementing renewable energies in government buildings and properties. Examples of weaker actions related to the acceleration of renewable energy include, but are not limited to: chairing/organizing a conference on the importance of renewable energy and making a public statement on the importance of accelerating renewable energy without actually providing concrete support.

“Other zero emissions energies” refer to energy technology that produces no emissions (or that the GHGs going “into the atmosphere are balanced by removal out of the atmosphere”).<sup>1226</sup> In the context of this commitment, other zero emissions energies refer to the non-renewable net-zero energy technologies. Examples of other zero emissions energies include, but are not limited to: nuclear power and carbon capture and sequestration technologies. Similar to renewable energies, examples of a strong action to accelerate other zero emissions energies can include, but are not limited to: funding the utilization of nuclear and carbon capture technologies and supporting research and development initiatives that promote zero-emissions energies (other than renewable ones). Examples of weaker actions related to the acceleration of other zero emissions energies include, but are not limited to: chairing/organizing a conference on the importance of other zero emissions energies beyond renewable ones and by making a public statement on the importance of accelerating these initiatives without actually providing concrete support.

In order to achieve full compliance, or a score of +1, a G7 member must take at least two strong actions in each of the two commitment components. The two commitment components that must be fulfilled, as stated above, include accelerating renewable energy deployment and accelerating other zero emissions energy

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<sup>1222</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, Group of Seven (Cornwall) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.g7uk.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Carbis-Bay-G7-Summit-Communique-PDF-430KB-25-pages-3.pdf>

<sup>1223</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, Group of Seven (Cornwall) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.g7uk.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Carbis-Bay-G7-Summit-Communique-PDF-430KB-25-pages-3.pdf>

<sup>1224</sup> Accelerate, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 18 October 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/accelerate>

<sup>1225</sup> Renewable Energy, Dictionary.com . Access Date: 13 October 2021. <https://www.dictionary.com/browse/renewable-energy>

<sup>1226</sup> What Is Net Zero, Net Zero Climate (Oxford) n.d. Access Date: 18 October 2021. <https://netzeroclimate.org/what-is-net-zero/>

deployment. Examples of what is considered strong action for each component is described above. An example of overall full compliance includes: one action that designates funding to a municipality to incorporate renewable energy technologies, one action that creates a task force for researching how to efficiently implement renewable technologies in the energy sector, one action that provides funding for R&D of carbon capture and sequestration technologies and one action that provides funding for research into adopting nuclear energy.

In order to achieve partial compliance, or a score of 0, a G7 member will have either taken at least one strong and one partial action in each of the two commitment components or the G7 member has taken at least two strong actions in one component and only weak action in the other component. For example, if a G7 member were to have only provided funding for both a research initiative that seeks to develop carbon capture technologies and for a project that utilizes solar panels, they would have taken a strong action in each component. However, if a G7 member only took weak action in each component beyond the two examples of strong action, they would achieve partial compliance. Additionally, if a member takes two strong actions in only one component (such as only taking strong action for renewable technologies) but only partial action in the other component, they will achieve partial compliance.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be awarded to any G7 member that fails to meet the threshold of partial compliance, whether by only taking one strong action, taking only weak action(s) or taking no action towards fulfilling the commitment.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has either only taken ONE strong action overall, only taken weak actions overall or taken no actions towards fulfilling the two commitment components.
0	The G7 member has taken at least ONE strong action and ONE weak action in EACH of the two commitment components OR the member has taken TWO strong actions in one of the components and only weak action in the other.
+1	The G7 member has taken at least TWO strong actions in BOTH of the two commitment components.

*Compliance Director: Aida Zarghami  
Lead Analyst: Angelina Zabajko*

### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate renewable energy deployment and accelerate other zero emissions energy deployment.

On 30 June 2021, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, Andy Fillmore, announced in partnership with other ministers, announced that government funding will be provided for an ambient temperature district energy system in downtown Halifax.<sup>1227</sup> The project will support a “district energy system that supplies renewable energy” to buildings in the district.

On 12 July 2021, the Government of Canada announced that it will provide CAD1.8 million in federal funding for the New Dawn Enterprises and the Verschuren Centre for Sustainability in Energy and the

<sup>1227</sup> Canada and Nova Scotia invest in renewable energy infrastructure for the Cogswell Redevelopment Area, Infrastructure Canada (Halifax) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/06/canada-and-nova-scotia-invest-in-renewable-energy-infrastructure-for-the-cogswell-redevelopment-area.html>

Environment to produce the first net-zero community in Pine Tree Park Estates, Nova Scotia.<sup>1228</sup> This will serve as a model for other communities to implement similar objectives.

On 14 July 2021, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced CAD25 million in funding, in collaboration with the Government of Quebec and LM Wind Power, as contribution to a CAD160 million project for LM Wind Power to expand its wind turbine blades manufacturing facility in Gaspé, Québec.<sup>1229</sup> Energy generated from wind turbines is renewable.

On 16 July 2021, Minister Andy Fillmore announced that the Government of Canada will provide additional funding to “support energy efficiency upgrades to five community buildings in Halifax.”<sup>1230</sup> The funding will go to installing solar power energy production infrastructure to reduce emissions and aid the transition to renewables.

On 23 July 2021, the Special Representative for the Prairies, Jim Carr, announced that the Government of Canada will provide funding for nine new projects in Manitoba to “support green infrastructure and upgrade” facilities.<sup>1231</sup> This will help buildings to become more energy efficient and aid in the energy transition.

On 9 August 2021, Minister of Natural Resources Seamus O’Regan Jr. opened calls for studies on carbon capture technologies, supplementing the government’s pledge to contribute CAD319 million as a part of Budget 2021 to fund research, development, and commercialization of carbon capture technologies.<sup>1232</sup> Carbon capture technologies contribute to the goal of net-zero.

On 30 August 2021, it was announced that a Canadian government document outlined plans to build two new carbon capture hubs, with capacities for at least 15 million tonnes of carbon captured annually. The document also details plans to have both sites in planning and under construction by 2030.<sup>1233</sup>

On 1 November 2021, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced CAD25 million in funding to the Energy Sector Management Assistance Program, a partnership with the World Bank that seeks to develop and implement clean energy alternatives in low- and middle-income countries.<sup>1234</sup> This will help countries that can’t afford it to transition to renewable energy.

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<sup>1228</sup> Government of Canada announces support for the first net-zero energy community in Nova Scotia, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (Ottawa) 12 July 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/atlanctic-canada-opportunities/news/2021/07/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-the-first-net-zero-energy-community-in-nova-scotia.html>

<sup>1229</sup> Supporting renewable energy manufacturing in Quebec to create jobs and build a cleaner future, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 14 July 2021. Access date: 9 November 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/07/14/supporting-renewable-energy-manufacturing-quebec-create-jobs-and>

<sup>1230</sup> Canada and Nova Scotia invest in energy efficiency upgrades for five community buildings in Halifax, Infrastructure Canada (Halifax) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/07/canada-and-nova-scotia-invest-in-energy-efficiency-upgrades-for-five-community-buildings-in-halifax.html>

<sup>1231</sup> Canada and Manitoba support green infrastructure and upgrades to community, culture, and recreation facilities, Infrastructure Canada (Manitoba) 23 July 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/07/canada-and-manitoba-support-green-infrastructure-and-upgrades-to-community-culture-and-recreation-facilities.html>

<sup>1232</sup> News release: Canada Opens Call for Studies on Carbon Capture Technologies, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 9 August 2021. Access date: 10 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/08/canada-opens-call-for-studies-on-carbon-capture-technologies.html>

<sup>1233</sup> Exclusive Canada pushes to build 2 new carbon capture hubs - gov't document, Reuters (Winnipeg/Calgary) 30 August 2021. Access date: 9 November 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/exclusive-canada-pushes-build-2-new-carbon-capture-hubs-document-2021-08-30/>

<sup>1234</sup> Prime Minister Trudeau announces enhanced and ambitious climate action to cut pollution at the COP26 summit, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 1 November 2021. Access date: 10 November 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/11/01/prime-minister-trudeau-announces-enhanced-and-ambitious-climate>

On 4 November 2021, Canada was a signatory to the Statement of International Public Support for the Clean Energy Transition at the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, pledging to accelerate adoption of clean and renewable energy and ending investment in unabated fossil fuel production globally.<sup>1235</sup>

On 5 November 2021, Minister of Natural Resources Jonathan Wilkinson announced CAD500,000 in a new partnership with the International Renewable Energy Agency to support the transition of remote communities to renewable energy.<sup>1236</sup>

On 13 January 2022, the International Energy Agency (IEA) conducted its first in-depth review of Canada since 2015.<sup>1237</sup> The report praises Canada's ambitious policy plans, and the carbon pricing schemes and the energy technology innovation it has developed to do so, including "carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS); hydrogen; and nuclear small modular reactors (SMRs)." Based on current policy plans, the IEA makes the following relevant recommendations: work with provincial governments to create clear, net-zero plans for 2050 and energy efficiency, especially for key energy sectors (e.g., "transport, oil and gas, buildings, industry") and "increasing federal funding to the research and development on clean energy technology" to ensure both the success of their own policy plans and their status as a strong competitor in the energy export market.

Canada has fully committed to accelerate renewable energy and other net zero emission energy deployment. Canada is willing to allocate several different funds to its energy sector as part of its commitment to accelerate renewable energy deployment and other net zero emissions. At the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow Canada made a strong commitment to accelerate adoption of clean and renewable energy and ending investment in unabated fossil fuel production globally.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Peter Lee*

#### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate renewable energy deployment and accelerate other zero emissions energy deployment.

On 24 August 2021, the Government Gazette announced a new framework that commits to the ban of advertisements for fossil fuel starting in July 2022, the declination of the Multi-year Energy Plan into regional objectives of renewable developments, the extension of the mandatory deployment of solar panels or vegetized roofs on commercial developments, offices, and parking lots, and support for hydroelectricity, hydrogen and biogas.<sup>1238</sup> The role of towns regarding the deployment of wind farms is reinforced.

On 8 September 2021, the French Government extended the timeline for achieving renovation work through the CEE Boost by two months. The CEE Boost: a subsidy scheme for citizens deploying energy efficiency

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<sup>1235</sup> Statement of International Public Support for the Clean Energy Transition, UN Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (Glasgow) 4 November 2021. Access date: 10 November 2021. <https://ukcop26.org/statement-on-international-public-support-for-the-clean-energy-transition/>

<sup>1236</sup> News release: Canada Invests in a New Global Initiative for Transitioning Remote Communities to Renewable Energy, Natural Resources Canada (Hamilton) 5 November 2021. Access date: 10 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/11/canada-invests-in-a-new-global-initiative-for-transitioning-remote-communities-to-renewable-energy.html>

<sup>1237</sup> Canada 2022: Energy Policy Review, International Energy Agency (Paris) 13 January 2022. Access date: 30 January 2022. <https://iea.blob.core.windows.net/assets/7ec2467c-78b4-4c0c-a966-a42b8861ec5a/Canada2022.pdf>

<sup>1238</sup> Law of August 22, 2021 on the fight against climate change and strengthening resilience to its effects, Republic of France (Paris) 24 August 2021. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.vie-publique.fr/loi/278460-loi-22-aout-2021-climat-et-resilience-convention-citoyenne-climat>

measures in their household.<sup>1239</sup> This initiative is aiming at supporting citizens to finance heating systems overhaul, increase thermal isolation or global renovation.<sup>1240</sup>

On 30 September 2021, the National Hydrogen Council held its third meeting in order to discuss the execution of the National Strategy for the Development of Carbon-free Hydrogen, adopted on 8 September 2020.<sup>1241</sup> Economy, Finance and Recovery Minister Bruno Le Maire and Ecological Transition Minister Barbara Pompili reaffirmed France's commitment to develop decarbonized hydrogen.<sup>1242</sup>

On 7 October 2021, the Ministry of Ecological Transition announced 10 measures for developing wind farms.<sup>1243</sup> It includes instructions to map zones suitable for the development of wind farms, the creation of a wind energy mediator in the Ministry for Ecological Transition, the setting up of regional committees for energy and measures to make citizen engagement in wind energy projects easier.<sup>1244</sup>

On 12 October 2021, President Emmanuel Macron announced the France 2030 investment plan, which strives to develop France's industrial competitiveness and future technologies.<sup>1245</sup> Among the EUR30 billion prepared for France 2030, 12 will be dedicated to decarbonizing the economy, with 8 solely devoted to the energy sector. EUR2 billion will be added to complement the existing EUR7 billion hydrogen strategy.<sup>1246</sup> EUR1 billion will be invested to develop small modular reactors (SMR), and EUR500 million will be invested toward breakthrough technologies in renewable energies.

On 18 October 2021, the French Government launched Innovative Solutions and Technologies for Batteries' call for projects as part of the 4th Future Investments Program and the plan 'France Relance'.<sup>1247</sup> This call aims at supporting projects dedicated to creating an integrated value chain for batteries, by supporting R&D, innovation and industrial deployment. Operated by the State and BPI France, the call for projects will run until 10 January 2023.

On 2 November 2021, France joined South Africa, Germany, the United States, United Kingdom and the European Union governments to launch the International Partnership for a Fair Energy Transition, aimed at

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<sup>1239</sup> Energy saving boost (EEC): a two-month period to benefit from the aid, Ministry of Economy Finances, and Recovery (Paris) 9 September 2021. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/coup-de-pouce-economies-energie-cee-delai-deux-mois-beneficier-aide#>

<sup>1240</sup> "Energy boost" bonuses, Ministry of Economy, Finances and Recovery (Paris) 9 November 2021. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/cedef/coup-pouce-energie>

<sup>1241</sup> France must become the world "leader" in green hydrogen, Government of France (Paris) 1 October 2021. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/la-france-doit-devenir-le-leader-mondial-de-l-hydrogene-vert>

<sup>1242</sup> [Video] Meeting of the National Hydrogen Council Thursday, September 30, at Bercy, Ministry of Economy, Finances and Recovery (Paris) 30 September 2021. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/direct-video-conseil-national-hydrogene>

<sup>1243</sup> [Video] Meeting of the National Hydrogen Council Thursday, September 30, at Bercy, Ministry of Economy, Finances and Recovery (Paris) 7 October 2021. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/des-mesures-pour-un-developpement-maitrise-de-l-eolien>

<sup>1244</sup> Measures for controlled development of wind power, Government of France (Paris) 07 October 2021. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/des-mesures-pour-un-developpement-maitrise-de-l-eolien>

<sup>1245</sup> France 2030: an investment plan for the France of tomorrow, Government of France (Paris) 13 October 2021. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/france-2030-un-plan-d-investissement-pour-la-france-de-demain>

<sup>1246</sup> Discours du Président de la République à l'occasion de la présentation du plan France 2030, Élysée (Paris) 12 October 2021. Translation provided Analyst. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/default/files/contenu/piece-jointe/2021/10/elysee-module-18543-fr.pdf>

<sup>1247</sup> Launch of the call for projects "innovative solutions and technologies for batteries," Building the France of Tomorrow (Paris) 18 October 2021. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 21 October 2021. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/plan-de-relance/lancement-appel-projets-solutions-technologies-innovantes-batteries>



helping South Africa to decarbonize its economy through cleaner energies.<sup>1248</sup> The countries involved will engage USD8.5 billion in the next three to five years through subventions, loans, investments and shared risk instruments, in order to support South Africa's transition from coal to renewable energies.<sup>1249</sup>

On 3 November 2021, the Ministry of Ecological Transition announced 10 measures for the development of solar energy.<sup>1250</sup> It includes the setting up of support plans for deploying solar panels on buildings and wastelands, mandatory solar panels on warehouses, hangars and parking lots, regular bids with dedicated budgets for roof solar panels, the target of deploying 1,000 photovoltaic projects on public properties, the relief of administrative procedures for small-scale projects, support for project developers and collectivities, the lowering of grid connection costs for small-scale projects and the creation of a Solar Cities and Solar Departments label.<sup>1251</sup>

On 4 November 2021, Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian announced that he would meet COP26 President Alok Sharma to defend France's priorities regarding the summit: the launching of the Green Grids Initiative and the deployment of an initiative for favoring private investments for solar energy.<sup>1252</sup> Minister Le Drian participated in an event on nuclear and renewable energy complementarity, as well as an event focusing on the development of the decarbonized hydrogen French industry, along with Engie, GRTgaz and Lhyfe.

On 4 November 2021, Minister Pompili, Minister Delegate in Charge of Industry Agnès Pannier-Runacher and industry leaders signed a sector contract for new energy systems to take the acceleration of renewable deployments as an opportunity for improving France's industrial competitiveness.<sup>1253</sup> The renewed sector contract reunites the state, industrialists, and union around reciprocal engagements, thanks to the consultation of more than 600 contributors.

On 5 November 2021, the Ministry of Ecological Transition announced 10 measures to favor the development of "citizen renewable energies," organized around three main axes: accelerating local governance projects, accompanying projects and their communication and simplifying project development and financing.<sup>1254</sup> The Minister's target is to reach 1,000 new locally governed renewable projects associating collectivities and citizens between now and 2028.

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<sup>1248</sup> Joint Communiqué on the International Partnership for a Just Energy Transition, Elysée (Paris) 2 November 2021. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 23 November 2021. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2021/11/02/communique-conjoint-sur-le-partenariat-international-pour-une-transition-energetique-juste>

<sup>1249</sup> France, Germany, UK, US and EU launch ground-breaking International Just Energy Transition Partnership with South Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 02 November 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_5768](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_5768)

<sup>1250</sup> 10 measures to accelerate photovoltaics, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 3 November 2021. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/10-mesures-pour-accelerer-le-photovoltaique>

<sup>1251</sup> Plan d'actions pour accélérer le développement du photovoltaïque, ministère de la Transition écologique (Paris) 3 November 2021. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 20 November 2021. [https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/21189\\_Plan-actions\\_PhotoVoltaire-1.pdf](https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/21189_Plan-actions_PhotoVoltaire-1.pdf)

<sup>1252</sup> Climate – Participation of Jean-Yves Le Drian at COP26 (Glasgow, November 4, 2021), Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 4 November 2021. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/politique-etrangere-de-la-france/climat-et-environnement/actualites-et-evenements/2021/article/climat-participation-de-jean-yves-le-drian-a-la-cop26-glasgow-04-11-21>

<sup>1253</sup> CSF New Energy Systems: Signature of the New Sector Contract, national council of industry (Paris) 4 November 2021. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 23 November 2021. <https://www.conseil-national-industrie.gouv.fr/actualites/comites-strategiques-de-filiere/nouveaux-systemes-energetiques/csf-nouveaux-systemes-energetiques-signature-du-nouveau-contrat-de-filiere>

<sup>1254</sup> 10 measures for the development of citizen renewable energies, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 5 November 2021. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 23 November 2021. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/10-mesures-developpement-des-energies-renouvelables-citoyennes>

On 15 November 2021, Minister Pompili announced that France will stop financing foreign fossil fuel projects starting at the end of 2022.<sup>1255</sup> Minister Pompili reiterated that France joined the international coalition Beyond Oil and Gas, aiming at progressively phasing out fossil fuel production.

On 10 December 2021, Minister Pompili and Minister Delegate Pannier-Runacher announced an investment of EUR420 million for the development of industrial biotechnologies and the manufacturing of biosourced products, in order to replace petroleum products, it includes biofuels, and synthetic fuels produced from renewable energies.<sup>1256</sup>

On 14 December 2021, France and the United States inaugurated the Bilateral Partnership France-United States for Clean Energies in Paris, an initiative planned at the United Nations Climate Change Conference.<sup>1257</sup> The goals of the partnership are to discuss policies and innovation in clean energies, and exchange on diplomatic efforts to accelerate the energy transition. The next partnership meeting is planned for 2022 in Washington DC.

France has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate renewable and other net zero energy deployment, by taking actions to favorize the deployment of decarbonized energy production at the local, national and international levels. France has committed to allocate several different funds toward accelerating renewable energy sources. France has also signed multiple agreements with other G7 members such as the United States, United Kingdom and Germany and other non-G7 members such as South Africa.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Thomas Houlié*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate renewable energy deployment and accelerate other zero emissions energy deployment.

On 25 August 2021, the German government outlined preliminary plans to refurbish and retrofit government buildings to increase energy efficiency and usage of renewable energy as a part of Climate Action Plan 2030.<sup>1258</sup>

On 22 September 2021, Andreas Feicht, State Secretary for Economic Affairs and Energy, attended an informal meeting with energy ministers to discuss the 'Fit for 55' legislation to revise the new proposals submitted by the European Union in regard to higher energy savings and increasing the proportion of renewable energy by 2030.<sup>1259</sup>

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<sup>1255</sup> France stops foreign public funding of fossil fuel projects, Government of France (Paris) 15 November 2021. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 21 November 2021. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/la-france-cesse-les-financements-publics-a-l-etranger-de-projets-d-energies-fossiles>

<sup>1256</sup> Investments for the future: Barbara Pompili and Agnès Pannier-Runacher announce 420 million euros to accelerate the development of industrial biotechnologies and the manufacture of biosourced products in France, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 10 December 2021. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 2 January 2022. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/investissements-davenir-barbara-pompili-et-agnes-pannier-runacher-annoncent-420-millions-deuros>

<sup>1258</sup> A role model for climate-neutral buildings, The Federal Government (Berlin) 25 August 2021. Access date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/climate-neutral-federal-government-buildings-1953906>

<sup>1259</sup> State Secretary Feicht discusses energy-policy aspects of the 'Fit for 55' package of measures with European Energy Ministers, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2021/09/20210922-state-secretary-feicht-discusses-energy-policy-aspects-of-the-fit-for-55-package-of-measures-with-european-energy-ministers.html>

On 14 October 2021, the German government will eliminate the surcharge on electricity generated from renewable sources, designed to fund renewable energy generation projects, by 2022.<sup>1260</sup> The typical household is projected to save EUR132 from this measure.

On 2 November 2021, the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) released a press statement detailing an agreement between the German and South African delegations at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow.<sup>1261</sup> The agreement outlined plans for Germany to give EUR700 million to South Africa in phasing out the use of coal and promote investment in developing renewable energy sources.

On 23 November 2021, an agreement signed by the Danish national grid operator Energinet with Belgium's Eila (a transmission systems operator) and Germany's 50Hertz (a high-voltage grid operator) to build power grid links in facilitating the export of Danish green energy to mainland Europe.<sup>1262</sup>

On 24 November 2021, the Government of Germany announced an agreement on climate action between the parties of the incoming German government (Social Democrats, Greens and Free Democrats) to install 200 gigawatts capacity of solar electricity generation and 30 gigawatts capacity of offshore wind generation by 2030, raising the targeted proportion of renewable energy as a part of Germany's gross energy demand from 65 per cent to 80 per cent by 2030.<sup>1263</sup>

On 25 November 2021, it was reported that a supplementary budget by the incoming German government allocated EUR50 billion toward the country's climate action fund.<sup>1264</sup> The funding will help make homes more energy efficient and reduce emissions.

On 13 January 2022, Robert Habeck, Minister of Economic Affairs and Climate Action, announced that Germany will become climate-neutral by the year of 2045 and will boost its share of renewable energy by 80 per cent by 2030.<sup>1265</sup>

Germany has strongly committed towards increasing its renewable energy deployments and other net zero emission energy deployments. Germany has taken actions both domestically and internationally. Germany has allocated several different funds towards increasing renewable energy sources domestically but has also helped other nations such as South Africa. Germany has also cooperated with other countries such as Denmark.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Peter Lee*

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<sup>1260</sup> EXCLUSIVE Germany to slash renewable power fee to ease burden of higher energy bills – sources, Reuters (Toronto) 14 October 2021. Access date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/exclusive-germany-slash-renewable-power-fee-ease-burden-higher-energy-bills-2021-10-14/>

<sup>1261</sup> Germany supports South Africa in coal phase-out, Reuters (Toronto) Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (Berlin) 2 November 2021. Access date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/deutschland-unterstuetzt-suedafrika-beim-kohleausstieg>

<sup>1262</sup> Denmark signs deals to facilitate wind power links to Germany and Belgium, Reuters (Toronto) 23 November 2021. Access date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/markets/europe/denmark-signs-deals-facilitate-wind-power-links-germany-belgium-2021-11-23/>

<sup>1263</sup> Germany hits renewable accelerator, targets coal exit by 2030, Reuters (Toronto) 24 November 2021. Access date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/markets/commodities/german-coalition-commits-faster-decarbonisation-2021-11-24/>

<sup>1264</sup> Germany to pump more than 50 bln euros into climate fund – sources, Reuters (Toronto) 25 November 2021. Access date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/germany-pump-more-than-50-bln-eurs-into-climate-fund-sources-2021-11-25/>

<sup>1265</sup> Habeck presents Germany's current climate action status: "Need to triple the rate of emission reductions", Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 13 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2022/20220111-habeck-presents-germanys-current-climate-action-status-need-to-triple-the-rate-of-emission-reductions.html>

## Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to accelerate renewable energy deployment and accelerate other zero emissions energy deployment.

On 20 September 2021, the Ministry of Ecological Transition issued a request for proposals for their Green Ports Initiative.<sup>1266</sup> The goal of the project is to reduce carbon dioxide emissions in ports by implementing systems to generate energy from renewable sources, and the amount of EUR270 million of expenditure expected for the project.

On 15 December 2021, the Ministry of Ecological Transition invested EUR200 million towards greening 19 small islands.<sup>1267</sup> This action will accelerate renewable energy deployment by increasing renewable energy production on the islands.

On 15 December 2021, the Ministry of Ecological Transition pledged to develop hydrogen supply chains and to support the research, development and regulation needed to facilitate the use and transport of hydrogen fuel.<sup>1268</sup> This action will contribute to increasing the use of zero emissions fuels by providing the technology and infrastructure needed for successful implementation of hydrogen fuels.

On 15 December 2021, the Ministry of Ecological Transition pledged to develop infrastructure for 21,250 recharging stations and renew transportation fleets with vehicles that use zero emissions fuels.<sup>1269</sup> This action will contribute to accelerating the use of zero emissions technologies in transport.

On 15 December 2021, the Ministry of Ecological Transition pledged to increase the share of Italy's energy produced by renewable sources through investment in developing small-scale energy distribution systems.<sup>1270</sup> This action will contribute to accelerating the use of zero emissions technologies by increasing investment in the infrastructure needed for its implementation.

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to accelerate renewable and other zero emissions energy deployment. Italy has taken strong actions to reduce the carbon dioxide emissions of their port infrastructure and increase their ports' usage of renewable energy sources. Italy has taken strong action by investing EUR200 million in renewable deployment on 19 of their islands. Additionally, Italy has taken weak action to accelerate zero emissions deployment by pledging to develop hydrogen supply chains and building charging infrastructure and fuel transportation infrastructure with zero emissions fuels. Lastly, Italy has taken weak action to accelerate the implementation of renewable energy by pledging to invest in developing small scale energy distribution systems for renewable energy.

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<sup>1266</sup> Il Mite starts the PNRR with the Green Ports projects, Ministry of Ecological Transition (Rome) 20 September 2021.

Translation provided by Analyst. Access date: 26 November 2021. <https://www.mite.gov.it/pagina/il-mite-avvia-il-pnrr-con-il-progetto-green-ports>

<sup>1267</sup> PNRR, 200 million to make 19 smaller islands more sustainable, Ministry of Ecological Transition (Rome) 15 December 2021.

Translation provided by Analyst. Access date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.mite.gov.it/comunicati/pnrr-200-milioni-rendere-piu-sostenibili-19-isole-minori>

<sup>1268</sup> MEASURE 3 – Promote the production, distribution and end uses of hydrogen, Ministry of Ecological Transition (Rome) 15

December 2021. Translation provided by Analyst. Access date: 17 January 2021. <https://www.mite.gov.it/pagina/misura-3-promuovere-la-produzione-la-distribuzione-e-gli-usi-finali-dell-idrogeno>

<sup>1269</sup> MEASURE 4 – Developing more sustainable local transport, Ministry of Ecological Transition (Rome) 15 December 2021.

Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.mite.gov.it/pagina/misura-4-sviluppare-un-trasporto-locale-piu-sostenibile>

<sup>1270</sup> MEASURE 1 – Increase the share of energy produced from renewable energy sources, Ministry of Ecological Transition

(Rome) 15 December 2021. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 17 January 2022.

<https://www.mite.gov.it/pagina/misura-1-incrementare-la-quota-di-energia-prodotta-da-fonti-di-energia-rinnovabile>

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Emilio Ortelli*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate renewable energy deployment and accelerate other zero emissions energy deployment.

On 18 June 2021, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), along with related ministries and agencies, updated the Green Growth Strategy Through Achieving Carbon Neutrality in 2050.<sup>1271</sup> METI added policy measures, taking into consideration how carbon neutrality could improve people's lives, and addressed how to implement renewable and zero emissions tech to contribute to decarbonization goals.<sup>1272</sup>

On 21 June 2021, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Hiroshi Kajiyama pledged to offer USD10 billion to 10 Southeastern Asian countries for developing renewable and liquefied natural gas projects.<sup>1273</sup> As part of this initiative, called Asian Energy Transition, Minister Kajiyama proposed that Japan could help countries in the region to design their roadmaps for reaching carbon neutrality, as well as sharing technological developments and deployment support.

On 22 June 2021, Minister Kajiyama announced the launch of the Asia Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage (CCUS) Network, a new platform that aims at promoting overseas projects, and sharing knowledge and best practices for using CCUS technologies.<sup>1274</sup> The CCUS Network regroups all members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, Japan, the United States and Australia, and over 100 companies, research, and international organizations.

On 15 July 2021, the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization started 14 R&D projects for geothermal power generation.<sup>1275</sup> The projects are grouped under three items: the evaluation of Japanese domestic geothermal resources, the development of exploration technologies for supercritical resources and the development of geothermal power generation technologies.

On 20 July 2021, Japanese government's Independent Administrative Institution Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation, Woodside Energy, Marubeni Corp., Hokuriku Electric Power Company, and Kansai Electric Power company signed a joint research agreement for conducting a feasibility study regarding the development of a clean ammonia supply chain from Australia to Japan.<sup>1276</sup> This agreement comes a few days

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<sup>1271</sup> "Green Growth Strategy Through Achieving Carbon Neutrality in 2050" Formulated, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0618\\_002.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0618_002.html)

<sup>1272</sup> METI Issues New Green Growth Strategy Through Achieving Carbon Neutrality, Japan Atomic Industrial Forum (Tokyo) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. <https://www.jaif.or.jp/en/meti-issues-new-green-growth-strategy-through-achieving-carbon-neutrality/>

<sup>1273</sup> Japan proposes \$10 bil in finance for ASEAN renewables, LNG to aid energy transition, S&P Global (New York City) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. <https://www.spglobal.com/platts/en/market-insights/latest-news/natural-gas/062121-japan-proposes-10-bil-in-finance-for-asean-renewables-lng-to-aid-energy-transition>

<sup>1274</sup> "Asia CCUS Network" has launched, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0622\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0622_001.html)

<sup>1275</sup> Started research and development to expand the introduction of geothermal power generation, National Research and Development Corporation (Tokyo) 15 July 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 November 2022. [https://www.nedo.go.jp/news/press/AA5\\_101460.html](https://www.nedo.go.jp/news/press/AA5_101460.html)

<sup>1276</sup> Feasibility Study on Establishing a Clean Fuel Ammonia Supply Chain from Australia to Japan, Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (Tokyo) 20 July 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. [https://www.jogmec.go.jp/english/news/release/news\\_15\\_000001\\_00022.html](https://www.jogmec.go.jp/english/news/release/news_15_000001_00022.html)

after the 15 July 2021 Japan-Australia Ministerial Economic Dialogue, in which both countries renewed their will to collaborate on CCUS, clean hydrogen and clean ammonia.<sup>1277</sup>

On 26 July 2021, METI revised the roadmap for carbon recycling technologies.<sup>1278</sup> The revision considers the significant progress made in the areas covered by the roadmap, as well as the 2050 carbon neutrality objective. Compared to the original roadmap published in 2019, the revision integrates new technologies such as direct air capture and synthetic fuels, brings forward the beginning of widespread adoption of carbon recycling products to 2040, and adds efforts regarding international cooperation.

On 26 August 2021, the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization announced the launch of research projects on 11 themes related to hydrogen, as part of the Green Innovation Fund Project.<sup>1279</sup> The projects funded focus on the building of a large-scale hydrogen supply chain and the development of green hydrogen production projects.<sup>1280</sup>

On 1 September 2021, during the visit of John Kerry, United States Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, to Japan, both countries issued a joint statement to express their intention to further cooperate on innovation on areas such as renewable energy, energy storage, smart grid, energy efficiency, low carbon hydrogen, carbon capture, utilization, storage and recycling of carbon, industrial decarbonization and advanced nuclear power.<sup>1281</sup> The two sides agreed on the importance of cooperating with developing countries for supporting their emission reduction efforts.<sup>1282</sup>

On 8 September 2021, METI signed a memorandum of cooperation with Gazprom regarding hydrogen, ammonia, carbon capture and storage, carbon utilization and recycling.<sup>1283</sup> In addition, the two countries' governments are working on a science and technology cooperation program from 2021 to 2023, focused on private partnerships for hydrogen projects.

On 14 September 2021, METI formulated an R&D and Social Implementation Plan for hydrogen use in steelmaking processes.<sup>1284</sup> The plan aims at developing hydrogen reduction technology using blast furnaces, and direct hydrogen reduction technology through joint public and private research and development. The strategy, implemented with the support of the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization, strives at lowering the emission of the carbon-intensive steel industry.

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<sup>1277</sup> Japan-Australia Ministerial Economic Dialogue, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2021/07/20210715008/20210715008-1.pdf>

<sup>1278</sup> Roadmap for carbon recycling technologies revised, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 26 July 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0726\\_003.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0726_003.html)

<sup>1279</sup> Roadmap for Carbon Recycling Technologies Revised, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 26 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 November 2022. [https://www.nedo.go.jp/news/press/AA5\\_101471.html](https://www.nedo.go.jp/news/press/AA5_101471.html)

<sup>1280</sup> Green Innovation Fund Project Starts Demonstration Research Project on Hydrogen as the First Projects, National Research and Development Coordination (Tokyo) 26 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 November 2022. [https://www.nedo.go.jp/news/press/AA5\\_101471.html](https://www.nedo.go.jp/news/press/AA5_101471.html)

<sup>1281</sup> Japan-U.S. Joint Media Statement on the occasion of Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry's visit to Japan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 1 September 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e\\_000323.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000323.html)

<sup>1282</sup> Meeting between Foreign Minister MOTEGI and The Honorable John F. Kerry, United States Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e\\_000322.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000322.html)

<sup>1283</sup> METI and Gazprom Sign a Memorandum of Cooperation on Hydrogen, Ammonia, CCS, and CCU/Carbon Recycling, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 8 September 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0908\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0908_001.html)

<sup>1284</sup> An R&D and Social Implementation Plan for "Hydrogen Use in Steelmaking Processes" Projects Formulated, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 14 September 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0914\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0914_001.html)

On 16 September 2021, during the Eastern Economic Forum, METI signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with Russian company Rosneft regarding carbon management.<sup>1285</sup> The Ministry and Rosneft will continue their cooperation in order to bring Rosneft and Japanese companies to build less carbonized projects, and promote synergies in technologies like hydrogen, ammonia, carbon capture, storage and utilization.<sup>1286</sup>

On 1 October 2021, the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization started a call for applicants for two projects: cost reductions for offshore wind power generation and next-generation solar cell development.<sup>1287</sup> Both projects will be implemented using the Green Innovation Fund established by the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization.

On 8-12 October 2021, METI launched the Beyond-Zero Week 2021 in Tokyo in which 17,000 participants attended the event's 8 conferences, where ministers and experts from various countries were invited to discuss challenges, paths and methods to accelerate the transition to global carbon neutrality.<sup>1288</sup>

On 22 October 2021, the Cabinet of Japan approved the Sixth Strategic Energy Plan after deliberations by the Advisory Committee for Natural Resources and Energy.<sup>1289</sup> In the strategy, the Government is aiming for 36 to 38 per cent of renewable energy capacity by the end of 2030 (up from 22 to 24 per cent in the previous plan), and a decrease of thermal power capacity to 41 per cent (down from 56 per cent in the previous plan).<sup>1290</sup> The contribution of nuclear energy is expected to increase to 20 to 22 per cent by 2030, the same value as in the previous strategy.

On 28 October 2021, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Ishii Masahiro attended the 22nd Council of the International Renewable Energy Agency in Abu Dhabi as chair.<sup>1291</sup> Minister Ishii stated that Japan will continue its efforts toward maximal introduction of renewable energy.

On 2 November 2021, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida declared as part of the United Nations Climate Change Conference that Japan will commit USD10 billion for developing countries over the next five years.<sup>1292</sup> Prime Minister Kishida mentioned that Japan will spend USD100 million for the adaptation of thermal power plants to carbon-free fuels such as ammonia and hydrogen.<sup>1293</sup>

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<sup>1285</sup> METI and Rosneft Sign a Memorandum of Cooperation on Carbon Management, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 17 September 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0917\\_004.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0917_004.html)

<sup>1286</sup> Rosneft and Japan's METI to Develop Cooperation in Carbon Management, Rosneft (Moscow) 16 September 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. <https://www.rosneft.com/press/releases/item/207793>

<sup>1287</sup> Call Starts for Applicants for "Cost Reductions for Offshore Wind Power Generation" Projects, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 01 October 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1001\\_007.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1001_007.html)

<sup>1288</sup> Results of Tokyo "Beyond-Zero" Week 2021, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 20 October 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/100256813.pdf>

<sup>1289</sup> Cabinet Decision on the Sixth Strategic Energy Plan, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1022\\_002.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1022_002.html)

<sup>1290</sup> Japan Govt Approves Its Sixth Strategic Energy Plan, Seeks To Increase Renewables, Republicworld.com (Delhi) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. <https://www.republicworld.com/world-news/rest-of-the-world-news/japan-govt-approves-its-sixth-strategic-energy-plan-seeks-to-increase-renewables.html>

<sup>1291</sup> State Minister Ishii Attends the 22nd Council of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 28 October 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1028\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1028_001.html)

<sup>1292</sup> Japan's Kishida Pledges Up to \$10 Billion in New Climate Finance, Bloomberg (New York) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-11-02/japan-s-kishida-pledges-up-to-10-billion-in-new-climate-finance>

<sup>1293</sup> Japan pledges extra \$10 billion to bridge climate financing gap at COP26, HIS Markit (London) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. <https://ihsmarkit.com/research-analysis/japan-pledges-extra-10-billion-to-bridge-climate-finance-gap-a.html>

On 25 November 2021, METI and Vietnam's Ministry of Industry and Trade signed the Joint Statement for Cooperation on Energy Transition to Carbon Neutrality.<sup>1294</sup> Both parties committed to support Japanese private investments for clean energy projects, financial and technical supports for low-carbon energies and assistance for formulating Vietnam's energy transition roadmaps.

On 11 December 2021, the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization issued updated guidelines for photovoltaic capacities.<sup>1295</sup> The directions, made to ensure the sustainability of new installations, focuses on agrivoltaics, on slope and floating solar panels.

On 28 December 2021, the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization announced its support for R&D on solar cells through the Green Innovation Fund Project.<sup>1296</sup> The program includes two items: the development of infrastructures for R&D projects on next-generation solar cell, and the improvement of photovoltaic technologies application scalability.

On 7 January 2022, the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization announced the Fuel Ammonia Supply Chain Construction Project.<sup>1297</sup> With a budget of USD524 million, the project aims at developing green ammonia production technologies, and supporting projects for ammonia use in thermal power plants. It targets a production cost in "the high JPY10 range per Nm<sup>3</sup>" by 2030.

Japan has committed both domestically and internationally, through signing joint partnerships with other G7 and non G7 members, allocating funds internationally and accelerating the deployment of renewables and net zero energy. Japan has committed to allocate funds in order to help other non-G7 members in Southeastern Asia to utilize renewable and zero emissions technologies. Japan has also signed multiple agreements with other nations as part of its commitment towards these goals.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Thomas Houlie*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate renewable energy deployment and accelerate other zero emissions energy deployment.

On 25 August 2021, the Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy awarded a collective GBP4 million to 24 projects designed to increase production of biomass in the UK.<sup>1298</sup> This biomass can then be used to facilitate green production and create green energy.<sup>1299</sup>

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<sup>1294</sup> Joint Statement between the Ministry of Trade, Economy and Industry of Japan and the Ministry of Industry and Trade of Viet Nam for Cooperation on Energy Transition to carbon neutrality, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 25 November 2021. Access Date: 2 January 2022. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2021/11/20211125005/20211125005-1.pdf>

<sup>1295</sup> Regarding the provisions of the 2021 version of the technical standards for the design and construction of solar power generation systems installed on slopes, farming, and water., Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 20 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 15 January 2022.

[https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/safety\\_security/industrial\\_safety/oshirase/2021/12/20211220-1.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/safety_security/industrial_safety/oshirase/2021/12/20211220-1.html)

<sup>1296</sup> Started development of next-generation solar cells in the Green Innovation Fund Project, National Research and Development Corporation (Tokyo) 28 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 15 January 2022. [https://www.nedo.go.jp/news/press/AA5\\_101501.html](https://www.nedo.go.jp/news/press/AA5_101501.html)

<sup>1297</sup> Started the Green Innovation Fund project "Building a supply chain for fuel ammonia," National Research and Development Corporation (Tokyo) 7 January 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 15 January 2022. [https://www.nedo.go.jp/news/press/AA5\\_101502.html](https://www.nedo.go.jp/news/press/AA5_101502.html)

<sup>1298</sup> £4 million funding to boost UK biomass production, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 25 August 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/4-million-funding-to-boost-uk-biomass-production>



On 7 October 2021, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy unveiled plans to decarbonize the UK power system by 2035.<sup>1300</sup> The UK is planning to deploy offshore wind, hydrogen, solar, nuclear and onshore wind energy generation as well as carbon capture and storage. This plan accelerates the UK government's commitment to a fully decarbonized power system by 2050.

On 26 October 2021, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy deployed the Nuclear Energy (Financing) Bill, a new funding model to attract increased amounts of private investment for new nuclear power projects.<sup>1301</sup> Under this new funding model, consumers contribute to funding in the construction phase of a nuclear power project to give private investors certainty of returns on investment in new nuclear power projects.

On 24 November 2021, the UK government announced that it will invest GBP20 million per year into tidal power generation.<sup>1302</sup> This is part of the fourth allocation round of the UK government's Contracts for Difference Scheme intended to help the Tidal Stream projects increase its ability to develop technology and lower costs. This will bring funding for the 2021 Contracts for Difference Scheme allocation round to GBP285 million. The government of the United Kingdom will also be investing GBP11 million to help distilleries pivot away from fossil fuels.<sup>1303</sup> Hydrogen and biogas will replace fossil fuels.

On 7 December 2021, the UK government invested GBP116 million towards zero emissions and renewable energy innovation in the UK, including for the development of technologies to absorb carbon dioxide emissions, replace diesel engines in boats with hydrogen power and research into green technologies for powering homes.<sup>1304</sup> The funding also directly supports research to improve carbon capture technology.

On 20 December 2021, the UK government launched a consultation on a proposed oil and gas climate checkpoint requiring future oil and gas licenses to pass a climate screening which ensures that the license complies with the UK's commitment to net zero emissions by 2050.<sup>1305</sup>

On 20 December 2021, the UK government announced that it will invest GBP26 million to boost sustainable biomass production for power generation.<sup>1306</sup> Biomass innovators from across the UK can bid to receive portions of this funding to support increased production of sustainable biomass in the UK.

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<sup>1299</sup> £4 million funding to boost UK biomass production, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 25 August 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/4-million-funding-to-boost-uk-biomass-production>

<sup>1300</sup> Plans unveiled to decarbonise the UK power system by 2035, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 7 October 2021. Access date: 26 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/plans-unveiled-to-decarbonise-uk-power-system-by-2035>

<sup>1301</sup> New finance model to cut cost of new nuclear power stations, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 26 October 2021. Access date: 26 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/funding-helps-uk-distilleries-fuel-a-greener-future>

<sup>1302</sup> UK government announces biggest investment into Britain's tidal power, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 24 November 2021. Access date: 26 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-announces-biggest-investment-into-britains-tidal-power>

<sup>1303</sup> Funding helps UK distilleries fuel a greener future, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 24 November 2021. Access date: 26 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/funding-helps-uk-distilleries-fuel-a-greener-future>

<sup>1304</sup> Government invests over £116 million to drive forward green innovation in the UK, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 7 December 2021. Access date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-invests-over-116-million-to-drive-forward-green-innovation-in-the-uk>

<sup>1305</sup> UK government seeks views on new oil and gas climate checkpoint, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, Oil and Gas Authority (London) 20 December 2021. Access date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-seeks-views-on-new-oil-and-gas-climate-checkpoint>

<sup>1306</sup> £26 million government funding to boost biomass in UK, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 20 November 2021. Access date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/26-million-government-funding-to-boost-biomass-in-uk>

On 29 December 2021, the UK government announced a cash boost of GBP19 million for the expansion of green energy powered heating networks.<sup>1307</sup> This will increase the use of renewable and other zero emission energy in the heating of homes and public buildings.

The UK has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate renewable and other zero emissions energy deployment. The UK has taken strong action to accelerate domestic renewable energy deployment by funding tidal energy infrastructure, planning to decarbonize power generation by 2035 using renewables, investing in green energy and investing in innovation in sustainable biomass production. The UK has taken strong action to accelerate implementation and production of domestic zero emissions energy by expanding green energy powered heating networks and investing GBP116 million in zero emissions energy innovation. Additionally, the UK took weak actions to deploy and produce other zero emissions energy by implementing a new financing model to increase private sector investment in nuclear energy and by investing GBP11 million into decarbonizing the distilling industry.

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

*Analyst: Emilio Ortelli*

### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate renewable energy deployment and accelerate other zero emissions energy deployment.

On 24 June 2021, Secretary of Energy Jennifer M. Granholm and Canadian Minister of Natural Resources Seamus O'Regan released the North American Renewable Integration Study.<sup>1308</sup> The study “assesses opportunities to modernize and decarbonize the North American power system through the integrated planning and operation of generation and transmission infrastructures to meet end-use demand.”<sup>1309</sup>

On 7 July 2021, the Department of Energy (DOE) announced “USD52.5 million to fund 31 projects to advance next-generation clean hydrogen technologies and support the Hydrogen Energy Earthshot initiative.”<sup>1310</sup> This funding aims to reduce the cost and accelerate breakthroughs in the clean hydrogen sector, a form of renewable energy, that can have a major role in tackling the climate crisis.

On 9 July 2021, the DOE announced “the selection of four projects to receive up to USD3.5 million to apply machine learning techniques to geothermal exploration and production datasets.”<sup>1311</sup> This funding could assist in the development of new geothermal resources that could lead to higher success rates in exploratory drilling, greater efficiency in plant operations and lower costs for geothermal energy operators.

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<sup>1307</sup> UK government announces major expansion of heat networks in latest step to power homes with green energy, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 29 December 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-announces-major-expansion-of-heat-networks-in-latest-step-to-power-homes-with-green-energy>

<sup>1308</sup> U.S. Secretary of Energy Granholm, Canadian Minister of Natural Resources O'Regan Launch Cooperative Agreement on Clean Energy, Innovation, and Energy Justice, Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (Washington D.C.) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/eere/articles/us-secretary-energy-granholm-canadian-minister-natural-resources-oregan-launch>

<sup>1309</sup> The North American Renewable Integration Study, Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (Washington D.C.) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/eere/articles/north-american-renewable-integration-study>

<sup>1310</sup> DOE Announces \$52.5 Million to Accelerate Progress in Clean Hydrogen, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 7 July 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-announces-525-million-accelerate-progress-clean-hydrogen>

<sup>1311</sup> Department of Energy Selects Four Projects to Receive up to \$3.5 Million to Advance Research in Machine Learning for Geothermal Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (Washington D.C.) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/eere/articles/department-energy-selects-four-projects-receive-35-million-advance-research-machine>

On 13 July 2021, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory published its 2021 U.S. Geothermal Power Production and District Heating Market Report.<sup>1312</sup> This report identifies opportunities for expanding power production through enhanced geothermal systems technology development. The report evaluates the impact of current policy as well as presenting future opportunities for the domestic geothermal industry.

On 20 July 2021, the DOE awarded USD127 million to support 110 innovative projects focused on tackling the climate crisis.<sup>1313</sup> The funding among American small businesses and entrepreneurs will power the clean energy revolution by supporting the research and development of innovative clean energy technologies.

On 3 August 2021, the DOE announced nearly USD34 million in funding for 11 projects for the development to improve and produce biofuels, biopower, and bioproducts.<sup>1314</sup> The funding for biofuel research and development can promote renewable energy and contribute to the decarbonization of the transportation sector.

On 3 August 2021, the DOE selected eight small businesses to develop wind technology under the 2021 Competitiveness Improvement Project.<sup>1315</sup> The project is to help advance wind energy as a cost-effective, reliable and compatible distributed energy resource.

On 11 August 2021, the DOE announced USD45 million for projects that will help integrate clean energy sources onto the power grid.<sup>1316</sup> The funding will advance the domestic manufacturing of solar energy and electric grid technologies.

On 1 September 2021, during the visit of John Kerry, Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, to Japan, both countries issued a joint statement to express their intention to further cooperate on innovation on areas such as renewable energy, energy storage, smart grid, energy efficiency, low carbon hydrogen, carbon capture, utilization, storage and recycling of carbon, industrial decarbonization and advanced nuclear power.<sup>1317</sup> The two sides agreed on the importance of cooperating with developing countries for supporting their emission reduction efforts.<sup>1318</sup>

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<sup>1312</sup> NREL 2021 U.S. Geothermal Market Report Released, Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (Washington D.C.) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/eere/articles/nrel-2021-us-geothermal-market-report-released>

<sup>1313</sup> Department of Energy Awards \$127 Million to Bring Innovative Clean Energy Technologies to Market, Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (Washington D.C.) 20 July 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021.

<https://www.energy.gov/eere/articles/department-energy-awards-127-million-bring-innovative-clean-energy-technologies>

<sup>1314</sup> DOE Announces Nearly \$34 Million to Advance Waste and Algae Bioenergy Technology, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 3 August 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-announces-nearly-34-million-advance-waste-and-algae-bioenergy-technology>

<sup>1315</sup> Small Businesses Selected To Help Advance Wind Energy as a Distributed Energy Resource, Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (Washington D.C.) 3 August 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021.

<https://www.energy.gov/eere/articles/small-businesses-selected-help-advance-wind-energy-distributed-energy-resource>

<sup>1316</sup> DOE Awards \$45 Million to Advance Solar Manufacturing and Grid Technologies, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 11 August 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-awards-45-million-advance-solar-manufacturing-and-grid-technologies>

<sup>1317</sup> Japan-U.S. Joint Media Statement on the occasion of Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry's visit to Japan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 1 September 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021.

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e\\_000323.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000323.html)

<sup>1318</sup> Meeting between Foreign Minister MOTEGI and The Honorable John F. Kerry, United States Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021.

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e\\_000322.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000322.html)

On 8 September 2021, the DOE released the Solar Futures Study.<sup>1319</sup> The study details the importance of solar energy in decarbonizing the nation's power grid; the findings call for massive and equitable deployment of clean energy sources.

On 9 September 2021, the DOE "announced USD64.7 million in funding for projects focused on producing cost-effective, low-carbon biofuels."<sup>1320</sup> The funding will help advance technologies to create replacements for petroleum fuels used in heavy-duty forms of transportation.

On 23 September 2021, the DOE announced "USD17.9 million in funding for four research and development projects to scale up American manufacturing of flow battery and long-duration storage systems."<sup>1321</sup> This funding along with the new USD9 million effort for the Energy Storage Social Equity Initiative will provide materials needed to expand the power grid with new, clean energy sources.

On 30 September 2021, the DOE announced a "USD8.5 million funding opportunity to improve the operational flexibility of the U.S. hydropower fleet."<sup>1322</sup> DOE's Water Power Technologies Office will fund awards to advance hydropower technologies to enhance grid reliability. Funding will increase hydropower's ability to operate flexibly and support intermittent energy sources.

On 7 October 2021, the DOE announced USD20 million in funding to produce clean hydrogen energy from nuclear power.<sup>1323</sup> The approach will allow clean hydrogen to serve as a source for zero-carbon electricity.

On 8 October 2021, the DOE announced a new National Community Solar Partnership target to enable community solar systems to power five million households by 2025.<sup>1324</sup> Reaching this milestone will help achieve the Biden-Harris Administration's goals of achieving 100% clean electricity by 2035.

On 15 October 2021, the DOE announced USD20 million in funding for four projects to work on accelerating the regional deployment of carbon capture, utilization and storage.<sup>1325</sup> This initiative is designed to identify and address regional storage and transportation challenges as well as reducing carbon dioxide emissions from industrial sources.

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<sup>1319</sup> DOE Releases Solar Futures Study Providing the Blueprint for a Zero-Carbon Grid, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 8 September 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-releases-solar-futures-study-providing-blueprint-zero-carbon-grid>

<sup>1320</sup> DOE Announces Nearly \$65 Million for Biofuels Research to Reduce Airplane and Ship Emissions, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 9 September 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-announces-nearly-65-million-biofuels-research-reduce-airplane-and-ship-emissions>

<sup>1321</sup> DOE Invests \$27 Million in Battery Storage Technology and to Increase Storage Access, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 23 September 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-invests-27-million-battery-storage-technology-and-increase-storage-access>

<sup>1322</sup> DOE Announces \$8.5 Million to Increase Hydropower Flexibility, Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (Washington D.C.) 30 September 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/eere/articles/doe-announces-85-million-increase-hydropower-flexibility>

<sup>1323</sup> DOE Announces \$20 Million to Produce Clean Hydrogen From Nuclear Power, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-announces-20-million-produce-clean-hydrogen-nuclear-power>

<sup>1324</sup> DOE Sets 2025 Community Solar Target to Power 5 Million Homes, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 8 October 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-sets-2025-community-solar-target-power-5-million-homes>

<sup>1325</sup> OE Awards \$20 Million to Help States Deploy Carbon Capture and Storage, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 15 October 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-awards-20-million-help-states-deploy-carbon-capture-and-storage>

On 18 October 2021, the DOE “announced USD105 million in funding for small businesses to pursue the deployment of clean energy technologies.”<sup>1326</sup> The clean energy research and development will assist with carbon removal.

On 19 October 2021, the DOE awarded nearly USD40 million to 40 projects for advancing the next generation of solar, storage and industrial technologies.<sup>1327</sup> The projects will work towards reducing the cost of solar technologies and increasing the lifespan of solar panels.

On 2 November 2021, the DOE announced USD16 million in funding for national lab directed projects focused on hydropower’s contributions to a decarbonized, reliable and resilient grid.<sup>1328</sup> The projects will enable the hydropower community to more accurately model future water availability, evaluate opportunities for adding hydropower to non-powered dams and to understand how to operate hydropower to mitigate wildfires’ impacts to the power grid.

On 1 December 2021, the DOE announced “USD13 million in funding for 17 projects to implement energy and water efficiency, renewable energy and climate resilience technologies at federal facilities.”<sup>1329</sup> This funding will promote the use of renewables as an efficient source of energy at federal buildings.

On 6 December 2021, the DOE released a Request for Information regarding technologies on carbon emission reduction and carbon removal.<sup>1330</sup> The request seeks information from industry, investors, developers, academia, research laboratories, government agencies, non-governmental organizations and other relevant communities on available and affordable decarbonization technologies for deployment.

On 8 December 2021, President Joe Biden signed an executive order on catalyzing the country’s clean energy economy.<sup>1331</sup> The order will “reduce emissions across federal operations, invest in American clean energy industries and manufacturing, and create clean, healthy, and resilient communities.”

On 21 December 2021, the DOE announced the establishment of the Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations.<sup>1332</sup> The new office will work towards supporting clean energy technology demonstration projects such as clean hydrogen, carbon capture and energy storage.

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<sup>1326</sup> DOE Announces \$105 Million for Small Businesses to Invest in Clean Energy Research and Development, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 18 October 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021.

<https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-announces-105-million-small-businesses-invest-clean-energy-research-and-development>  
<sup>1327</sup> DOE Awards Nearly \$40 Million for Grid Decarbonizing Solar Technologies, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 19 October 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-awards-nearly-40-million-grid-decarbonizing-solar-technologies>

<sup>1328</sup> DOE Awards \$16M for National Lab Projects Focused on Hydropower’s Role in a Clean Energy Future, Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (Washington D.C.) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021.  
<https://www.energy.gov/eere/articles/doe-awards-16m-national-lab-projects-focused-hydropowers-role-clean-energy-future>

<sup>1329</sup> DOE Announces \$13 Million For Energy Efficiency Technologies at Federal Buildings, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 1 December 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-announces-13-million-energy-efficiency-technologies-federal-buildings>

<sup>1330</sup> DOE Seeks Information on Deployment-Ready Carbon Reduction and Removal Technologies, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 6 December 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-seeks-information-deployment-ready-carbon-reduction-and-removal-technologies>

<sup>1331</sup> FACT SHEET: President Biden Signs Executive Order Catalyzing America’s Clean Energy Economy Through Federal Sustainability, The White House (Washington D.C.) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022.  
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/12/08/fact-sheet-president-biden-signs-executive-order-catalyzing-americas-clean-energy-economy-through-federal-sustainability/>

<sup>1332</sup> DOE Establishes New Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations Under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022.  
<https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-establishes-new-office-clean-energy-demonstrations-under-bipartisan-infrastructure-law>

On 6 January 2022, the DOE announced USD35 million in funding for small businesses pursuing clean energy and climate solutions.<sup>1333</sup> The aim of this funding is to support 158 projects to develop an array of clean energy technology.

On 12 January 2022, the DOE awarded USD8.4 million to four projects to establish new geothermal energy from abandoned oil and gas wells.<sup>1334</sup> The funding will assist in transforming oil wells into geothermal wells, accelerating the production of renewable energy.

On 13 January 2022, the DOE announced USD420 million for funding in clean energy technology advancement.<sup>1335</sup> The funding will assist in accelerating advances in clean energy research and work towards lowering carbon emissions.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate renewable and other zero emissions energy deployment. The United States has accelerated renewable energy deployment through supporting research and implementing renewable energies in sectors across the nation. The United States has also accelerated other zero emissions energy deployment through methods such as carbon capture and storage.

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

*Analyst: Jane Hu*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union fully complied with its commitment to accelerate renewable energy deployment and accelerate other zero emissions energy deployment.

In June 2021, the European Parliament adopted the European Climate Law so that member states' commitments to the European Green Deal of "climate neutrality by 2050" are "binding obligations."<sup>1336</sup> The adopted European Climate Law also increases the European Union's target for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 to at least 55 per cent. As of now, the European Union will have to accelerate renewable energy and zero-emissions energy deployment in order to achieve targets set on reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the European Climate law.

On 14 July 2021, the European Commission presented a package of proposals titled "Fit for 55" as part of the European Green Deal.<sup>1337</sup> The European Union pledged to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from cars by at least 55 per cent and vans by 50 per cent by the year 2030, and it aims to reduce emissions from new cars by 100 per cent by the year 2035. The commission promotes the growth and investment for zero and low emission vehicles. This initiative promotes zero-emission transport, cleaner fuel use and investment in clean technology in the European Union.

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<sup>1333</sup> DOE Awards \$35 Million to Small Businesses Pursuing Clean Energy and Climate Solutions, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 6 January 2022. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-awards-35-million-small-businesses-pursuing-clean-energy-and-climate-solutions>

<sup>1334</sup> DOE Awards \$8.4 Million for Accessing Geothermal Potential from Abandoned Oil and Gas Wells, Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (Washington D.C.) 12 January 2022. Access Date: 12 January 2022.

<https://www.energy.gov/eere/articles/doe-awards-84-million-accessing-geothermal-potential-abandoned-oil-and-gas-wells>

<sup>1335</sup> DOE Announces \$420 Million to Advance Clean Energy Breakthroughs at Energy Research Centers Across America, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 13 January 2022. Access Date: 16 January 2022.

<https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-announces-420-million-advance-clean-energy-breakthroughs-energy-research-centers>

<sup>1336</sup> "EU 2030 Climate Package: Parliament to Assess Commission's Proposals" European Parliament (Strasbourg) 9 September 2021. Access Date: 22 November 2021 <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/agenda/briefing/2021-09-13/9/eu-2030-climate-package-parliament-to-assess-commission-s-proposal>

<sup>1337</sup> European Green Deal: commission proposes transformation of EU economy and society to meet climate ambitions, European Commission (Brussels) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 22 November 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_3541](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_3541)

On 14 July 2021, the European Commission proposed extended carbon pricing in the maritime sector.<sup>1338</sup> The Fuel EU initiative will set a maximum limit on greenhouse gas content of energy used by ships at European ports.<sup>1339</sup> This action increases sustainable maritime fuels and zero-emission technology. As part of “Fit for 55” the European Commission will make the increase in energy efficiency targets binding to achieve an overall reduction of 26-39 per cent of final and primary energy consumption by the year 2030. In addition, the renewable energy directive will increase the binding target of renewable sources to 40 per cent by the year 2030. Member states are required to expand their carbon sinks to achieve the new EU ‘carbon removal by natural sinks’ target, which is 310 million tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions by the year 2030. This requires member states to accelerate their use of renewable energy and the process of decarbonisation. The “Fit for 55,” financed by the EU budget, will “provide EUR 72.2 billion over 7 years in funding for renovation of buildings, access to zero and low emission mobility or even income support.”

On 14 July 2021, the “Fit for 55” introduced the Energy Taxation Directive proposes to ‘align’ the taxation of energy products with EU energy policies.<sup>1340</sup> This will promote clean technology and reduce taxation rates that encourage the use of fossil fuels.

On 26 October 2021, the second call for large project proposals for the Innovation Fund was launched.<sup>1341</sup> The Innovation Fund, a programme for innovative low-carbon technologies, has a budget of EUR 1.5 billion to “finance technologies for renewable energy, energy intensive industries, energy storage and carbon capture use and storage.” With a revenue of EUR 25 billion until the year 2030, the Innovation Fund aims to give financial incentives to companies to invest in low-carbon technologies. The Innovation Fund, a development initiative, aims to accelerate the transition to zero emission energy technology by supporting research.

On 15 December 2021, the Commission of the European Union adopted a new framework to decarbonize the EU gas market by facilitating more renewable energy sources and low carbon gasses, including hydrogen.<sup>1342</sup> The European Union committed to decarbonize and reduce the greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55 per cent by 2030, and to become fully climate neutral by 2050.

On 16 December 2021, the European Commission announced a new methodology for renewable cooling energy sources that would count towards the overall European Union renewable energy targets.<sup>1343</sup>

On 10 January 2022, the European Investment Bank signed a loan agreement with the amount of EUR45 million with a Danish company named Haldor Topsøe to support research into innovative green hydrogen technologies that will lead to reduction of emissions.<sup>1344</sup>

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate renewable and other zero emissions energy deployment. The European Union released an extensive proposal package with all intended

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<sup>1338</sup> “Delivering the European Green Deal,” European Commission (Brussels) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 22 November 2021.

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/delivering-european-green-deal\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/delivering-european-green-deal_en)

<sup>1339</sup> European Green Deal: commission proposes transformation of EU economy and society to meet climate ambitions, European Commission (Brussels) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 22 November 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_3541](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_3541)

<sup>1340</sup> “Delivering the European Green Deal,” European Commission (Brussels) 2021. Access Date: 22 November 2021.

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/delivering-european-green-deal\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/delivering-european-green-deal_en)

<sup>1341</sup> “Boosting Europe’s Green Transition: commission invests €1.5 billion in innovative Clean tech projects,” European Commission (Brussels) 26 October 2021. Access Date: 22 November 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_5473](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5473)

<sup>1342</sup> Commission proposes new EU framework to decarbonise gas market, promote hydrogen and reduce methane emissions, European Commission (Brussels) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_6682](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_6682)

<sup>1343</sup> European Commission adopts new methodologies rules for renewable cooling, European Commission (Brussels) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/european-commission-adopts-new-methodology-rules-renewable-cooling-2021-dec-16\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/european-commission-adopts-new-methodology-rules-renewable-cooling-2021-dec-16_en)

<sup>1344</sup> Haldor Topsøe signs 45 million euros funding deal with European Investment Bank to drive green energy transition, European Commission (Brussels) 10 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_22\\_281](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_22_281)

steps and funds to decarbonize the EU, promote zero emissions energy and renewable energy. The European Union has also allocated funding towards accelerating renewable energy deployments and other net zero emission deployments.

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

*Analyst: Ambra Bisagni*



## 11. Energy: Coal

“[To accelerate the international transition away from coal, recognising that continued global investment in unabated coal power generation is incompatible with keeping 1.5°C within reach we stress that international investments in unabated coal must stop now and] we commit now to an end to new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021, including through Official Development Assistance, export finance, investment, and financial and trade promotion support.”

*Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.75 (88%)	

### Background

While coal has long been on the G7 agenda, the transition away from coal is a relatively recent commitment area first seen at the 1998 Birmingham Summit.<sup>1345</sup> By adopting and implementing international treaties like the Kyoto Protocol of 2007 and the Paris Agreement of 2016, G7 leaders have been able to develop measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the use, trade and generation of coal-power.<sup>1346</sup> International instruments like the International Energy Agency (IEA) and Development Financial Institutions (DFIs) have also enabled the G7 members to support developing countries in transitioning to low-carbon economies.<sup>1347</sup>

At the 1979 Tokyo Summit, G7 members promised to “increase as far as possible coal use, production, and trade, without damage to the environment” amidst the ongoing oil crisis of 1979.<sup>1348</sup> To avoid any future dependency on oil resources, G7 members pledged “not to interrupt coal trade under long term contracts unless required to do so by a national emergency.”

At the 1989 Paris Summit, G7 members recognised the scientific basis which argued that “excessive emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases could lead to future climate changes.”<sup>1349</sup> To advocate the need to limit emissions of greenhouse gases, G7 members supported the work of international institutions like the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the World Meteorological Organization.

<sup>1345</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>

<sup>1346</sup> What Is The Kyoto Protocol?, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Kyoto) n.d. Access Date: 26 October 2021. [https://unfccc.int/kyoto\\_protocol](https://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol); The Paris Agreement, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Paris) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement>

<sup>1347</sup> G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

<sup>1348</sup> G7 1979 Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 1979. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1979tokyo/communique.html>

<sup>1349</sup> 1989 Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 1989. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1989paris/communique/index.html>

At the 1998 Birmingham Summit, G8 members underscored their determination to combat climate change as “the greatest environmental threat to their future prosperity.”<sup>1350</sup> Members welcomed the adoption and implementation of the 1997 Kyoto Protocol as it set forth legally-binding targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and encouraged the supplementation of domestic actions with international market-based mechanisms.

At the 1999 Köln Summit, G8 members committed to developing domestic measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.<sup>1351</sup> While not explicitly mentioning coal, this commitment shows that emission reductions and limiting warming was on the agenda.

At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, the G8 supported international efforts to make coal power generation more clean and efficient.<sup>1352</sup> In the Gleneagles Plan of Action: Climate Change, Clean Energy and Sustainable Development, G8 members agreed to assist the IEA by “disseminating information on energy efficiency of coal-fired power plants,” assessing which power plants had the lowest emissions and working with stakeholders “on projects to demonstrate the potential of advanced fossil fuel technologies.”<sup>1353</sup>

At the 2008 Hokkaido-Toyako Summit, G8 members committed to “establish an international initiative with the support of the IEA to develop roadmaps for innovative technologies including carbon capture and storage (CCS)” in pursuing the objective of a low-carbon society.<sup>1354</sup> Specifically, members initiated 20 large-scale CCS demonstration projects globally by 2010. Moreover, the G8 advocated for the role of World Bank initiatives like the Climate Investment Funds (CIF) including the Clean Technology Fund and the Strategic Climate Fund in providing access to cleaner energy in developing countries. Members themselves “pledged approximately [USD6 billion] as an Official Development Assistance (ODA) contribution to the funds in support of low-carbon economies.”

At the 2009 L’Aquila Summit, G8 members explicitly recognised that the “increase in global average temperature above pre-industrial levels ought not to exceed 2°C” in reaffirmation of the importance of the IPCC’s 2007 Fourth Assessment Report.<sup>1355</sup>

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 members welcomed the 2016 Paris Agreement by committing “to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.”<sup>1356</sup> The purpose of this commitment was to reduce the impacts of climate change and stem rising rates of emissions.

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 members welcomed “the adoption by the UN General Assembly of a resolution titled Towards a Global Pact for the Environment” as part of their commitment to reach a global carbon-neutral economy over the course of the second half of the century.<sup>1357</sup>

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<sup>1350</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>

<sup>1351</sup> G8 Communiqué Köln 1999 Final, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 June 1999. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1999koln/finalcom.htm>

<sup>1352</sup> Chair’s Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 July 2005. Access Date: 26 October 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/summary.html>

<sup>1353</sup> Gleneagles Plan of Action: Climate Change, Clean Energy and Sustainable Development, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 July 2005. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/climatechangeplan.html>

<sup>1354</sup> G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 July 2008. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

<sup>1355</sup> Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 July 2009. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.html>

<sup>1356</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

<sup>1357</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 June 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

On 21 May 2021 in a virtual meeting, G7 Climate and Environment Ministers committed “to rapidly scale-up technologies and policies that further accelerate the transition away from unabated coal capacity and to an overwhelmingly decarbonised power system in the 2030s.”<sup>1358</sup> The G7 Ministers highlighted the importance of working with different initiatives and institutions to achieve this objective like the Energy Transition Council (ETC), the Powering Past Coal Alliance, and the upcoming United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow. The Ministers also discussed the role of “aligning official international financing with the global achievement of net zero GHG [greenhouse gas] emissions no later than 2050 and deep emissions reductions in the 2020s” to keep the goal of limiting the global temperature increase to 1.5°C within reach. G7 Ministers also appreciated the support provided and mobilised by DFIs and multilateral funds to support the energy transition. Finally, the Ministers approved the recent CIF’s board decision to launch new sector specific funds, including those to accelerate coal transitions, and support renewable energy deployment in emerging economies.

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 members planned “to commit up to [USD2 billion] in the coming year to its Accelerating the Coal Transition and Integrating Renewable Energy programs” in efforts to “mobilize up to [USD10 billion] in co-financing, including from the private sector, to support renewable energy deployment in developing and emerging economies.”<sup>1359</sup> Encouraging domestic actions coordinated through the ETC, G7 members also called on other major economies to join them in “phasing out the most polluting energy sources, and scaling up investment in the technology and infrastructure to facilitate the clean, green transition.”

### **Commitment Features**

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders recognised that “continued global investment in unabated coal power generation is incompatible with keeping 1.5°C within reach.”<sup>1360</sup> In response, they produced the following commitment under the Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: “[To accelerate the international transition away from coal, recognising that continued global investment in unabated coal power generation is incompatible with keeping 1.5°C within reach we stress that international investments in unabated coal must stop now and] we commit now to an end to new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021, including through Official Development Assistance, export finance, investment, and financial and trade promotion support.”

To define the key terms in this commitment, “direct government support” refers to “a grant or loan by a government to a private person or company to assist an enterprise deemed advantageous to the public.”<sup>1361</sup> “New” is defined as “having recently come into existence.”<sup>1362</sup> In the context of direct government support, “new” is understood to mean any recently created loan, grant, or subsidy.

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<sup>1358</sup> G7 Climate and Environment: Ministers’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 May 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/2021-environment.html>

<sup>1359</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communicue.html>

<sup>1360</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communicue.html>

<sup>1361</sup> Subsidy, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/subsidy>

<sup>1362</sup> New, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/new>

“Unabated coal power generation” is defined as “the use of coal that [is not] mitigated with technologies to reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> [carbon dioxide] emissions, such as Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage (CCUS).”<sup>1363</sup> International is defined as “of, relating to, or affecting two or more nations.”<sup>1364</sup> Thus, the term “unabated international thermal coal power generation” is understood to mean the use of coal by two or more nations that is not mitigated with technologies to reduce emissions.

The term “1.5° Celsius” refers to the latest limit placed on global warming by the Paris Agreement, “a legally binding international treaty on climate change that entered into force on 4 November 2016.”<sup>1365</sup> The goal of the treaty was to limit global increases in temperature to 1.5° Celsius by curbing greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible.

G7 members agreed to bring an end to any new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation through four pillars of cooperation: Official Development Assistance, export finance, investment or financial and trade promotion support. ODA refers to “government aid designed to promote the economic development and welfare of developing countries i.e., grants, ‘soft’ loans and the provision of technical assistance.”<sup>1366</sup> ODA “may be provided bilaterally, from donor to recipient, or channelled through a multilateral development agency such as the United Nations or the World Bank.” A member can receive compliance for this aspect of the commitment by providing government aid to the ODA through loans, assistance, or sharing information to aid in the implementation of clean and sustainable energy.

The term “export finance” is defined as “a cash flow solution for exporters which facilitates the commerce of goods internationally.”<sup>1367</sup> It is a range of finance that “aims to support businesses reaching the international market.” The purpose of export finance is to fund the production of products that are to be sold internationally prior to payment from the purchaser. A member can receive compliance for this aspect of the commitment by providing funding to a company or manufacturer that produces alternative energies to coal in order to facilitate its usage internationally.

The term “investment” refers to the act of allocating funds into something to achieve a result.<sup>1368</sup> In the context of this commitment, export finance and investments refer to funding allocated for initiatives that seek to develop or utilize alternative energy sources other than unabated coal production in order to achieve the goal of limiting emissions to maintain a 1.5°C warming range. Examples of investments that count towards compliance for this aspect of the commitment include funding for research and development of sustainable energies or funding for companies that produce sustainable energies.

“Financial support” is defined as money that is usually provided by the government to enable an organization to continue.<sup>1369</sup> “Trade promotion” is defined as “a marketing technique directed at wholesalers or retailers

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<sup>1363</sup> G7 Leaders Commit To Protect Planet and Turbocharge Global Green Growth, G7 UK 2021 (Cornwall) 12 June 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.g7uk.org/g7-leaders-commit-to-protect-planet-and-turbocharge-global-green-growth/>

<sup>1364</sup> International, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/international>

<sup>1365</sup> The Paris Agreement, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Paris) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement>

<sup>1366</sup> Net ODA, Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://data.oecd.org/oda/net-oda.htm>

<sup>1367</sup> What is Export Finance?, Velotrade (Hong Kong) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.velotrade.com/guides/what-is-export-finance/>

<sup>1368</sup> Investment, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/investment>

<sup>1369</sup> Financial Support, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/financial-support>

rather than the final consumer, specifically aimed at increasing demand for products in retail stores.”<sup>1370</sup> In the context of coal power generation, the term “trade promotion support” is understood as investing in the accessibility and profitability of clean and sustainable energy generation for industry workers.

Full compliance, or a score of +1, is awarded to G7 members who demonstrate strong action in ending any new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation through at least two and a weaker action in at least one of the pillars of cooperation of the commitment. The four pillars, as stated before, include: Official Development Assistance, export finance, investment or, financial and trade promotion support. Strong actions include providing direct investment and funding into the ODA, manufacturers as export finance, research and development initiatives for clean energy technologies and initiatives that promote the sale and trade of sustainable energies. Weaker actions include reasserting the commitment to end new government support for unabated thermal coal power generation by attending meetings, making public statements and attending summits but without taking any concrete action or issuing any funding for initiatives. In order to achieve full compliance, a member must at a minimum take strong action in two of the component criteria (for example, increasing funding for export finance and investments) and weaker action in at least one other area (for example, making a statement emphasizing the importance of the ODA in transitioning to sustainable energy.)

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, is awarded to G7 members who only take weak actions in three of the four pillars of cooperation. Examples of weak action, as previously stated, includes actions that are less substantial, like verbal reaffirmations of existing commitments, attendance at international conferences, etc. Partial compliance is also awarded when a state only takes strong action in one component criteria but fails to fulfill the two needed to achieve full compliance.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, is awarded either to those members who do not demonstrate any action in ending any new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation.

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	The G7 member has taken NO action towards ending new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation in any of the four pillars of cooperation (Official Development Assistance, export finance, investment and financial and trade promotion support).
0	The G7 member has taken WEAK action(s) towards ending new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation through THREE of the following: 1) Official Development Assistance, 2) export finance, 3) investment or 4) financial and trade promotion support.
+1	The G7 member has taken STRONG action(s) towards ending new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation through at least TWO and weaker action in at least ONE of the following: 1) Official Development Assistance, 2) export finance, 3) investment or 4) financial and trade promotion support.

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Lead Analyst: Minahil Iftikhar*

**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021.

On 21 June 2021, Minister of Natural Resources Seamus O’Regan Jr. launched the Clean Fuels Fund along with a call for project proposals that would increase Canada’s capacity to produce clean fuels.<sup>1371</sup> Worth

<sup>1370</sup> What is Trade Promotion, HCL Technologies (Noida) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.hcltech.com/technology-qa/what-trade-promotion>

CAD1.5 billion, this fund supports the creation or expansion of new and existing clean fuel production facilities in order to help Canada transition away from fossil fuels like coal.

On 24 June 2021, Minister O'Regan and the United States Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on energy cooperation.<sup>1372</sup> This MOU aims to increase bilateral cooperation on clean fuel research and sustainable and equitable energy transitions in pursuit of Canada's commitment to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050.

On 29 June 2021, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry François-Philippe Champagne announced a CAD20 million investment in ELYSIS Limited Partnership to support its work to create the world's first carbon-free aluminum.<sup>1373</sup> This investment will improve Canada's reputation as a reliable and secure supplier of green aluminum. Furthermore, this domestic investment acts as a model to other aluminum-producing countries that still use coal for aluminum smelting.

On 8 July 2021, the Government of Canada announced funding for the creation of three new solar farms in the towns of Antigonish, Berwick and Mahone Bay in Nova Scotia.<sup>1374</sup> These projects will increase Nova Scotia's use of renewable energy and diminish their reliance on coal-based energy.

On 12 July 2021, the Government of Canada announced a CAD1.8 million investment in the first net-zero energy community in Nova Scotia.<sup>1375</sup> The funding will support the refurbishment of related energy and heating infrastructure in the community of Pine Tree Park Estates, Nova Scotia. Data from this community will be collected and analyzed to serve as a model for future net-zero communities in Atlantic Canada.

On 16 July 2021, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion Carla Qualtrough earmarked an investment of CAD35 million for innovative clean tech projects led by the British Columbia Centre for Innovation and Clean Energy.<sup>1376</sup> This investment aims to fund research on how clean fuels and renewable natural gas aim to meet Canada's goal of net-zero emissions by 2050.

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<sup>1371</sup> Minister O'Regan Launches Call for Proposals Under \$1.5-Billion Clean Fuels Fund to Grow Clean Fuels Market Across Canada, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/06/minister-oregan-launches-call-for-proposals-under-15-billion-clean-fuels-fund-to-grow-clean-fuels-market-across-canada.html>

<sup>1372</sup> Canada Strengthens Energy Partnership with the United States, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/06/canada-strengthens-energy-partnership-with-the-united-states.html>

<sup>1373</sup> Investment to Help Canada's Aluminum Industry Eliminate its Carbon Footprint, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Alma) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/06/investment-to-help-canadas-aluminum-industry-eliminate-its-carbon-footprint.html>

<sup>1374</sup> Canada and Nova Scotia Invest in Renewable Energy Infrastructure with Three Solar Farms in Antigonish, Berwick, and Mahone Bay, Infrastructure Canada (Mahone Bay) 8 July 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/07/canada-and-nova-scotia-invest-in-renewable-energy-infrastructure-with-three-solar-farms-in-antigonish-berwick-and-mahone-bay.html>

<sup>1375</sup> Government of Canada Announces Support for the First Net-Zero Energy Community in Nova Scotia, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (Sydney) 12 July 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/atlantic-canada-opportunities/news/2021/07/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-the-first-net-zero-energy-community-in-nova-scotia.html>

<sup>1376</sup> Canada Invests Up to \$35 Million to Support Made-in-B.C. Clean Tech Projects, Natural Resources Canada (Vancouver) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/07/canada-invests-up-to-35-million-to-support-made-in-bc-clean-tech-projects.html>

On 20 July 2021, Minister O'Regan launched the Just Transition Engagement.<sup>1377</sup> This program aims to collect feedback from Canadians on how the Government of Canada can ensure a just and equitable transition to a low-carbon future for workers and their communities.

On 30 July 2021, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Chrystia Freeland, Minister of Labour Filomena Tassi and Minister Champagne announced an investment of CAD400 million in ArcelorMittal Dofasco G.P., which is Canada's largest producer of flat-rolled steel.<sup>1378</sup> The goal of this investment is to help ArcelorMittal Dofasco phase out coal-fired steelmaking at its facilities in Hamilton, Ontario. This measure aims to reduce Canada's greenhouse gas emissions by up to 3 million tonnes every year till 2030.

On 4 August 2021, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard and to British Columbia's Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages Terry Beech announced investments in ten small- and medium-sized enterprises in areas like clean technology.<sup>1379</sup> This announcement includes a CAD4 million investment in Clir Renewables Inc. to help expand their operations and sales of a renewable energy software.

On 5 August 2021, Canada signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Romania on nuclear energy collaboration.<sup>1380</sup> This MOU aims to decarbonize electricity systems and strengthen bilateral cooperation on establishing new and refurbished nuclear reactors in Romania.

On 6 August 2021, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Jonathan Wilkinson rejected the Grassy Mountain Coal Project, preventing the extraction of 4.5 million tonnes of coal.<sup>1381</sup> This decision highlights Canada's commitment to ending further expansions of existing thermal coal mines and preventing the encroachment of Indigenous lands.

On 11 August 2021, Minister Champagne announced an investment of CAD19.1 million in six Canadian clean technology companies through Sustainable Development Technology Canada.<sup>1382</sup> This action includes an investment in the development of Eavor-Loop, a technology which can generate heat and power with zero emissions.

On 11 August 2021, Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade Mary Ng and British Columbia's Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation Ravi Kahlon announced a partnership to increase the development and testing of integrated markets for clean technologies in Canada by

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<sup>1377</sup> Canada Launches Just Transition Engagement, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 6 August 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/07/canada-launches-just-transition-engagement.html>

<sup>1378</sup> Government Investing in Hamilton's Steel Industry to Support Good Jobs and Significantly Reduce Emissions, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Hamilton) 6 August 2021. Access Date: 16 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/07/government-investing-in-hamiltons-steel-industry-to-support-good-jobs-and-significantly-reduce-emissions.html>

<sup>1379</sup> Government of Canada Announces Over \$20 Million Investment in Clean Tech, Digital Economy, Health Services, and Value-added Agriculture, Western Economic Diversification Canada (Delta) 4 August 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/western-economic-diversification/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-announces-over-20-million-investment-in-clean-tech-digital-economy-health-sciences-and-value-added-agriculture.html>

<sup>1380</sup> Canada Strengthens Nuclear Collaboration with Romania, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 5 August 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/08/canada-strengthens-nuclear-collaboration-with-romania.html>

<sup>1381</sup> The Government of Canada Releases its Final Decision on the Grassy Mountain Coal Project, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 6 August 2021. Access Date: 16 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency/news/2021/08/the-government-of-canada-releases-its-final-decision-on-the-grassy-mountain-coal-project.html>

<sup>1382</sup> Government of Canada Supporting Canadian Cleantech Companies from Seed to Scale-Up, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 11 August 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-supporting-canadian-cleantech-companies-from-seed-to-scale-up.html>

using British Columbia as a testing point.<sup>1383</sup> The goal is to support greater domestic adoption of clean technologies and make Canadian clean technology companies more competitive in the international market.

On 12 August 2021, Minister O'Regan launched a new "capacity-building-stream" under the Smart Renewables and Electrification Pathways Program to invest in renewable energy technologies.<sup>1384</sup> This stream will enable communities to thrive in a low-carbon economy as it supports and invests in projects that build knowledge and skills related to renewable energy and grid modernization technologies.

On 13 August 2021, Minister Wilkinson and France's Minister for the Ecological Transition Barbara Pompili renewed the 2018 Canada-France partnership on climate and the environment.<sup>1385</sup> The goal is to work together on new initiatives to phase out coal, by working through the Powering Past Coal Alliance which Canada leads, and to ensure an equitable transition for workers and their communities.

On 22 October 2021, along with other countries and jurisdictions, Canada joined the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)'s statement to end export credit support for unabated coal-fired power plants.<sup>1386</sup> Thus, signatories to this agreement will no longer finance new coal-fired power plants without operational carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS) facilities nor to existing coal-fired power plants unless they are used for retrofitting to install CCUS.

On 1 November 2021, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced plans to end thermal coal exports by no later than 2030 and to achieve net-zero emissions on electricity grids by phasing out coal-fired electricity by 2035.<sup>1387</sup> Prime Minister Trudeau also announced Canada's contribution of CAD1 billion for the Climate Investment Funds Accelerated Coal Transition Investment Program to aid developing countries transition from coal-fired electricity to clean power.<sup>1388</sup> Additionally, Canada will contribute CAD25 million to the Energy Sector Management Assistance Program to assist the implementation of clean energy alternatives.<sup>1389</sup>

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<sup>1383</sup> Joint Statement: Government of Canada and Government of British Columbia Announce a Partnership to Accelerate Integrated Clean Technology Markets in British Columbia and Beyond, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 11 August 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/08/joint-statement-government-of-canada-and-government-of-british-columbia-announce-a-partnership-to-accelerate-integrated-clean-technology-markets-in.html>

<sup>1384</sup> Building Capacity to Accelerate Canada's Low-Carbon Future - Smart Renewables and Electrification Pathways Program, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 12 August 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/08/building-capacity-to-accelerate-canadas-low-carbon-future--smart-renewables-and-electrification-pathways-program.html>

<sup>1385</sup> Canada and France Renew Partnership on Climate and Environment, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Gatineau) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/08/canada-and-france-renew-partnership-on-climate-and-environment.html>

<sup>1386</sup> Agreement Reached at OECD to End Export Credit Support for Unabated Coal-Fired Power Plants, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Media Office (Paris) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/newsroom/agreement-reached-at-oecd-to-end-export-credit-support-for-unabated-coal-fired-power-plants.htm>

<sup>1387</sup> Prime Minister Trudeau Announces Enhanced and Ambitious Climate Action to Cut Pollution at the COP26 summit, Office of the Prime Minister of Canada (Glasgow) 1 November 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/11/01/prime-minister-trudeau-announces-enhanced-and-ambitious-climate>

<sup>1388</sup> Prime Minister's Remarks Delivering Canada's National Statement at the COP26 summit, Office of the Prime Minister of Canada (Glasgow) 1 November 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/speeches/2021/11/01/prime-ministers-remarks-delivering-canadas-national-statement-cop26-summit>

<sup>1389</sup> Prime Minister Trudeau Announces Enhanced and Ambitious Climate Action to Cut Pollution at the COP26 summit, Office of the Prime Minister of Canada (Glasgow) 1 November 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/11/01/prime-minister-trudeau-announces-enhanced-and-ambitious-climate>



On 4 November 2021, along with a coalition of 190 countries and organizations, Canada signed the Global Coal to Clean Power Transition Statement at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow.<sup>1390</sup> This statement recognizes the need to transition away from unabated coal power generation and commits the signatories towards working together on actions such as cleantech research, financial support and ending new direct government support for unabated coal-fired power generation by the end of 2022.<sup>1391</sup>

On 9 November 2021, Minister of Northern Affairs, Minister responsible for Prairies Economic Development Canada and Minister responsible for the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency Daniel Vandal announced an investment of CAD1.35 million for hydrogen fuel infrastructure, equipment and technology.<sup>1392</sup> This investment is aimed at developing hydrogen as a cleaner burning fuel alternative to fossil fuels such as coal.

On 1 December 2021, Minister of Natural Resources Jonathan Wilkinson announced a call for proposals to support low-carbon fuels research, development and demonstration projects.<sup>1393</sup> The goal is to ease Canada's shift towards more sustainable and low-carbon market operations.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021. Canada's strongest actions towards this commitment are its numerous investments in clean fuel technologies, renewable energy projects and research on thermal coal energy divestment. Additionally, Canada pursued actions on the domestic level with its pledge to shift electrical grids toward net-zero emissions and on the international level with the OECD agreement to ban future investments in coal power. Under the pillar of Official Development Assistance, Canada has pledged funds to ease the transition away from coal for developing countries. It has provided trade promotion support to the steel and aluminium industries by investing in their capacity to transition toward the use of renewable energy sources. Finally, Canada has continued bilateral and international cooperation to promote clean technologies and replace unabated coal power generation.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Daryll Bien Concepcion*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021.

On 14 July 2021, France introduced a national aid scheme to support the production of renewable energy.<sup>1394</sup> Worth EUR30.5 billion, this scheme is approved by the European Commission as it will support the transition to environmentally sustainable energy sources.

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<sup>1390</sup> Global Coal to Clean Power Transition Statement, United Nations Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (Glasgow) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://ukcop26.org/global-coal-to-clean-power-transition-statement/>

<sup>1391</sup> Canada Announces Commitment to End New Direct Public Support for the International Unabated Fossil Fuel Sector by the End of 2022, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 17 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/11/canada-announces-commitment-to-end-new-direct-public-support-for-the-international-unabated-fossil-fuel-sector-by-the-end-of-2022.html>

<sup>1392</sup> Federal Investment Advances Alberta's Hydrogen Economy, Prairies Economic Development Canada (Edmonton) 9 November 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/prairies-economic-development/news/2021/11/federal-investment-advances-albertas-hydrogen-economy.html>

<sup>1393</sup> Canada Opens Call for Research, Development, and Demonstration Projects on Industrial Decarbonization and Low-Carbon Fuels, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 1 December 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/12/canada-opens-call-for-research-development-and-demonstration-projects-on-industrial-decarbonization-and-low-carbon-fuels.html>

On 20 July 2021, the Parliament passed a final version of the Climate and Resilience law to combat climate change and increase energy efficiency through a variety of bans, incentives and quotas that address areas like housing, means of transportations and food consumption.<sup>1395</sup> This includes measures such as requiring airlines to compensate emissions for domestic flights by purchasing carbon credits from 2024 onwards, banning domestic flights if there is a train alternative of less than two and a half hours, restricting advertising for fossil fuel energies and banning the availability of badly insulated housing from 2025.

On 13 August 2021, Minister of the Ecological Transition Barbara Pompili and Canada's Minister of Environment and Climate Change Jonathan Wilkinson renewed the Canada-France Partnership on Climate and Environment.<sup>1396</sup> The new features of this Partnership include working through the Powering Past Coal Alliance (PPCA) and promoting a green recovery in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The PPCA focuses mainly on phasing out the use of coal as a resource and addressing the social and economic impacts of this transition.

On 24 September 2021, France signed a pledge, along with six other countries, led by the United Nations to stop building new power plants.<sup>1397</sup> This No New Coal agreement focuses on phasing out the use of coal and ending the construction of new plants.

On 12 October 2021, President Emmanuel Macron unveiled the EUR30 billion plan known as "France 2030" which seeks to decarbonize key polluting industries and develop certain sectors for innovation.<sup>1398</sup> As part of the plan, President Macron announced investments up to EUR2 billion in green hydrogen technologies.<sup>1399</sup> President Macron also emphasized nuclear power as crucial to the clean energy investment plan with the allocation of EUR1 billion to developing small nuclear reactor technologies.<sup>1400</sup>

On 13 October 2021, France's national majority-owned company Électricité de France proposed the construction of up to six nuclear reactors in Poland to mitigate the impact of the country's coal-based energy sector.<sup>1401</sup> This development would help move Poland away from coal and develop its nuclear sector, thereby aiding the country's transition towards carbon neutrality.

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<sup>1394</sup> State Aid: Commission Approves €30.5 Billion French Scheme to Support Production of Electricity from Renewable Energy Sources, European Commission (Brussels) 27 July 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3922](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3922)

<sup>1395</sup> France Cracks Down on Car, Home and Plane Emissions in New Law, Bloomberg (New York) 20 July 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-07-20/france-cracks-down-on-car-home-and-plane-emissions-in-new-law>

<sup>1396</sup> Canada and France Renew Partnership on Climate and Environment, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/08/canada-and-france-renew-partnership-on-climate-and-environment.html>

<sup>1397</sup> United Nations Launches Pledge to Stop Building New Coal Power Plants, Bloomberg (New York) 24 September 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-09-24/these-countries-plan-to-stop-building-new-coal-power-plants>

<sup>1398</sup> Macron Unveils 30-Bln Euro Plan For Innovation And Industrial Revival, Reuters (Paris) 12 October 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/macron-unveils-30-bln-euro-france-2030-investment-plan-2021-10-12/>

<sup>1399</sup> France's Green Hydrogen Pioneers Aim To Revolutionise Energy Production, Radio France Internationale (Paris) 22 December 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20211222-france-s-green-hydrogen-pioneers-aim-to-revolutionise-energy-production>

<sup>1400</sup> Macron: Nuclear 'Absolutely Key' to France's Future, World Nuclear News (London) 13 October 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Macron-Nuclear-absolutely-key-to-France-s-future>

<sup>1401</sup> France's EDF Offers to Build Nuclear Reactors in Coal-Dependent Poland, Radio France Internationale (Paris) 14 October 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.rfi.fr/en/europe/20211014-france-s-edf-offers-to-build-nuclear-reactors-in-coal-dependant-poland>

On 27 October 2021, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of the Economy, Finance and the Recovery led a joint initiative to include climate and environmental issues in development policies.<sup>1402</sup> The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Development Assistance Committee agreed to exclude "any support for coal without abatement mechanisms" from the scope of possible assistance and to limit support for other fossil fuels.

On 2 November 2021, along with the European Union, Germany, the United Kingdom, and the United States, France announced a long-term partnership to support South Africa in its transition away from coal, and in the country's decarbonization efforts.<sup>1403</sup> Through the International Just Energy Transition Partnership, France will commit to a combined investment of USD8.5 billion.<sup>1404</sup> President Macron stated that this partnership would "benefit from the long-standing cooperation between France and South Africa through the work of the Agence Française de Développement." The International Just Energy Transition Partnership "is expected to prevent up to 1-1.5 gigatons of emission over the next 20 years."

On 9 November 2021, President Macron vowed to build more nuclear reactors nationally in an effort to move away from coal dependency.<sup>1405</sup> The goal of this measure is to develop more nuclear energy to "guarantee France's energy independence" and to reach the country's goal of carbon neutrality by 2050.

On 12 November 2021, Minister Pompili joined the agreement to end global financing of coal, oil and gas projects by the end of 2022 at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow.<sup>1406</sup> As part of this agreement, France will "continue to work on proposals to accelerate the improvement of the carbon balance of the energy mix of countries receiving export support." The declaration encompasses the elimination of both export finance and bilateral official development assistance and it encourages the deployment of clean power generation as well as technologies and policies that might facilitate this transition.<sup>1407</sup>

On 1 December 2021, Minister Pompili attended the Pentalateral Energy Forum to discuss how to administer a resilient transition to clean energy.<sup>1408</sup> The goal of this action was to emphasize the importance of cooperation for the global energy transition on an international platform.

On 9 December 2021, President Macron announced his ecological objectives for France's European Union Council presidency in the first half of 2022.<sup>1409</sup> President Macron stated that the climate transition would be

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<sup>1402</sup> OECD/Development Assistance Committee – Agreement on Aligning Official Development Assistance With The Paris Agreement And Excluding Coal From The Scope Of Assistance, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 27 October 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2021/article/oecd-development-assistance-committee-agreement-on-aligning-official>

<sup>1403</sup> France, Germany, UK, US and EU Launch Ground-Breaking International Just Energy Transition Partnership with South Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_5768](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_5768)

<sup>1404</sup> Joint Statement - International Just Energy Transition Partnership, Office of the President of France (Paris) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.elysee.fr/en/emmanuel-macron/2021/11/02/joint-statement-international-just-energy-transition-partnership>

<sup>1405</sup> France Vows to Build New Nuclear Reactors to Meet Climate Goals, Euronews (Lyon) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.euronews.com/2021/11/10/france-vows-to-build-new-nuclear-reactors-to-meet-climate-goals>

<sup>1406</sup> COP26: France Signs a Statement Reaffirming its Commitment to End International Public Financing of Fossil Fuel Projects, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 12 November 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/cop26-france-signs-statement-reaffirming-its-commitment-end-international-public-financing-fossil>

<sup>1407</sup> Global Coal to Clean Power Transition Statement, United Nations Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (Glasgow) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://ukcop26.org/global-coal-to-clean-power-transition-statement/>

<sup>1408</sup> Penta Countries Discuss Measures To Make The Clean Energy Transition Secure And Resilient, European Commission (Brussels) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/penta-countries-discuss-measures-make-clean-energy-transition-secure-and-resilient-2021-dec-02\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/penta-countries-discuss-measures-make-clean-energy-transition-secure-and-resilient-2021-dec-02_en)

closely linked to the goals for economic growth thereby favoring the overall decarbonization of France and the EU's economy. The goal of this measure is "to achieve a balance between climate ambition and social justice."

On 11 December 2021, France's Ambassador to India Emmanuel Lenain reaffirmed France's support to India in achieving their renewable energy goal by 2030.<sup>1410</sup> Ambassador Lenain stated that both countries share the common objective of increasing the use of renewable energy and that their continued cooperation would be beneficial in achieving both of their environmental goals.

On 14 December 2021, representatives of France and the United States held the first meeting of the US-France bilateral clean energy partnership.<sup>1411</sup> This partnership is set up under the auspices of France's Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and the US Department of Energy and Department of State. The goal of this partnership is to coordinate energy policy, technology and innovation. This first meeting resulted in "broad exchanges on clean energy policy in both countries, including efforts to decrease energy consumption, reduce emissions and support the transition to a low-carbon economy."

France has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021. France has taken strong actions in all pillars of cooperation like providing financing for decarbonization partnerships, investing in clean energy technologies and using bilateral channels to pursue their goal of carbon neutrality by 2050. France has also worked with international organizations like the OECD and attended international conferences like the COP26 to reaffirm their commitment to mitigating the impact of the coal-based energy sector.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Ana Djordjijevic*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021.

On 13 June 2021, Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy Peter Altmaier and Federal Minister of Education and Research Anja Karliczek signed a Declaration of Intent with Australia's Minister for Energy Angus Taylor to establish a German-Australian Hydrogen Accord.<sup>1412</sup> Under the Accord, Germany will contribute EUR50 million towards research to develop, improve and test hydrogen technologies. Germany will co-finance two important projects: the development of industrial-scale production of hydrogen in Australia using German technology to replace coal production and an auction to export Australian hydrogen to Germany. The goal of this agreement is to invest in renewable energy production on a bilateral level.

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<sup>1409</sup> France To Link Climate And Economic Goals During Eu Presidency Stint, Euractiv (Brussels) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/energy-environment/news/france-to-link-climate-and-economic-goals-during-eu-presidency-stint/>

<sup>1410</sup> France To Continue Supporting India In Its Renewable Energy Goals: Ambassador, Economic Times (Mumbai) 10 December 2021. Access Date: 06 January 2022. <https://energy.economicstimes.indiatimes.com/news/renewable/france-to-continue-supporting-india-in-its-renewable-energy-goals-ambassador/88197576>

<sup>1411</sup> Joint Statement Issued By The United States And France Following The First Meeting Of The United States-France Bilateral Clean Energy Partnership, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/economic-diplomacy-foreign-trade/news/article/joint-statement-issued-by-the-united-states-and-france-following-the-first>

<sup>1412</sup> Declaration of Intent Signed to Establish German-Australian Hydrogen Alliance, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2021/06/20210613-declaration-of-intent-signed-to-establish-german-australian-hydrogen-alliance.html>

On 14 June 2021, Minister Altmaier announced the establishment of the H2Global Foundation, which is an organization tasked with buying green hydrogen abroad and reselling it at annual auctions.<sup>1413</sup> Purchases through H2Global are made through long-term contracts, providing hydrogen producers with a secure basis to continue developing their operations. The Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy has allocated EUR900 million to support H2Global. These funds will be used to temporarily cover the difference between the purchase price of hydrogen derivatives and their domestic sale prices to incentivize the growth of the international hydrogen market. The goal of this organization is to create a niche in the global energy market for an ecologically sustainable alternative to coal: green hydrogen.<sup>1414</sup>

On 23 June 2021, Germany earmarked EUR8 billion towards the “immediate climate action programme” which will finance measures to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions in 2022.<sup>1415</sup> This investment includes a EUR50 million increase in funding towards the development of green hydrogen production from offshore wind energy production and a EUR15 million increase in funding towards H2Global.

On 14 September 2021, Germany joined the International Solar Alliance, which is an international organization led by India, to assist countries in developing solar energy capabilities and reducing their dependence on fossil fuels.<sup>1416</sup> Parliamentary State Secretary Norbert Barthle reaffirmed Germany’s commitment to closely cooperate with India in developing its solar sector to replace coal-based power generation through reduced-interest loans, technical advice and vocational training. This alliance has resulted in the support for the installation of 3.37 gigawatts of renewable energy in India and is an example of how G7 members can assist developing countries in making their energy production systems more sustainable.

On 24 September 2021, Germany signed a pledge, along with six other countries, led by the United Nations to stop building new power plants.<sup>1417</sup> This No New Coal agreement focuses on phasing out the use of coal and ending the construction of new plants.

On 2 November 2021, along with the European Union, France, the United Kingdom, and the United States, Germany announced a new partnership with South Africa which is aimed at supporting the country’s energy transition and phase-out of coal-fired power generation at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow.<sup>1418</sup> Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety Svenja Schulze stated that Germany would be contributing nearly EUR700 million towards the partnership. These funds are directed towards investments in social infrastructure to ensure a “socially just” coal phase-out and in technological innovations such as green hydrogen.

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<sup>1413</sup> Minister Altmaier: “Making Further Progress on International Market Ramp-Up for Green Hydrogen,” Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021.

<https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2021/06/20210614-new-funding-instrument-h2global-launched.htm>

<sup>1414</sup> Minister Altmaier: “Making Further Progress on International Market Ramp-Up for Green Hydrogen,” Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021.

<https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2021/06/20210614-new-funding-instrument-h2global-launched.htm>

<sup>1415</sup> Immediate Climate Action Programme for 2022, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Topics/Priority-Issues/Climate-Action/immediate-climate-action-programme-for-2022.html>

<sup>1416</sup> Germany Joins the International Solar Alliance, Which Had Been Initiated by India, and Increases its Cooperation with India on Climate Policy and Renewable Energy, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin/New Delhi) 14 September 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/archive-press-releases/germany-joins-the-international-solar-alliance-92834>

<sup>1417</sup> United Nations Launches Pledge to Stop Building New Coal Power Plants, Bloomberg (New York) 24 September 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-09-24/these-countries-plan-to-stop-building-new-coal-power-plants>

<sup>1418</sup> Germany Supports South Africa in Coal Phase-Out, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin/Glasgow) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/archive-press-releases/mueller-germany-supports-south-africa-in-coal-phase-out-98432>

On 23 November 2021, Germany committed to accelerating its plan to phase out coal from 2038 to 2030.<sup>1419</sup>

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021. Germany has demonstrated strong action in supporting bilateral agreements to develop decarbonisation technologies with Australia and India, investing in the ongoing climate action programme at COP26 and employing export finance in the production of alternative energies like green hydrogen.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Justin Del Negro*

### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021.

On 20 September 2021, Prime Minister Mario Draghi addressed the United Nations roundtable on climate action highlighting the importance of phasing out unabated coal internationally.<sup>1420</sup> Prime Minister Draghi affirmed Italy's determination to help the European Union achieve a 55 per cent reduction in carbon emissions by 2030. Prime Minister Draghi also discussed the importance of supporting developing countries with the transition away from coal and encouraging investment in the development of carbon capture and other clean energy technologies.

On 30 September 2021, Italy hosted the Pre-COP in Milan till 2 October 2021 which was a meeting held in preparation for the 26th United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP26).<sup>1421</sup> Ministers and high-level representatives from around the world met to set expectations for the upcoming convention and discussed limiting subsidies for coal and fossil fuels.

From 31 October to 13 November 2021, Italy co-hosted COP26 in partnership with the United Kingdom.<sup>1422</sup> The agenda included accelerating the transition away from unabated coal and increasing investment in clean energy sources in order to achieve the goal of net zero emissions by 2025.

On 4 November 2021, Italy signed the Global Coal to Clean Power Transition Statement at COP26.<sup>1423</sup> The statement promises to rapidly develop technologies that will replace unabated coal, to stop issuing permits for unabated coal projects and to provide social, financial and technical support to communities and industries affected by the transition.

On 2 December 2021, the Ministry for Ecological Transition ordered Enel, Italy's main provider for electricity, to close its coal-fired plant at the Eugenio Montale power plant in La Spezia, Liguria.<sup>1424</sup> This is the

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<sup>1419</sup> German Parties Agree On 2030 Coal Phase-Out In Coalition Talks, Reuters (Berlin) 23 November 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/business/cop/exclusive-germanys-government-in-waiting-agrees-phase-out-coal-by-2030-sources-2021-11-23/>

<sup>1420</sup> Prime Minister Draghi's Remarks to the UN Climate Roundtable, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 20 September 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.governo.it/en/node/18006>

<sup>1421</sup> Pre-Cop Chairs' Summary, United Nations Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (Milan) 14 October 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://ukcop26.org/pre-cop26-chairs-summary/>

<sup>1422</sup> COP 26 Goals, United Nations Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (Glasgow) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://ukcop26.org/cop26-goals/>

<sup>1423</sup> Global Coal to Clean Power Transition Statement, United Nations Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (Glasgow) 04 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://ukcop26.org/global-coal-to-clean-power-transition-statement/>

<sup>1424</sup> Enel Continues Its Energy Transition With The Closure Of The La Spezia Coal-Fired Power Plant In Italy, Enel (Rome) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.enel.com/media/explore/search-press-releases/press/2021/12/enel-continues-its-energy-transition-with-the-closure-of-the-la-spezia-coal-fired-power-plant-in-italy>

third time the government has demanded that Enel close one of its coal-fired plants. These closures are a part of Enel's greater plan to phase out all use of fossil fuels in powering its electricity grids.

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021. While Italy has taken strong action on an international level to provide official development assistance towards clean energy production, it has taken weaker action domestically like promising to end financial and trade promotion support for the coal industry on a regional rather than national level.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Elisabeth Iannucci*

### **Japan: 0**

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021.

On 15 June 2021, the Ministry of the Environment announced an initiative for decarbonized infrastructure that relies on strengthening "key public-private partnerships to promote the development of 'environmental infrastructures' overseas through Joint-Crediting Mechanism."<sup>1425</sup> Minister of the Environment Shinjirō Koizumi stated that Japan wants to "express [its] intention to promote not coal-fired power but decarbonized infrastructure." He added that the Ministry of the Environment wishes to support companies in taking such actions themselves.

On 18 June 2021, the Director of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry's Coal Division Hiroshi Tsuchiya announced the implementation of stricter rules on support for exports of new coal power plants.<sup>1426</sup> The goal is to end unabated coal power by the end of 2021, however the rules make an exception for countries that lack viable alternatives to coal and require Japan's technology to build coal-fired stations.<sup>1427</sup>

On 21 June 2021, Minister of Economy, Trade and Finance Hiroshi Kajiyama addressed energy ministers from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and discussed the Asia Energy Transition Initiative (AETI).<sup>1428</sup> The goal of the AETI is to enable innovation and investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency to promote alternatives to coal. Japan's project will provide USD10 billion to foster clean energy in ASEAN.<sup>1429</sup>

On 29 June 2021, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) announced that it would extend support for "exports from coal power plants if they come with emissions-cutting steps such as carbon and storage and co-firing ammonia."<sup>1430</sup> The goal of this measure is to promote innovation in technologies that

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<sup>1425</sup> Formulation of "MoEJ Initiative for Decarbonized Infrastructure," Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2523.html>

<sup>1426</sup> Japan to Tighten Rules on Coal Power Exports to Meet G7 Vow, Reuters (Tokyo) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/business/sustainable-business/japan-tighten-rules-coal-power-exports-meet-g7-vow-2021-06-18/>

<sup>1427</sup> Japan Looks to Tighten Overseas Coal Financing Policies, Argus Media (Tokyo) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2226121-japan-looks-to-tighten-overseas-coal-financing-policies>

<sup>1428</sup> Japan Shifts Toward Clean Energy in Southeast Asia as China Stokes up Coal, Benar News (Washington D.C.) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022. <https://www.benarnews.org/english/news/malaysian/japan-clean-energy-southeast-asia-06242021164744.html>

<sup>1429</sup> Japan pledges \$10 bln financial support for Asia's energy transition, Reuters (Tokyo) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/business/sustainable-business/japan-pledges-10-bln-financial-support-asias-energy-transition-2021-06-21/>

<sup>1430</sup> JBIC to Support Exports Of Coal Power Plants With CCS Or Ammonia Co-Firing, Reuters (Tokyo) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/business/sustainable-business/jbic-support-exports-coal-power-plants-with-ccs-or-ammonia-co-firing-2021-06-29/>

minimize the damaging effects of coal-powered plants. JBIC's three-year business plan focuses on funding renewable energy and new mitigating techniques for the use of coal such as ammonia and hydrogen.

On 21 July 2021, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry announced plans to decrease the use of coal and liquefied natural gas to reduce dependency on fossil fuels for energy generation.<sup>1431</sup> According to the policy draft, renewables should account for 36 to 38 per cent of power supply by 2030-2031 and the use of coal would be decreased from 26 per cent to 19 per cent.

On 26 July 2021, the Ministry of the Environment released a plan with specific targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.<sup>1432</sup> The Ministry of the Environment calculated the percentage of greenhouse gases that needed to be reduced. For example, the industry sector would have to cut emissions by 37 per cent, while the household sector would have to reduce emissions by 66 per cent.

On 31 August 2021, Japan and the United States reaffirmed their commitment to work to “end new direct government support for unabated international coal-fired power generation by the end of 2021.”<sup>1433</sup> They stated that this renewal of their partnership was part of the broader goal of working towards net zero emissions with developing countries. Japan and the US also discussed cooperating on innovation in areas concerning renewable energy, energy efficiency, storage and industrial decarbonization and taking steps to meet the USD100 billion annual joint mobilization goal of aligning climate resilience development.

On 22 October 2021, Japan joined the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) agreement to end export credit support for unabated coal-fired power plants.<sup>1434</sup> Along with Canada, the European Union, Korea, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States, Japan agreed to ban “officially supported export credits and tied aid for new coal-fired power plants without operational carbon capture, utilization and storage facilities” and “existing coal-fired power plants, unless the purpose of the equipment supplied is pollution or CO<sub>2</sub> [carbon dioxide] abatement.” The goal of this OECD agreement is to end all export financing of coal.

On 22 October 2021, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida formally approved plans originally announced on 22 July 2021 to increase the use of renewable energy sources by 2030.<sup>1435</sup> The policy emphasizes research on how hydrogen and ammonia energy can reduce emissions and accelerate the move towards nuclear power.

On 27 October 2021, officials from the Ministry of the Environment met virtually with representatives of ASEAN to reaffirm their cooperation in working towards decarbonization.<sup>1436</sup> The summit touched on the three core pillars of transparency, mitigation and adaptation which are at the heart of the Japan-ASEAN cooperative efforts on climate change.

On 2 November 2021, Prime Minister Kishida introduced new financial support to combat climate change at the 26th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change United

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<sup>1431</sup> Japan cuts 2030 coal/gas power share targets, Argus Media (London) 21 July 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022.

<https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2236379-japan-cuts-2030-coalgas-power-share-targets>

<sup>1432</sup> Suga's 2030 goal for greenhouse gas asks housing, industry for cuts, The Asahi Shimbun (Osaka) 27 July 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. <https://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/14404344>

<sup>1433</sup> U.S.-Japan Joint Statement, United States Department of State (Washington D.C.) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 11 December 2021. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-japan-joint-statement/>

<sup>1434</sup> Agreement Reached at OECD to End Export Credit Support for Unabated Coal-Fired Power Plants, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/newsroom/agreement-reached-at-oecd-to-end-export-credit-support-for-unabated-coal-fired-power-plants.htm>

<sup>1435</sup> Japan OKs Plan To Double Use Of Renewables For Energy By 2030, The Asahi Shimbun (Osaka) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/14466293>

<sup>1436</sup> Outcome of the Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting on Environmental Cooperation, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 27 October 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2547.html>



Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow.<sup>1437</sup> He pledged USD10 billion “in climate finance for developing countries over the next five years, in addition to the already-pledged” USD60 billion. Prime Minister Kishida also stated that Japan would develop projects to transform fossil-fuel-fired thermal power into zero-emission thermal power through the AETI.<sup>1438</sup> Foreign Press Secretary Yoshida Tomoyuki stressed that “while Tokyo has agreed to end new financial support for new coal-fired power plants by the end of 2021, it will stick to using the fuel for power generation until it can be replaced with ammonia or hydrogen.”<sup>1439</sup>

On 4 November 2021, Prime Minister Kishida highlighted plans to promote climate technology in Asia at COP26.<sup>1440</sup> Specifically, he referred to the national strategy of burning coal combined with ammonia to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from coal-fired power plants. The goal was to share information about Japan’s efforts in ending support for unabated coal capacities.

On 10 November 2021, the Ministry of the Environment and the US Office of Special Presidential Envoy for Climate announced the launch of the “Global Subnational Zero Carbon Promotion Initiative.”<sup>1441</sup> The goal of this initiative is to promote global decarbonization.

On 8 December 2021, the Japan International Cooperation Agency announced a partnership with four Japanese utility companies to accelerate decarbonization efforts in Indonesia.<sup>1442</sup> The goal of the project is to reduce Indonesia’s reliance on coal-fired energy sources and help the country achieve its goal of carbon neutrality by 2060.

On 15 December 2021, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the US Department of State met for the second Japan-U.S. Clean Energy Partnership to discuss priorities in accelerating clean energy support in the Indo-Pacific region.<sup>1443</sup> These priorities include “capacity building activities, advanced cooperation on Small Modular Reactor nuclear energy, quality infrastructure, global procurement, power grid development and critical mineral mining sector governance.”

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021. Most of the actions that Japan took were weak as they either kept reaffirming existing commitments or stating that they would not stop using coal power until viable alternatives were developed. Also, Japan promised to develop energy technologies that would mitigate the effects of coal energy and to share these climate solutions with other countries in Asia - however, this measure has not actually taken place yet. The few strong actions that Japan took were to use

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<sup>1438</sup> Prime Minister Kishida Fumio Attends the COP26 Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 02 November 2021. Access Date: 08 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ch/page6e\\_000257.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ch/page6e_000257.html)

<sup>1439</sup> Japan Ups Climate Finance Support But Sticks With Coal, Argus Media (London) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2269911-japan-ups-climate-finance-support-but-sticks-with-coal>

<sup>1440</sup> Japan Pledges Support For Asia-Wide Decarbonization, The Diplomat (Washington D.C.) 6 November 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://thediplomat.com/2021/11/japan-pledges-support-for-asia-wide-decarbonization/>

<sup>1441</sup> Announcement of Launch of "Global Subnational Zero Carbon Promotion Initiative" by Japan and United States of America, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 19 November 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2558.html>

<sup>1442</sup> Japanese Utilities Partner to Decarbonise Indonesia’s Power Sector, Smart Energy International (Maarsen) 08 December 2021. Access Date: 06 January 2022. <https://www.smart-energy.com/regional-news/asia/japanese-utilities-partner-to-decarbonise-indonesias-power-sector/>

<sup>1443</sup> Second Japan-U.S. Clean Energy Partnership (JUCEP) Plenary Recognizes Achievements and Affirms Indo-Pacific Support Plans, United States Department of State (Washington D.C.) 23 December 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.state.gov/second-japan-u-s-clean-energy-partnership-jucep-plenary-recognizes-achievements-and-affirms-indo-pacific-support-plans/>

bilateral channels to help develop renewable energy capacities in Indonesia and promote decarbonization efforts with the US.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Ana Djordjijevic*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021.

On 30 June 2021, Minister for Energy, Clean Growth and Climate Change Anne-Marie Trevelyan announced that from 1 October 2024 onwards the United Kingdom will no longer use coal to generate electricity.<sup>1444</sup> She also spoke at the Powering Past Coal Alliance (PPCA) Europe Roundtable on the importance of phasing out coal power.

On 30 June 2021, the Minister of State at the Cabinet Office and the President for the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) Alok Sharma urged countries to commit to phasing out coal power.<sup>1445</sup> He also encouraged nations to join the PPCA as it would play a vital role in accelerating the world's transition to decarbonized power systems.

On 14 July 2021, the UK announced GBP5 million for the South East Asia Energy Transition Programme, which will provide technical and financial resources for renewable energy infrastructure in Southeast Asia.<sup>1446</sup> The UK also announced GBP3.8 million of technical assistance through the World Bank's Energy Sector Management Assistance Programme to accelerate South Africa's clean energy transition.

On 6 August 2021, the UK launched a new research programme worth GBP5 million, "Climate Services for a Net Zero Resilient World," to inform future climate policy.<sup>1447</sup> The goal of this programme is to provide models for how the UK can develop bilateral decarbonisation strategies like transitioning away from coal.

On 9 August 2021, COP26 President Sharma called on countries to commit to ending the financing and use of coal for power generation and to end financing the use of coal globally.<sup>1448</sup> This action falls under the pillar of Official Development Assistance (ODA).

On 11 August 2021, Prime Minister Boris Johnson and COP26 President Sharma called for greater global actions in keeping global warming to 1.5 degrees as a new United Nations report observed that the world was

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<sup>1444</sup> End To Coal Power Brought Forward to October 2024, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/end-to-coal-power-brought-forward-to-october-2024>

<sup>1445</sup> Urging All Countries to Commit to Phase Out Coal Power Ahead of COP26, Cabinet Office (London) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/urging-all-countries-to-commit-to-phase-out-coal-power-ahead-of-cop26--2>

<sup>1446</sup> UK Convenes Key Ministers to Unlock Investment for Energy Transition Ahead of COP26, Cabinet Office (London) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-convenes-key-ministers-to-unlock-investment-for-energy-transition-ahead-of-cop26>

<sup>1447</sup> Government Boosts UK Resilience Against Climate Change, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 6 August 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-boosts-uk-resilience-against-climate-change>

<sup>1448</sup> Following The Science to Take Climate Action and Make Sure COP26 Keeps The 1.5 Degree Goal Alive, Cabinet Office (London) 9 August 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/following-the-science-to-take-climate-action-and-make-sure-cop26-keeps-the-15-degree-goal-alive>

warming more than previously estimated.<sup>1449</sup> The goal of this action was to emphasise the global phasing out of coal power.

On 3 September 2021, COP26 President Sharma highlighted the importance of international collaboration in the world's transition to renewable energy and the phasing out of coal power at a summit in Taiyuan, China.<sup>1450</sup>

On 13 September 2021, Minister Trevelyan launched a new investment round of GBP265 million in the Contracts for Difference scheme, which is an initiative to encourage investments in low-carbon electricity.<sup>1451</sup> The goal of this scheme is to provide renewable energy project developers with protection from volatile wholesale energy prices.

On 16 September 2021, COP26 President Sharma called on nations to scale up clean power more quickly and “consign coal power to history.”<sup>1452</sup> He emphasized the importance of phasing out coal in order to meet the Paris Agreement targets and avoid the worst effects of climate change.

On 20 September 2021, Prime Minister Johnson called upon the world's richest countries to commit more to developing countries in their transition to net-zero economies.<sup>1453</sup> He also announced an allocation of GBP550 million to support developing countries to meet net-zero emissions and end the domestic use of coal.

On 22 September 2021, the United Kingdom allocated GBP220 million to support green projects for domestic businesses under the Industrial Energy Transformation Fund.<sup>1454</sup> This funding will enable energy-intensive industries like steelmaking to transition away from the use of coal in production and reduce carbon emissions.

On 22 September 2021, Prime Minister Johnson called on members of the United Nations General Assembly to invest in clean energy and phase out coal by 2030 for developed countries and 2040 for developing countries.<sup>1455</sup> He asked developed countries to deliver on their commitment to providing at least USD100 billion per year in climate financing for developing countries.

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<sup>1449</sup> UK Calls for Greater Global Ambitions as UN Finds World Warming Faster Than Previously Estimated, Cabinet Office (London) 11 August 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-calls-for-greater-global-ambition-as-un-finds-world-warming-faster-than-previously-estimated>

<sup>1450</sup> Accelerating The Global Energy Transition Through International Collaboration, Cabinet Office (London) 3 September 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/accelerating-the-global-energy-transition-through-international-collaboration>

<sup>1451</sup> Biggest Ever Renewable Energy Support Scheme Backed By Additional £265 Million, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 13 September 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/biggest-ever-renewable-energy-support-scheme-backed-by-additional-265-million>

<sup>1452</sup> Coal Power Should Be Consigned To History To Keep To 1.5 Degrees, Cabinet Office (London) 20 September 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/coal-power-should-be-assigned-to-history-to-keep-to-15-degrees>

<sup>1453</sup> PM Calls On Richest Countries To Meet \$100 Billion Climate Pledge, Prime Minister's Office 10 Downing Street (London) 20 September 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-calls-on-richest-countries-to-meet-100-billion-climate-pledge>

<sup>1454</sup> £220 Million To Help Big-Emitting Industries Reduce Fossil Fuel Use, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/220-million-to-help-big-emitting-industries-reduce-fossil-fuel-use>

<sup>1455</sup> PM To Tell UN: It's Time For Humanity To Grow Up And Address Climate Change, Prime Minister's Office (New York) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 08 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-to-tell-un-its-time-for-humanity-to-grow-up-and-address-climate-change>

On 24 September 2021, the UK co-launched the No New Coal Power Compact as part of the PPCA along with Denmark, France, Germany and Montenegro.<sup>1456</sup> This Compact promises that any country willing to begin a process toward a more ambitious transition away from coal-fired power generation can rely on the PPCA, particularly the signatories of this compact, for support in financing, utility and grid transformation, and socially just transitions for affected workers and communities. The UK, along with six other countries, also signed onto the No New Coal agreement, initiated by the United Nations, to stop building new coal power plants.<sup>1457</sup>

On 28 September 2021, Business and Energy Secretary Kwasi Kwarteng and Minister for Investment Gerry Grimstone announced GBP130 million in government and private investment for the construction of facilities that will develop and build components for next generation wind turbines.<sup>1458</sup> The goal of this investment is to increase the country's capacity for using domestic offshore wind.

On 1 October 2021, Minister for Science, Research and Innovation George Freeman released the Fusion Green Paper, which is a strategy outlining how the UK will legislate the safe and effective rollout of fusion energy.<sup>1459</sup> The goal of this measure is to use fusion energy to supply the energy needs of the country as it phases out coal power generation.

On 6 October 2021, the UK announced support for 13 innovative low-carbon projects in South Africa through its Climate Finance Accelerator program.<sup>1460</sup> This support will fund projects like Greenline Africa which will construct dynamic solar thermal concentrators as an alternative heat source and Wetility which is a company that enables clients to generate and store solar energy.

On 19 October 2021, the UK unveiled the "Net Zero Strategy," which is an economy-wide plan setting out how to reach net zero emissions by 2050.<sup>1461</sup> This plan includes supporting domestic businesses in the transition to clean energy and green technology and committing investments like GBP140 million for the Industrial and Hydrogen Revenue Support scheme to help start up hydrogen projects, GBP500 million for innovation projects in green technologies and GBP120 million for the development of nuclear projects through the Future Nuclear Enabling Fund.

On 22 October 2021, along with other members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the United Kingdom agreed to end export credit support for unabated coal-fired power plants.<sup>1462</sup> This agreement highlights how financial support will no longer be available to new coal-fired

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<sup>1456</sup> PPCA Commends Launch Of Pledge To End New Coal, Powering Past Coal Alliance (London) 24 September 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.poweringpastcoal.org/news/member-news/ppca-commends-launch-of-pledge-to-end-new-coal>

<sup>1457</sup> United Nations Launches Pledge to Stop Building New Coal Power Plants, Bloomberg (New York) 24 September 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-09-24/these-countries-plan-to-stop-building-new-coal-power-plants>

<sup>1458</sup> Offshore Wind Powers North-East Jobs In A Boost For UK Supply Chain, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 28 September 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/offshore-wind-powers-north-east-jobs-in-a-boost-for-uk-supply-chain>

<sup>1459</sup> UK Set To Be First Country To Legislate For Safe And Efficient Rollout Of Fusion Energy, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 1 October 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-set-to-be-first-country-to-legislate-for-safe-and-efficient-rollout-of-fusion-energy>

<sup>1460</sup> Climate Finance Accelerator South Africa: First Cohort Of Projects Announced, British High Commission Pretoria (Pretoria) 6 October 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/climate-finance-accelerator-south-africa-first-cohort-of-projects-announced>

<sup>1461</sup> UK's Path To Net Zero Set Out In Landmark Strategy, Department For Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 19 October 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uks-path-to-net-zero-set-out-in-landmark-strategy>

<sup>1462</sup> Agreement Reached At OECD To End Export Credit Support For Unabated Coal-Fired Power Plants, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Media Office (Paris) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/newsroom/agreement-reached-at-oecd-to-end-export-credit-support-for-unabated-coal-fired-power-plants.htm>

power plants which operate without carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS) facilities and to existing coal-fired power plants unless they are used for retrofitting to install CCUS.

On 30 October 2021, Prime Minister Johnson and Secretary Kwarteng announced an investment of GBP160 million for the construction of large-scale offshore wind ports and factory infrastructure in Scotland and Wales.<sup>1463</sup> The goal of this investment is to increase the domestic ability to mass-produce offshore wind farms.

On 1 November 2021, Prime Minister Johnson announced the creation of the Clean Green Initiative at COP26, which will scale up public and private investment in quality, sustainable infrastructure globally.<sup>1464</sup> He also announced that the UK aid-backed Private Infrastructure Development Group will commit more than GBP210 million in new investments to support transformational green projects in developing countries. Such investments include solar power projects in Burkina Faso, Pakistan, Nepal and Chad. Furthermore, the United Kingdom will contribute GBP750 million to the World Bank's efforts for funding green energy in India. Supporting the Clean Green Initiative, the United Kingdom will allocate over GBP3 billion in climate financing for green growth in developing countries for the next five years.

On 2 November 2021, Prime Minister Johnson launched the "Breakthrough Agenda," which is an international plan to deliver clean and affordable technology worldwide by 2030.<sup>1465</sup> This plan includes the Glasgow Breakthroughs, a set of goals aimed to assist countries in transitioning to net-zero emissions like clean power research and infrastructure, hydrogen fuel research and near-zero emission steel production.

On 2 November 2021, Prime Minister Johnson delivered a speech at the opening of COP26 highlighting the importance of ODA in the world's phasing out of unabated coal power generation.<sup>1466</sup>

On 2 November 2021, along with France, Germany, the United States and the European Union, the United Kingdom announced the Just Energy Transition Partnership to support South Africa's decarbonization efforts.<sup>1467</sup> This multilateral agreement will accelerate South Africa's transition to a cleaner, low-carbon economy with a particular focus on upgrading its electricity system. The United Kingdom will provide up to an initial combined commitment of USD8.5 billion.

On 3 November 2021, Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak delivered a speech on how the UK plans to become the world's first net-zero aligned financial centre and welcomes commitments from private companies covering USD130 trillion of financial assets.<sup>1468</sup> Chancellor Sunak highlighted how these commitments can be used to fund the United Kingdom's net-zero transition. Furthermore, Chancellor Sunak

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<sup>1463</sup> Scotland And Wales Could Be Home To New Floating Offshore Wind Ports Thanks To £160m UK Government Funding, Prime Minister's Office 10 Downing Street (London) 30 October 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/scotland-and-wales-could-be-home-to-new-floating-offshore-wind-ports-thanks-to-160m-uk-government-funding>

<sup>1464</sup> PM Launches New Initiative To Take Green Industrial Revolution Global, Prime Minister's Office 10 Downing Street (London) 1 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-launches-new-initiative-to-take-green-industrial-revolution-global>

<sup>1465</sup> World Leaders Join UK's Glasgow Breakthroughs To Speed Up Affordable Clean Tech Worldwide, Prime Minister's Office 10 Downing Street (London) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-leaders-join-uks-glasgow-breakthroughs-to-speed-up-affordable-clean-tech-worldwide>

<sup>1466</sup> PM Opening Remarks At COP26 Press Conference: 2 November 2021, Prime Minister's Office 10 Downing Street (London) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-opening-remarks-at-cop26-press-conference-2-november-2021>

<sup>1467</sup> Joint Statement: International Just Energy Transition Partnership, Prime Minister's Office 10 Downing Street (London) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-international-just-energy-transition-partnership>

<sup>1468</sup> Chancellor: UK Will Be World's First Net Zero Financial Centre, HM Treasury (London) 3 November 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-uk-will-be-the-worlds-first-net-zero-financial-centre>

called upon other developed countries to boost their support of developing countries in their efforts to phase out coal.

On 4 November 2021, along with a 190-strong coalition of countries and organizations, the United Kingdom signed the Global Coal to Clean Power Transition Statement.<sup>1469</sup> This multilateral agreement recognizes the need to transition away from unabated coal power generation and commits the signatories towards working together on clean technologies research, financial support and ending new direct government support for unabated coal-fired power generation.

On 15 November 2021, International Trade Secretary Anne-Marie Trevelyan announced more than GBP217 million in support for the largest solar facility in Turkey.<sup>1470</sup> This investment will support Turkey's clean energy goals in transitioning away from coal power generation.

On 24 November 2021, Secretary Kwarteng and Minister of Energy, Clean Growth and Climate Change Greg Hands announced an investment of GBP20 million per year in Tidal Stream electricity.<sup>1471</sup> This investment aims to develop marine energy technology, lower its costs of production and reduce domestic reliance on coal.

On 8 December 2021, Representative of British Office Taipei John Dennis reiterated the United Kingdom's commitment to working closely with partners like Taiwan in their transition toward renewable energy, particularly offshore wind.<sup>1472</sup> The goal of this statement was to showcase national expertise in the offshore wind industry.

On 9 December 2021, the UK government announced an increase in the UK Export Finance cover limit for Ukraine<sup>1473</sup> to GBP3.5 billion. The goal of this action is to enable support for priority projects in various sectors like clean energy.

On 13 December 2021, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy launched the fourth round of applications for the Contracts for Difference scheme.<sup>1474</sup> This scheme makes GBP285 million of annual funding available for green energy projects to help accelerate the United Kingdom's transition from coal energy.

On 17 December 2021, the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority signed two framework agreements for a total of GBP7.5 million to aid in the development of safe, efficient and low-carbon fusion energy.<sup>1475</sup>

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<sup>1469</sup> Global Coal to Clean Power Transition Statement, UN Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (Glasgow) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://ukcop26.org/global-coal-to-clean-power-transition-statement/>

<sup>1470</sup> UK To Provide £217 Million For Turkish Solar Project, UK Export Finance (London) 15 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-provide-217-million-for-turkish-solar-project>

<sup>1471</sup> UK Government Announces Biggest Investment Into Britain's Tidal Power, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-announces-biggest-investment-into-britains-tidal-power>

<sup>1472</sup> UK Pavilion Showcases British Offshore Wind Expertise To Support Taiwan's Green Future, British Office Taipei (Taipei) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-pavilion-showcases-british-offshore-wind-expertise-to-support-taiwans-green-future>

<sup>1473</sup> Increase to UK Export Finance's Cover Limit for Ukraine, UK Export Finance (London) 9 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/increase-to-uk-export-finances-cover-limit-for-ukraine>

<sup>1474</sup> Biggest Ever Renewable Energy Support Scheme Opens, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 13 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/biggest-ever-renewable-energy-support-scheme-opens>

<sup>1475</sup> World-leading Experts Join UKAEA Fusion Energy Mission, UK Atomic Energy Authority (London) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-leading-experts-join-ukaea-fusion-energy-mission>

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021. The United Kingdom demonstrated strong actions within the ODA and investment pillars of cooperation. Not only did the United Kingdom emphasize the need for international investments in renewable power to phase out coal with the OECD and COP26 agreements but they also introduced domestic investments. Regarding trade promotion support, the United Kingdom provided funding to renewable electricity producers and to the steelmaking industry to move towards less polluting production methods.

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

*Analyst: Daryll Bien Concepcion*

### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021.

On 26 July 2021, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced its intent to strengthen the legal limits on water waste pollution from coal plants that use steam to generate electricity.<sup>1476</sup> EPA Administrator Michael Regan stated that more stringent regulations are reasonable due to the advancement of carbon capture technologies, such as membranes. The goal of these regulations is to compel coal plants to utilize carbon capture technologies and to protect water resources from coal pollution.<sup>1477</sup>

On 31 August 2021, the United States and Japan reaffirmed their partnership and dedication to take strong climate action over the next decade.<sup>1478</sup> The two countries stated their intent to cooperate and innovate in areas such as carbon capture, renewable energy and industrial decarbonisation. Through the partnership, the two countries agreed “to end new direct government support for unabated international coal-fired power generation by the end of 2021 ... and work together to design pathways towards a net zero emissions future with developing countries.”

On 6 October 2021, the Department of Energy invested USD45 million in 12 research projects focused on developing carbon capture and storage technologies.<sup>1479</sup> Funding these research projects is an important part of the Biden-Harris administration’s goal of reaching net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

On 22 October 2021, the United States joined the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)’s agreement to end export credit support for unabated coal-fired power.<sup>1480</sup> The goal of this OECD agreement is to discourage the construction of new coal-fired power plants that operate without operational carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS) facilities.

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<sup>1476</sup> EPA Announces Intent to Bolster Limits on Water Pollution from Power Plants, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-intent-bolster-limits-water-pollution-power-plants>

<sup>1477</sup> EPA Announces Intent to Bolster Limits on Water Pollution from Power Plants, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-intent-bolster-limits-water-pollution-power-plants>

<sup>1478</sup> U.S.-Japan Joint Statement, United States Department of State (Washington D.C.) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-japan-joint-statement/>

<sup>1479</sup> DOE Invests \$45 Million to Decarbonize the Natural Gas Power and Industrial Sectors Using Carbon Capture and Storage, Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 6 October 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-invests-45-million-decarbonize-natural-gas-power-and-industrial-sectors-using-carbon>

<sup>1480</sup> Agreement Reached at OECD to End Export Credit Support for Unabated Coal-Fired Power Plants, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/newsroom/agreement-reached-at-oecd-to-end-export-credit-support-for-unabated-coal-fired-power-plants.htm>

On 2 November 2021, along with France, Germany, the European Union and the United Kingdom, the United States announced a pledge to provide South Africa with USD8.5 billion to accelerate its transition from coal to clean energy.<sup>1481</sup> The goal of this measure is to invest in capacities for developing countries to produce cleaner energy.

On 4 November 2021, the United States refrained from signing the Global Coal to Clean Power Transition Statement at the 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.<sup>1482</sup> The United Kingdom-led statement was signed by representatives of over 40 countries and it included commitments to rapidly develop technologies that would replace unabated coal capacities, to stop issuing permits for unabated coal projects and to provide social, financial, and technical support to communities and industries affected by the transition.

On 4 November 2021, President Biden announced the launch of the First Movers Coalition at COP26.<sup>1483</sup> Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry stated that “the First Movers Coalition is a platform for the world’s leading global companies to make purchasing commitments to create early markets for critical technologies needed to achieve net-zero by 2050.” The goal of the coalition is to be a “platform for companies to harness their purchasing power and supply chains to create early markets for innovative clean energy technologies that are key for tackling the climate crisis.”

On 9 November 2021, Special Presidential Envoy for Climate Kerry stated that the United States would stop using coal by 2030.<sup>1484</sup> This development will be driven by market forces and the affordability of renewable energy sources caused by President Biden’s climate policies and his plan to eliminate carbon emissions by 2035.

On 10 November 2021, the United States and China announced the U.S.-China Joint Glasgow Declaration on Enhancing Climate Action in the 2020s at the COP26 Summit.<sup>1485</sup> The declaration affirms the two countries’ commitment to increase their climate cooperation over the next decade and eliminate support for “unabated international thermal coal generation.”<sup>1486</sup>

On 19 November 2021, the House of Representatives passed the Build Back Better Act.<sup>1487</sup> On 28 October 2021, President Joe Biden had announced a framework for this act which aims to build a clean energy

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<sup>1481</sup> Fact Sheet: Renewed U.S. Leadership in Glasgow Raises Ambition to Tackle Climate Crisis, The White House (Washington D.C.) 13 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/11/13/fact-sheet-renewed-u-s-leadership-in-glasgow-raises-ambition-to-tackle-climate-crisis/>

<sup>1482</sup> Global Coal to Clean Power Transition Statement, United Nations Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (Glasgow) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://ukcop26.org/global-coal-to-clean-power-transition-statement/>

<sup>1483</sup> Launching the First Movers Coalition at the 2021 UN Climate Change Conference, United States Department of State (Washington D.C.) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.state.gov/launching-the-first-movers-coalition-at-the-2021-un-climate-change-conference/>

<sup>1484</sup> U.S. ‘Won’t Have Coal’ by 2030, John Kerry Predicts in Glasgow, Bloomberg (Glasgow) 09 November 2021. Access Date: 07 January 2022. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-11-09/u-s-won-t-have-coal-by-2030-john-kerry-predicts-in-glasgow>

<sup>1485</sup> U.S.-China Joint Glasgow Declaration on Enhancing Climate Action in the 2020s, United States Department of State (Washington D.C.) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-china-joint-glasgow-declaration-on-enhancing-climate-action-in-the-2020s/>

<sup>1486</sup> U.S.-China Joint Glasgow Declaration on Enhancing Climate Action in the 2020s, United States Department of State (Washington D.C.) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-china-joint-glasgow-declaration-on-enhancing-climate-action-in-the-2020s/>

<sup>1487</sup> House Passed Biden’s Massive Social Safety Net And Climate Bill. Here’s What Happens Next, CNBC (Washington, D.C.) 19 November 2021. Access Date: 09 January 2022. <https://www.cnn.com/2021/11/19/house-passes-build-back-better-act-what-happens-next-in-the-senate.html>



economy and decrease greenhouse gas pollution by over one gigaton by 2030.<sup>1488</sup> It provides USD570 billion in funding for clean energy investments and tax credits that will encourage the utilization of clean energy technologies such as solar panels and electric vehicles.<sup>1489</sup> The goal of this funding is to help the United States transition away from fossil fuels, especially coal.<sup>1490</sup>

On 10 December 2021, President Biden ordered government agencies to stop funding new carbon-intensive projects abroad.<sup>1491</sup> He urged the agencies to instead support global projects that involve the advancement and adoption of clean energy technologies.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021. The United States has taken strong action in all the four pillars of cooperation by promising official development assistance to South Africa, signing international agreements for ending export credit for unabated coal-fired power plants, investing in decarbonising innovation like CCUS and creating a coalition to build early markets for testing clean energy technologies.

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

*Analyst: Elisabeth Iannucci*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021.

On 24 September 2021, the European Commission announced two Energy Compacts designed to mobilize investments necessary to accelerate the clean energy transition globally at the United Nations High-Level Dialogue on Energy.<sup>1492</sup> The first Energy Compact establishes a joint project with the International Energy Agency (IEA) to prepare zero emission energy “roadmaps” for coal-reliant economies where the European Commission will prioritise creating inclusive pathways for decarbonization to ensure a just and socially fair transition to clean energy. The second Energy Compact establishes a joint project with the International Renewable Energy Agency to prepare Regional Energy Transition Outlooks for Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean and Europe. The goal of these measures is to utilise international channels in ending investments in unabated coal capacities.

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<sup>1488</sup> President Biden Announces the Build Back Better Framework, The White House (Washington D.C.) 28 October 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/10/28/president-biden-announces-the-build-back-better-framework/>

<sup>1489</sup> Biden’s Build Back Better Plan Is On Ice. Here’s What That Means For You, CNN (Atlanta) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.cnn.com/2021/12/20/politics/joe-biden-build-back-better-setback-explained/index.html>

<sup>1490</sup> President Biden Announces the Build Back Better Framework, The White House (Washington D.C.) 28 October 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/10/28/president-biden-announces-the-build-back-better-framework/>

<sup>1491</sup> Biden Orders U.S. To Stop Financing New Carbon-Intense Projects Abroad, Reuters (Washington D.C.) 10 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/biden-orders-us-stop-financing-carbon-intense-overseas-fuel-projects-2021-12-10/>

<sup>1492</sup> Energy Transition: Commission Announces Three Energy Compacts at UN High-Level Dialogue in New York, European Commission (Brussels) 24 September 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_4877](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4877)

On 27 September 2021, the European Commission endorsed Romania's recovery and resilience plan.<sup>1493</sup> The plan devotes 41 per cent of funds accessed through the Recovery and Resilience Facility towards measures supporting a green transition, including phasing out coal by 2032 and investing in lignite power production.

On 5 October 2021, the Economic and Financial Affairs Council of the European Union (ECOFIN) adopted a set of conclusions regarding climate finance.<sup>1494</sup> The goal of these conclusions was to highlight the importance of phasing out fossil fuel subsidies and shifting financial flows towards sustainable investments.

On 22 October 2021, the EU agreed to end export credit support and tied aid for unabated coal-fired power plants at the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).<sup>1495</sup> This ban applies to new coal-fired power plants without carbon capture, utilization, and storage facilities and existing coal-fired power plants, unless the aid helps to supply or retrofit equipment related to pollution or carbon dioxide abatement.

On 27 October 2021, the European Investment Bank (EIB) announced its support for the United Nations Development Programme's "Don't Choose Extinction" campaign, which endorses the need for urgent fossil fuel subsidy reform.<sup>1496</sup> EIB President Werner Hoyer reaffirmed their 2019 commitment to refuse financing for energy projects reliant on unabated fossil fuels.

On 2 November 2021, along with the United Kingdom, the United States, France and Germany, the EU launched a partnership with South Africa to support the country's energy transition away from coal at the 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.<sup>1497</sup> The partnership committed to mobilize USD8.5 billion to support decarbonization efforts through concessional financing, grants, investments and risk-sharing instruments. The EU will direct funds towards social infrastructure to support workers affected by the coal phase-out and stimulate technological innovations such as green hydrogen.

On 21 December 2021, the College of Commissioners endorsed a new framework on state aid for climate, environmental protection and energy which included a new section of guidelines regarding state aid for the closure of coal plants.<sup>1498</sup> This section proposes that member states with "very low" income per capita may use government funds to combine the phase out of coal with a simultaneous investment in transitional fuels such as natural gas.

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<sup>1493</sup> NextGenerationEU: European Commission Endorses Romania's €29.2 Billion Recovery and Resilience Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 27 September 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_4876](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4876)

<sup>1494</sup> ECOFIN Council Conclusions on Climate Finance, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 5 October 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/10/05/ecofin-council-conclusions-on-climate-finance/>

<sup>1495</sup> Agreement Reached at OECD to End Export Credit Support for Unabated Coal-Fired Power Plants, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 09 December 2021.

<https://www.oecd.org/newsroom/agreement-reached-at-oecd-to-end-export-credit-support-for-unabated-coal-fired-power-plants.htm>

<sup>1496</sup> EIB Supports UNDP campaign to Rethink Subsidies for Fossil Fuels, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 27 October 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/news/eib-supports-undp-campaign-to-rethink-subsidies-for-fossil-fuels>

<sup>1497</sup> France, Germany, UK, US and EU Launch Ground-Breaking International Just Energy Transition Partnership with South Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_5768](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_5768)

<sup>1498</sup> State Aid: Commission Endorses the New Guidelines on State Aid for Climate, Environmental Protection and Energy, European Commission (Brussels) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_6982](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6982)

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021. The European Union has demonstrated strong action by working with international organizations like the IEA for implementing zero-emission roadmaps for coal-reliant economies, the OECD for ending export credit for coal-fired power plants, the ECOFIN for promoting the production of renewable energy with ECOFIN and investing in decarbonisation efforts at the COP26 Summit.

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

*Analyst: Justin Del Negro*

## 12. Trade: Free Trade

“Secure our future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system.”

*Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France		0	
Germany		0	
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.63 (81%)	

### Background

The modern world trading system was institutionally established with the Bretton Woods system after the Second World War. This was done through the creation of the International Trade Organization, a specialized agency to handle trade within the United Nations.<sup>1499</sup> On 30 October 1947, the first international trade regulation agreement was signed, known as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). GATT came into effect in January 1948 and regulated international trade by directing signatories to reduce tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade.

On 1 January 1995, the World Trade Organization (WTO) was formed in Geneva, Switzerland, as a successor to GATT.<sup>1500</sup> The WTO is a unified multilateral trade framework which calls to eliminate tariffs and other trade barriers in trade agreements and in the general conduct of international trade, settle disputes between parties of a trade agreement, and monitor the trade policies of WTO members. While GATT focused primarily on reciprocal reductions in tariffs on manufactured goods, the WTO has also included measures relating to non-tariff trade barriers, such as subsidy policies and regulatory standards.<sup>1501</sup> The WTO’s goal of reducing trade barriers for goods, services, and intellectual property is currently the centre of the liberal international trading system which aims to fight protectionist trade measures and keep markets open.<sup>1502</sup>

Trade as a commitment issue appeared at the first G6 summit – the 1975 Rambouillet Summit – in response to the rise in protectionism following the 1973-1975 Recession.<sup>1503</sup> In the Declaration of Rambouillet, G6 members pledged to make “new efforts in the areas of world trade,” “restore growth in the volume of world trade,” and accelerate multilateral trade negotiations. The 1975 Rambouillet Summit is also the first time in

<sup>1499</sup> The GATT years: from Havana to Marrakesh, World Trade Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

[https://www.wto.org/english/thewto\\_e/whatis\\_e/tif\\_e/fact4\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/fact4_e.htm)

<sup>1500</sup> Overview, World Trade Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

[https://www.wto.org/english/thewto\\_e/whatis\\_e/wto\\_dg\\_stat\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/wto_dg_stat_e.htm)

<sup>1501</sup> The Uruguay Round, World Trade Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

[https://www.wto.org/english/thewto\\_e/whatis\\_e/tif\\_e/fact5\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/fact5_e.htm)

<sup>1502</sup> What is the WTO? - Who we are, World Trade Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

[https://www.wto.org/english/thewto\\_e/whatis\\_e/who\\_we\\_are\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/who_we_are_e.htm)

<sup>1503</sup> Declaration of Rambouillet, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 November 1975. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1975rambouillet/communique.html>

which G6 members promised to take unilateral domestic action, like policy or legal changes, to facilitate international trade.<sup>1504</sup>

Discussions regarding unfair trade practices first appeared at the 1982 Versailles Summit, where leaders pledged to “rule out the use of [their] exchange rates to gain unfair competitive advantages.”<sup>1505</sup> After the 1982 Versailles Summit, “unfair trade practices” were not mentioned again at G7 summits until the 2009 G8 L’Aquila Summit, where the term “level playing field” was first applied in an economic context.<sup>1506</sup> However, since the 2009 L’Aquila Summit, the terms “level playing field” or “unfair trade practices” have been mentioned in every communiqué, except for the 2010 Muskoka Summit.

At the Uruguay Round in 1994, the WTO introduced new measures and policies intended to mitigate unfair trade practices and allow countries to fight against unfair trade practices within the WTO framework through a dispute settlement process.<sup>1507</sup> These policies included the Anti-Dumping Agreement, Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, Safeguards, Trade Policy Review Mechanism, Dispute Settlement Understanding, and several industry-specific measures to ensure fair practices across all industries around the world.

The 2000 Okinawa Summit was the first to pursue “facilitat[ion of] cross-border e-commerce by promoting further liberalisation” of international trade on information and communications technology.<sup>1508</sup> The 2007 Heiligendamm Summit was the first to promote the facilitation of international trade through an increase in enforcement of intellectual property rights.<sup>1509</sup> The 2008 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Declaration forwarded the first linkage between facilitating international trade.<sup>1510</sup> In light of the 2008 global financial crisis, the 2009 L’Aquila Summit continued the trend of “reject[ing] protectionism of any kind” during recessionary periods.<sup>1511</sup> The 2013 Lough Erne Summit is the first to facilitate international trade through the reduction and “streamlining” of “trade bureaucracy.”<sup>1512</sup>

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders pledged to “[stand] firm against all unfair trade practices.”<sup>1513</sup> The 2017 Taormina Summit marked a shift in the G7’s prioritization of eliminating unfair trade practices, with the communiqué listing out for the first time, in detail, the types of practices that the G7 consider to be unfair, including protectionism, dumping, barriers to trade, forced technology transfers, subsidies and other practices that would “distort markets.”

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<sup>1504</sup> Declaration of Rambouillet, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 November 1975. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1975rambouillet/communique.html>

<sup>1505</sup> Declaration of the Seven Heads of State and Government and Representatives of the European Communities, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 June 1982. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1982versailles/communique.html>

<sup>1506</sup> Responsible leadership for a sustainable future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.pdf>

<sup>1507</sup> WTO Legal Texts, World Trade Organization (Geneva) September 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

[https://www.wto.org/english/docs\\_e/legal\\_e/legal\\_e.htm#a#antidump](https://www.wto.org/english/docs_e/legal_e/legal_e.htm#a#antidump)

<sup>1508</sup> Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2000. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/gis.htm>

<sup>1509</sup> Growth and Responsibility in the World Economy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 June 2007. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-economy.html>.

<sup>1510</sup> G8 Hokkaido Tokyo Summit Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>.

<sup>1511</sup> Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.html#trade>.

<sup>1512</sup> G8 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communique.html#trade>

<sup>1513</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

At 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders “acknowledged that free, fair and mutually beneficial trade and investment, while creating reciprocal benefits are key engines for growth and job creation.”<sup>1514</sup> The leaders also “underlined the crucial role of a rules-based international trading system and continue to fight protectionism.”

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, G7 leaders declared that “the G7 is committed to open and fair trade and to the stability of the global economy.”<sup>1515</sup> The G7 also declared its desire to “overhaul the WTO to improve effectiveness with regard to intellectual property protection, to settle disputes more swiftly and to eliminate unfair trade practices.”

### **Commitment Features**

The G7 commitment states that the members will “secure our future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system.”<sup>1516</sup> The welfare target of this commitment is to secure future prosperity, interpreted as economic prosperity. The instruments to achieve this welfare target are by championing 1. free trade; 2 fair trade; and 3. within a reformed trading system.

“Championing” is understood to mean the support or defense of a principle.<sup>1517</sup> The term “trade” is understood to mean the exchange of goods, services, and intellectual property.<sup>1518</sup> “Freer trade” is the gradual lowering of trade barriers through negotiation.<sup>1519</sup> “Fair trade” is the trade within a rules-based system “dedicated to open, fair and undistorted competition.” Thus, “fairer trade” is understood to be trade that is of greater adherence to this system.

The term “reformed” means “changed for the better.”<sup>1520</sup> A “system” is “a form of social, economic, or political organization or practice.”<sup>1521</sup> Thus, “trading system” is understood to be the economic organization of trade. G7 members have identified the WTO as the multilateral trading system in need of reform.<sup>1522</sup> For evaluating this commitment, working within a reformed trading system also requires active involvement in said reform. Actions taken should make the WTO more viable and durable. Examples include advancing the effectiveness of the WTO’s monitoring, negotiating and dispute settlement system functions,<sup>1523</sup> or addressing new issues such as climate change, pandemic response and the digital economy, or existing negotiating issues such as agriculture disciplines on fisheries subsidies, and special and differential treatment for developing and least-developed countries within trade.

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<sup>1514</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 2018 Charlevoix (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 2 January 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

<sup>1515</sup> G7 Leaders’ Declaration, G7 France (Biarritz) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-of-leaders.html>.

<sup>1516</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

<sup>1517</sup> Championing, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 29 September 2021. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/championing>

<sup>1518</sup> What we do, World Trade Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 29 September 2021. [https://www.wto.org/english/thewto\\_e/whatis\\_e/what\\_we\\_do\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/what_we_do_e.htm)

<sup>1519</sup> Principles of the Trading System, World Trade Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 29 September 2021. [https://www.wto.org/english/thewto\\_e/whatis\\_e/tif\\_e/fact2\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/fact2_e.htm)

<sup>1520</sup> Reformed, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 29 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/reformed>

<sup>1521</sup> System, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 29 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/system>

<sup>1522</sup> G7 Trade Ministers’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/trade/211022-communique.html>

<sup>1523</sup> Climate, pandemic, e-commerce, inclusivity — Public Forum addresses priorities for reform, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 29 September 2021. Access Date: 14 December 2021. [https://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/news21\\_e/pf21\\_29sep21\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news21_e/pf21_29sep21_e.htm)

For full compliance, G7 members must take action on all three components of this commitment. G7 members must secure future prosperity by strongly championing free trade, fair trade and trade reform. Strong actions for free trade include actions such as the passing of domestic policy or legal acts, the lowering of tariffs and the signing of free trade agreements, all that reduce trade barriers. Strong actions for fairer trade include actions such as the filing of complaints of unfair trade barriers through the WTO's Appellate Board. Actions for a reformed trading system include actively working through the WTO to champion reforms towards a more viable and durable trading system. Weak actions such as verbal affirmations or attending meetings will be counted as partial compliance.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned if the G7 member takes less than strong action in two or three of the aforementioned pillars.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be assigned to the G7 member if it fails to take any efforts towards championing free, fair or reformed trade, or if it takes partial action with only one aspect of this commitment.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member does not take ANY or takes insufficient actions towards championing freer trade, fairer trade or a reformed trading system.
0	The G7 member has taken some action towards at least two of championing freer trade OR championing fairer trade OR championing a reformed trading system.
+1	The G7 member has taken action towards championing freer trade AND fairer trade AND a reformed trading system.

*Compliance Director: Joy Fan  
Lead Analyst: Lisa Hub*

### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system.

On 11 June 2021, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau welcomed the launch of the UK accession process to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership and agreed to redouble efforts to secure a comprehensive free trade agreement between Canada and the UK.<sup>1524</sup>

On 24 June 2021, Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade Mary Ng met with Japan's Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Kajiyama Hiroshi to discuss further cooperation in the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).<sup>1525</sup>

On 7 October 2021, Minister Ng attended an informal meeting of WTO ministers, hosted by Australia. Minister Ng highlighted the importance of WTO reform and concluding the Joint Statement Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation during the meeting.<sup>1526</sup>

<sup>1524</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with Prime Minister Boris Johnson of the United Kingdom, Prime Minister of Canada (Carbis Bay) 11 June 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/06/11/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-prime-minister-boris-johnson-united>

<sup>1525</sup> Minister Kajiyama Holds Video Conference with the Hon. Mary Ng, Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade of Canada, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0624\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0624_001.html)

<sup>1526</sup> Minister Ng concludes successful meeting on WTO reform in Paris, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/10/minister-ng-concludes-successful-meeting-on-wto-reform-in-paris.html>

On 12 October 2021, Minister Ng attended the G20 Trade and Investment Ministers meeting.<sup>1527</sup> During the meeting Minister Ng reaffirmed Canada's commitment to international trade and WTO reform. In discussions with South Africa's Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition Ebrahim Patel, Minister Ng affirmed the need to strengthen trade and investment relations and reform the WTO.

On 30 October 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau met with UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson at the G20 Leaders' Summit in Rome.<sup>1528</sup> He reiterated his support for the UK accession process to the CPTPP and efforts to secure a comprehensive free trade agreement between Canada and the UK.

On 31 October 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau participated in the Summit on Global Supply Chain Resilience hosted by US President Joe Biden on the margins of the G20 Leaders' Summit in Rome.<sup>1529</sup> He noted Canada's efforts to deepen cooperation through the Canada-led Ottawa Group. Additionally, Prime Minister Trudeau highlighted the importance of a predictable, rules-based international trade environment. Finally, Prime Minister Trudeau reaffirmed Canada's commitment to address unfair and non-market trading practices, expressing Canada's desire to further develop free trade relationships.

On 16 November 2021, Canada and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) agreed to proceed with free trade agreement negotiations.<sup>1530</sup> Minister Ng met virtually with ASEAN Economic Ministers at the ASEAN Economic Ministers–Canada Consultations. The ministers agreed to a joint statement highlighting the potential for a free trade agreement to help diversify supply chains, increase trade and investment and reinforce Canada and ASEAN's shared commitment to open markets and rules-based trade.

On 2 December 2021, Canada, alongside over 60 other WTO members, adopted a declaration on the conclusion of negotiations on services domestic regulation.<sup>1531</sup> The declaration aims to reduce barriers in services trade. The regulation marks the “the first new set of services rules agreed in over a quarter of a century.”<sup>1532</sup>

On 15 December 2021, Minister Ng met with the United Kingdom's Secretary of State for International Trade Anne-Marie Trevelyan.<sup>1533</sup> They discussed matters of WTO reform and other trade issues. Minister Ng announced that Canada “has tabled its notice of intent to enter into negotiations toward a Canada-United Kingdom Free Trade Agreement” and reaffirmed Canada's commitment to working with the UK for their accession to the CPTPP.

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<sup>1527</sup> Minister Ng meets with international counterparts at G20 Trade and Investment Ministers meeting, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 12 October 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/10/minister-ng-meets-with-international-counterparts-at-g20-trade-and-investment-ministers-meeting.html>

<sup>1528</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with Prime Minister Boris Johnson of the United Kingdom, Prime Minister of Canada (Rome) 30 October 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/10/30/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-prime-minister-boris-johnson-united>

<sup>1529</sup> Prime Minister Trudeau participates in Summit on Global Supply Chain Resilience, Prime Minister of Canada (Rome) 31 October 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/10/31/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-participates-summit-global-supply-chain>

<sup>1530</sup> Canada-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 1 December 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/asean-anase/fta-ale/negotiations-negociations.aspx?lang=eng>

<sup>1531</sup> Joint Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/serv\\_e/jsdomreg\\_e.htm#participation](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/serv_e/jsdomreg_e.htm#participation)

<sup>1532</sup> Negotiations on services domestic regulation conclude successfully in Geneva, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/news21\\_e/jssdr\\_02dec21\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news21_e/jssdr_02dec21_e.htm)

<sup>1533</sup> Minister Ng speaks with United Kingdom's Secretary of State for International Trade Anne-Marie Trevelyan, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/minister-ng-speaks-with-united-kingdoms-secretary-of-state-for-international-trade-anne-marie-trevelyan.html>



On 17 December 2021, Deputy Minister of International Trade John Hannaford and Japan's Senior Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Suzuki Hiroshi chaired the 31st Meeting of Japan-Canada Joint Economic Committee. They released a joint press release reaffirming their commitment to WTO reform.<sup>1534</sup>

On 22 December 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau spoke with Chile's President-elect Gabriel Boric on working together on shared priorities, such as further advancing Canada-Chile trade and investment relations.<sup>1535</sup> They recognized the importance of like-minded, progressive countries working together to address global challenges, as well as the opportunity to deepen bilateral cooperation.

On 10 January 2022, Minister Ng and Vietnam's Minister of Industry and Trade Nguyen Hong Dien witnessed the signing of a memorandum of understanding to establish a joint economic committee between the two countries. The memorandum will provide a platform for dialogue for further economic cooperation.<sup>1536</sup>

On 17 January 2022, Minister Ng met with Korean Trade Minister Han-Koo Yeo. They discussed bilateral trade and cooperation and committed to continue working on WTO reform.<sup>1537</sup>

On 19 January 2022, Minister Ng met with European Commission Executive Vice-President and European Union Commissioner for Trade Valdis Dombrovski. They discussed trade and WTO reform and "committed to further strengthen bilateral commercial relations, including the full implementation of the Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement."<sup>1538</sup>

On 20 January 2022, Minister Ng hosted an Ottawa Group meeting virtually to advance work on WTO reform. The group agreed to "intensify its engagement with other members to restore a fully functioning WTO dispute-settlement system."<sup>1539</sup>

On 21 January 2022, Minister Ng attended a virtual ministerial meeting of the WTO to discuss various issues including trade and WTO reform. She also reiterated the Ottawa Group's commitment to WTO reform and importance of reaching a resolution to the WTO Appellate Body impasse.<sup>1540</sup>

Canada has fully complied with the commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system. Canada has negotiated free trade agreements, supported the UK with its entry into the CPTPP and participated in updating WTO rules for services trade.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jesslene Lee*

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<sup>1534</sup> The 31st Meeting of the Japan-Canada Joint Economic Committee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_003073.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_003073.html)

<sup>1535</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaks with President-elect Gabriel Boric of Chile, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 22 December 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/12/22/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-speaks-president-elect-gabriel-boric-chile>

<sup>1536</sup> Minister Ng establishes Canada-Vietnam Joint Economic Committee, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 10 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/01/minister-ng-establishes-canada-vietnam-joint-economic-committee.html>

<sup>1537</sup> Minister Ng speaks with South Korean Trade Minister Han-koo Yeo, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 17 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/01/minister-ng-speaks-with-south-korean-trade-minister-han-koo-yeo.html>

<sup>1538</sup> Minister Ng speaks with European Commission Executive Vice-President and European Union Commissioner for Trade, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 19 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/01/minister-ng-speaks-with-european-commission-executive-vice-president-and-european-union-commissioner-for-trade.html>

<sup>1539</sup> Minister Ng hosts first Ottawa Group meeting of 2022, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/01/minister-ng-hosts-first-ottawa-group-meeting-of-2022.html>

<sup>1540</sup> Minister Ng discusses WTO reform at WTO ministerial meeting, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/01/minister-ng-discusses-wto-reform-at-wto-ministerial-meeting.html>

**France: 0**

France has partially complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system.

On 6 September 2021, President Emmanuel Macron released a joint statement with Chilean President Sebastián Piñera that promoted the acceleration of a new association agreement between France, the European Union, and Chile.<sup>1541</sup> The leaders also advocated for stronger economic ties between France and Chile.

On 15 September 2021, President Macron released a joint statement with Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan that reaffirmed their commitment to increasing economic cooperation between the two countries.<sup>1542</sup> The leaders announced the creation of a French-United Arab Emirates Business Council which will help further revive economic exchanges between France and the United Arab Emirates.

On 12 October 2021, Minister Delegate for Foreign Trade and Economic Attractiveness Franck Riester attended the G20 trade ministers meeting in Sorrento.<sup>1543</sup> Issues discussed included WTO reform, integrating sustainable development into trade policies, and trade in relation to COVID-19.

On 21 October 2021, Minister Riester attended the G7 Trade Ministers' meeting in London.<sup>1544</sup> He advocated for creating stronger and fairer supply chains in addition to a more sustainable global trade network.

On 26 November 2021, President Macron and Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi signed an enhanced cooperation treaty to further consolidate the commercial, diplomatic, political and cultural ties between France and Italy.<sup>1545</sup> The aim of this agreement is to support and accelerate European integration processes through several bilateral initiatives.

On 2 December 2021, France, alongside over 60 other members of the World Trade Organization (WTO), adopted a declaration on the conclusion of negotiations on services domestic regulation.<sup>1546</sup> The aim is to reduce barriers in services trade. The regulation marks the “the first new set of services rules agreed in over a quarter of a century.”

France has partially complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system. France has taken action to champion freer trade by releasing joint statements with current trade partners that reaffirm the principles of free trade. Additionally, France has

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<sup>1541</sup> President Piñera meets with French President Emmanuel Macron, Government of Chile (Santiago) 6 September 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gob.cl/en/news/president-pinera-meets-french-president-emmanuel-macron>

<sup>1542</sup> France/ United Arab Emirates Joint Statement, Official Residence of the President of the French Republic (Paris) 15 September 2021. Access Date: 30 November 2021. <https://www.elysee.fr/en/emmanuel-macron/2021/09/15/france-united-arab-emirates-joint-statement>

<sup>1543</sup> G20 – Participation of Franck Riester in the trade ministers meeting (Sorrento, 12 October 2021), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris), 12 October 2021. Access Date: 30 November 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/economic-diplomacy-foreign-trade/news/article/g20-participation-of-franck-riester-in-the-trade-ministers-meeting-sorrento-12>

<sup>1544</sup> G7 - Franck Riester attending trade ministers' meeting, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 21 October 2021. Access Date: 30 November 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/economic-diplomacy-foreign-trade/news/article/g7-participation-de-franck-riester-a-la-reunion-des-ministres-du-commerce>

<sup>1545</sup> Joint press statements by PM Draghi and President Macron, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 26 November 2021. Access Date: 26 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/joint-press-statements-pm-draghi-and-president-macron/18669>

<sup>1546</sup> Joint Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/serv\\_e/jsdomreg\\_e.htm#participation](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/serv_e/jsdomreg_e.htm#participation)

participated in adopting new rules for the WTO. However, France has failed to take strong action regarding fair trade.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Chiara Barsanti*

### **Germany: 0**

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system.

On 22 October 2021, Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy Peter Altmaier attended the G7 trade ministers' meeting in London. They discussed current trade policy issues and reform of the World Trade Organization (WTO).<sup>1547</sup>

On 11 November 2021, Minister Altmaier met with EU trade ministers in Brussels to discuss the modernization of the WTO. Minister Altmaier commented that the WTO needs to fit the 21st century which will “require modern trade rules and a modern institution.”<sup>1548</sup>

On 30 June 2021, Ambassador of the WTO Bettina Waldmann signed a memorandum of understanding.<sup>1549</sup> Germany pledged EUR150,000 to help developing and least-developed countries participate more actively in agricultural trade.

On 2 December 2021, Germany, alongside over 60 other WTO members, adopted a declaration on the conclusion of negotiations on services domestic regulation.<sup>1550</sup> The aim is to reduce barriers in services trade. The regulation marks the “the first new set of services rules agreed in over a quarter of a century.”<sup>1551</sup>

On 10 December 2021, it was announced that the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development contributed EUR2.7 million to the Standards and Trade Development Facility for 2021 to 2024 to support developing and least-developed countries meet international standards for trade. Ambassador Waldmann stated that “the STDF is a very useful tool to facilitate the integration of such countries into international trade.”<sup>1552</sup>

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system. Germany has taken strong action to champion fairer trade by providing financial support for programs promoting fair trade. Additionally, Germany has participated in updating the WTO. However, Germany has failed to take strong action towards championing freer trade.

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<sup>1547</sup> Economic Affairs Minister Altmaier attends G7 trade ministers' meeting in London, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2021/10/20211022-economic-affairs-minister-altmaier-attends-g7-trade-ministers-meeting-in-london.html>

<sup>1548</sup> Minister Altmaier attends meeting of EU trade ministers in Brussels, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 11 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2021/11/20211111-minister-altmaier-attends-meeting-of-eu-trade-ministers-in-brussels.html>

<sup>1549</sup> Germany pledges EUR 150,000 to help developing countries meet farm trade standards, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. [https://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/pres21\\_e/pr882\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres21_e/pr882_e.htm)

<sup>1550</sup> Joint Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/serv\\_e/jsdomreg\\_e.htm#participation](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/serv_e/jsdomreg_e.htm#participation)

<sup>1551</sup> Negotiations on services domestic regulation conclude successfully in Geneva, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/news21\\_e/jssdr\\_02dec21\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news21_e/jssdr_02dec21_e.htm)

<sup>1552</sup> Germany gives CHF 2.8 million to help developing countries meet SPS standards, combat COVID-19, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 10 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/pres21\\_e/pr894\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres21_e/pr894_e.htm)

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Kiara Wei*

### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system.

On 11 June 2021, Deputy Minister Benedetto Della Vedova met with New Zealand Ambassador Anthony Simpson. Discussions included negotiations regarding the EU-New Zealand free trade agreement.<sup>1553</sup>

On 15 June 2021, Prime Minister Mario Draghi issued a statement in support of the EU-US agreement to suspend trade duties.<sup>1554</sup> He stated that the agreement “is another step towards a return to full cooperation in multilateral fora, which will benefit the entire transatlantic community.”

On 9 July 2021, Minister of Foreign affairs and International Cooperation Luigi Di Maio co-chaired the Italy-India Joint Commission for Economic Cooperation. Minister Di Maio reiterated Italy’s support for reviving negotiations on a free trade agreement.<sup>1555</sup>

On 8 October 2021, Prime Minister Draghi gave a speech at the B20 Summit, emphasizing Italy’s aim to “preserve and strengthen the effective rule-based multilateral trading system within the World Trade Organization” and to keep an “open, fair and transparent trade environment.”<sup>1556</sup>

On 13 October 2021, Minister Di Maio met with the UK’s International Trade Secretary Anne-Marie Trevelyan following the G20 summit and announced the start of discussions on a new export and investment partnership aimed at boosting trade between the two countries.<sup>1557</sup>

On 18 October 2021, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Manlio Di Stefano met with Sweden’s Minister of Foreign Trade and Nordic Affairs Anna Hallberg. They discussed issues including reform of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the EU’s orientation on negotiations with third countries on free trade agreements, amongst other trade issues.<sup>1558</sup>

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<sup>1553</sup> Deputy Minister Della Vedova signs Italy-New Zealand agreement on air services, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 11 June 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022.

[https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/06/della-vedova-firma-l-accordo-italia-nuova-zelanda-sui-servizi-aerei-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/06/della-vedova-firma-l-accordo-italia-nuova-zelanda-sui-servizi-aerei-2/)

<sup>1554</sup> PM Draghi’s Statement on the EU-US agreement, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 30 November 2021. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/pm-draghi-s-statement-eu-us-agreement/17717>

<sup>1555</sup> Italy-India Joint Commission for Economic Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/07/nota-farnesina-commissione-mista-italia-india-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/07/nota-farnesina-commissione-mista-italia-india-2/)

<sup>1556</sup> PM Draghi’s Speech at the B20 Summit, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 8 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/prime-minister-draghi-s-speech-b20-summit/18171>

<sup>1557</sup> UK and Italy Announce New Dialogue to Boost Exports and Investment, Department for International Trade (London) 13 October 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-italy-announce-new-dialogue-to-boost-exports-and-investment>

<sup>1558</sup> Deputy Minister Di Stefano receives at the Foreign Ministry the Minister of Foreign Trade and Nordic Affairs of Sweden, Anna Hallberg, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 18 October 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/sottosegretario-di-stefano-riceve-in-farnesina-la-ministra-del-commercio-estero-e-degli-affari-nordici-di-svezia-anna-hallberg-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/sottosegretario-di-stefano-riceve-in-farnesina-la-ministra-del-commercio-estero-e-degli-affari-nordici-di-svezia-anna-hallberg-2/)

On 22 October 2021, G7 Trade Ministers released a joint communique that outlined their commitment to WTO reform, advancing free and fair trade, amongst other issues.<sup>1559</sup> Ministers committed to inclusive and action-orientated WTO reform to build a more resilient trade environment.

On 31 October 2021, Prime Minister Draghi issued a statement to express his satisfaction with the agreement reached between the EU and US regarding steel and aluminum tariffs.<sup>1560</sup> He stated that the agreement “confirms the [...] gradual overcoming of the protectionism of recent years.”

On 26 November 2021, Prime Minister Draghi and French President Emmanuel Macron signed an enhanced cooperation treaty to further consolidate the diplomatic, commercial, political and cultural ties between Italy and France.<sup>1561</sup> The aim of this agreement is to support and accelerate European integration processes through several bilateral initiatives.

On 2 December 2021, Italy, alongside over 60 other WTO members, adopted a declaration on the conclusion of negotiations on services domestic regulation.<sup>1562</sup> The aim is to reduce barriers in services trade. The regulation marks the “the first new set of services rules agreed in over a quarter of a century.”<sup>1563</sup>

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system. Italy has taken preliminary action to championing freer and fairer trade by stating support, participating in discussions and signing a treaty to reassert Italy’s commitment. Additionally, Italy has engaged in bilateral and multilateral discussions concerning WTO reform.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Brinda Batra*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system.

On 24 June 2021, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Kajiyama Hiroshi met with Canadian Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade Mary Ng to discuss further cooperation in the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).<sup>1564</sup>

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<sup>1559</sup> The Joint Communiqué issued by the G7 countries at the G7 Trade Track on 22 October 2021, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022.

[https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/the-joint-communiqué-issued-by-the-g7-countries-at-the-g7-trade-track-on-22-october-2021-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/the-joint-communiqué-issued-by-the-g7-countries-at-the-g7-trade-track-on-22-october-2021-2/)

<sup>1560</sup> PM Draghi: Great Satisfaction Regarding the Agreement Reached by the EU and US on Steel and Aluminum Tariffs, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 31 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021.

<https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/pm-draghi-great-satisfaction-regarding-agreement-reached-eu-and-us-steel-and-aluminium>

<sup>1561</sup> Joint press statements by PM Draghi and President Macron, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 26 November 2021. Access Date: 26 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/joint-press-statements-pm-draghi-and-president-macron/18669>

<sup>1562</sup> Joint Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/serv\\_e/jsdomreg\\_e.htm#participation](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/serv_e/jsdomreg_e.htm#participation)

<sup>1563</sup> Negotiations on services domestic regulation conclude successfully in Geneva, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/news21\\_e/jssdr\\_02dec21\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news21_e/jssdr_02dec21_e.htm)

<sup>1564</sup> Minister Kajiyama Holds Video Conference with the Hon. Mary Ng, Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade of Canada, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0624\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0624_001.html)

On 15 July 2021, Minister of Foreign Affairs Motegi Toshimitsu met with Australian Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment Dan Tehan. They agreed to continue to work on enhancing multilateral free trade systems such as the WTO.<sup>1565</sup>

On 12 October 2021, Vice Minister for International Affairs Naoshi Hirose attended the G20 Trade Investment Ministerial Meeting in Sorrento.<sup>1566</sup> He initiated discussions to strengthen disciplines on industrial subsidies and state-owned enterprises.

On 22 October 2021, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Koichi Hagiuda met with G7 trade ministers. He raised issues regarding market-distorting measures and digital trade.<sup>1567</sup>

On 9 November 2021, Minister Hagiuda met with Singapore's Minister for Trade and Industry Gan Kim Yong. The ministers reaffirmed their commitment to deepening cooperation towards building a free and fair economic order through the CPTPP and Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership.<sup>1568</sup>

On 10 November 2021, the WTO announced that the government of Japan contributed CHF125,000 in 2021 to the WTO Fisheries Subsidies Fund for least-developed countries (LDCs).<sup>1569</sup> The subsidization will assist LDCs to cover the travel expenses of their officials, so that they are able to take part in negotiations regarding fishing subsidies.

On 15 November 2021, Minister Hagiuda met with United States Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo to resolve the issue of additional tariffs on Japanese steel and aluminum products.<sup>1570</sup> They established the US-Japan Commercial and Industrial Partnership to strengthen both economies while maintaining a free and fair economic order.

On 17 November 2021, Minister Hagiuda held a meeting with United States Trade Representative Ambassador Katherine Tai to resolve the issue of additional tariffs on Japanese steel and aluminum products.<sup>1571</sup> Additionally, they committed to addressing market-distorting measures in the Indo-Pacific region.

On 18 November 2021, Minister Hagiuda held an online meeting with Executive Vice President of the European Commission Valois Dombrovskis to promote cooperation between the European Union and Japan.<sup>1572</sup>

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<sup>1565</sup> Meeting between Foreign Minister MOTEGI and Hon. Dan Tehan MP, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment of Australia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e\\_000208.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000208.html)

<sup>1566</sup> G20 Trade and Investment Ministerial Meeting Held, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 13 October 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1013\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1013_001.html)

<sup>1567</sup> Minister Hagiuda and State Minister Ishii attend G7 Trade Ministers Meeting, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 22 October 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1022\\_005.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1022_005.html)

<sup>1568</sup> Minister Hagiuda Holds Video Conference with H.E. Mr. Gan Kim Yong, Singaporean Minister for Trade and Industry, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 9 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1109\\_003.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1109_003.html)

<sup>1569</sup> Japan gives CHF 125,000 to help LDCs participate in fisheries subsidies discussions, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. [https://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/pres21\\_e/pr891\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres21_e/pr891_e.htm)

<sup>1570</sup> Minister Hagiuda Holds a Meeting with H.E. Ms. Gina M. Raimondo, United States Secretary of Commerce, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 15 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021.

<sup>1571</sup> Minister Hagiuda Holds a Meeting with H.E. Ambassador Katherine Tai, United States Trade Representative, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 17 November 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1117\\_002.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1117_002.html)

<sup>1572</sup> Minister Hagiuda Holds Video Conference with H.E. Mr. Valdis Dombrovskis, Executive Vice President of the European Commission for an Economy that Works for People and European Commissioner for Trade, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1118\\_002.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1118_002.html)

On 2 December 2021, Japan, alongside over 60 other WTO members, adopted a declaration on the conclusion of negotiations on services domestic regulation.<sup>1573</sup> The aim is to reduce barriers in services trade. The regulation marks the “the first new set of services rules agreed in over a quarter of a century.”<sup>1574</sup>

On 6 December 2021, Minister Hagiuda met with United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai and Executive Vice President of the European Commission Valdis Dombrovskis. Minister Hagiuda stated that Japan is committed to “working closely with the US and EU toward reforming the WTO.”<sup>1575</sup>

On 7 December 2021, Minister for Foreign Affairs Hayashi Yoshimasa spoke with Brazil’s Minister of Foreign Affairs Carlos França. They agreed to continue to lead discussions on WTO reform.<sup>1576</sup>

On 14 December 2021, Japan, Australia and Singapore released the WTO Joint Statement Initiative on E-commerce, providing an update on the progress of negotiations. Japan is one of the co-conveners of the initiative.<sup>1577</sup>

On 17 December 2021, Senior Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Suzuki Hiroshi and Canadian Deputy Minister of International Trade John Hannaford chaired the 31st Meeting of Japan-Canada Joint Economic Committee. They released a joint press release reaffirming their commitment to WTO reform.<sup>1578</sup>

On 21 January 2022, Minister Yoshimasa, Minister Koichi and State Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Takebe Arata attended the informal ministerial meeting virtually and discussed WTO reform.<sup>1579</sup>

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system. Japan has taken action to champion freer and fairer trade by actively resolving trade conflicts and engaging in bilateral discussions. Additionally, Japan has taken steps towards creating a reformed trading system by adopting a declaration on WTO reform.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Kiara Wei*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system.

On 15 June 2021, Prime Minister Boris Johnson and Secretary of State for International Trade Elizabeth Truss signed a free trade agreement with Australia.<sup>1580</sup> The deal eliminated tariffs on all UK goods and

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<sup>1573</sup> Joint Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/serv\\_e/jssdomreg\\_e.htm#participation](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/serv_e/jssdomreg_e.htm#participation)

<sup>1574</sup> Negotiations on services domestic regulation conclude successfully in Geneva, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/news21\\_e/jssdr\\_02dec21\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news21_e/jssdr_02dec21_e.htm)

<sup>1575</sup> METI Minister Hagiuda Attends Trilateral Meeting of Trade Ministers - Joint Statement Released, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1130\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1130_001.html)

<sup>1576</sup> Japan-Brazil Foreign Ministers’ Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000286.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000286.html)

<sup>1577</sup> Issuance of the WTO Joint Statement Initiative on E-commerce Statement by Ministers of Japan, Australia and Singapore (Statement by Foreign Minister HAYASHI Yoshimasa), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_003070.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_003070.html)

<sup>1578</sup> The 31st Meeting of the Japan-Canada Joint Economic Committee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_003073.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_003073.html)

<sup>1579</sup> Foreign Minister Hayashi’s attendance at the WTO Informal Ministerial Meeting hosted by Switzerland, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 21 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e\\_000249.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000249.html)

marked the end to quota and tariff restrictions placed on Australian agricultural goods under EU guidelines. British farmers will be protected by a cap on tariff-free imports for the next 15 years to safeguard domestic industries. The trade agreement will strengthen the relationship between the UK and Australia and their commitment to free trade practices.

On 17 June 2021, Secretary Truss signed a free trade agreement with the US.<sup>1581</sup> The agreement ends the historic 17-year dispute that levied retaliatory tariffs on both countries' products. The suspension will ensure that restrictions on the UK's exports to the US, valuing GBP550 million, will be lifted for the next five years. The representatives also agreed to collaborate on eliminating unfair trade practices by non-market forces.

On 21 June 2021, Secretary Truss announced the beginning of negotiations with members of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) for a free trade deal.<sup>1582</sup> Extending membership to the UK would lower tariffs on principal British exports like cars, whiskey and produce, which will boost employment in those sectors. By joining, the UK would also be agreeing to the CPTPP's strong guidelines against unfair trade practices like discrimination against private investors and favoring state-owned enterprise.

On 28 June 2021, Secretary Truss met by video call with Singapore's Minister in charge of Trade Relations S. Iswaran to begin negotiations on the Digital Economy Agreement (DEA).<sup>1583</sup> The DEA would remove barriers to digital trade, ensure companies of the respective countries can trade more efficiently, and allow the UK and Singapore exporters to extend into high-tech markets. Discussions focused on securing free and trusted cross-border data flows whilst maintaining a high standard of data protection.

On 8 July 2021, Minister for International Trade Ranil Jawawardena signed a free trade agreement with Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein.<sup>1584</sup> The agreement lowers import tariffs on some seafood products for the UK and will allow high-skilled British professionals to enter Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein for work purposes.

On 21 July 2021, the Board of Trade published a report demonstrating how free and fair-trade practices can aid in the international transition to a low-carbon economy.<sup>1585</sup> The report urged against green protectionism, and it recommended the UK promote environmentally clean exports overseas and attract foreign investment to develop a greener industrial base in the UK. Secretary Truss commented, "the UK is a leader in green exports and this report shows how free trade, free markets, and free enterprise can be leveraged to counteract green protectionist policies that hold back the global transition to a low-carbon economy."

On 2 September 2021, Secretary of State for Environment and Rural Affairs George Eustice and Secretary Truss oversaw the opening of Mexico's market for British pork imports, marking a further reduction in trade

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<sup>1580</sup> UK agrees historic trade deal with Australia, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 18 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-agrees-historic-trade-deal-with-australia>

<sup>1581</sup> Government reaches historic deal on US tariff dispute, Department for International Trade (London) 17 June 2021. Access Date: 18 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-reaches-historic-deal-on-us-tariff-dispute>

<sup>1582</sup> Britain launches negotiations with £9 trillion Pacific free trade area, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 18 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/britain-launches-negotiations-with-9-trillion-pacific-free-trade-area>

<sup>1583</sup> UK and Singapore start negotiations on the Digital Trade Agreement, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 28 June 2021. Access Date: 18 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-singapore-start-negotiations-on-digital-trade-agreement>

<sup>1584</sup> UK signs free trade deal with Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 8 July 2021. Access Date: 18 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/united-kingdom-signs-free-trade-deal-with-norway-iceland-and-liechtenstein>

<sup>1585</sup> New trade report argues UK should reject 'green protectionism' and harness free market to address climate crisis, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 21 July 2021. Access Date: 19 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-trade-report-argues-uk-should-reject-green-protectionism-and-harness-free-market-to-address-climate-crisis>



barriers between Mexico and the UK.<sup>1586</sup> The countries also committed to begin negotiating a new trade deal in the subsequent year which will see greater reductions in tariff and quota restrictions.

On 13 September 2021, Secretary Truss reaffirmed the UK's commitment to free trade in a press release.<sup>1587</sup> She noted that “the path to economic revival does not lie in retreating and re-entrenching but in free trade and free enterprise” arguing that “British employers can only benefit from free trade by selling their products, innovation, capital, and ideas overseas.”

On 13 September 2021, Secretary Truss met with India's Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal to discuss the details for a UK-India free trade agreement. They agreed to continue negotiations on the matter.<sup>1588</sup>

On 15 September 2021, the first consultation between the economic ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the UK was held. Secretary Truss co-chaired the consultation. They discussed topics on trade and investment including reforming the World Trade Organization.<sup>1589</sup>

On 15 September 2021, Minister Jayawardena met with Uruguay's Foreign Minister Francisco Bustillo. They discussed strengthening bilateral trade and agreed to strengthen ties by formally agreeing to establish the United Kingdom-Uruguay Trade Dialogue.<sup>1590</sup>

On 20 October 2021, Prime Minister Johnson and Secretary of State for International Trade Anne-Marie Trevelyan signed a free trade agreement with New Zealand.<sup>1591</sup> The agreement removes tariffs on British products such as clothing and machinery. Several high-quality New Zealand goods also became available for British markets at a reduced cost.

On 22 October 2021, Secretary Trevelyan joined G7 Trade Ministers to advocate for open digital markets free from digital protectionism in addition to increasing transparency and fairness in the digital and telecommunications markets.<sup>1592</sup> Ministers supported a prohibition of duties on electronic transmissions in accordance with the WTO Moratorium on Customs Duties on Electronic Transmission.

On 25 October 2021, Minister for Trade Penny Mordaunt released a joint statement with Chile's Minister for Trade Rodrigo Yañez that reaffirmed their commitment to free and fair trade.<sup>1593</sup> They granted the use of digital certificates for exporters to cut down on red tape barriers to reduce burdens on businesses. The UK also became the first European country to gain access to some of Chile's agricultural markets.

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<sup>1586</sup> Mexican market opens its doors for imports of British pork, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 2 September 2021. Access Date: 19 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mexican-market-opens-its-doors-for-imports-of-british-pork>

<sup>1587</sup> Embrace free trade to drive the levelling-up agenda, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 13 September 2021. Access Date: 19 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/embrace-free-trade-to-drive-the-levelling-up-agenda>

<sup>1588</sup> Liz Truss's meeting with Indian commerce minister Piyush Goyal, Department for International Trade (London) 13 September 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/liz-truss-meeting-with-indian-commerce-minister-piyush-goyal>

<sup>1589</sup> UK-ASEAN Joint media statement, Department for International Trade (London) 15 September 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-asean-joint-media-statement>

<sup>1590</sup> Joint Declaration on United Kingdom – Uruguay Joint Commission, Department for International Trade (London) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-declaration-on-united-kingdom-uruguay-joint-commission>

<sup>1591</sup> UK agrees historic trade deal with New Zealand, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 20 October 2021. Access Date: 19 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-agrees-historic-trade-deal-with-new-zealand>

<sup>1592</sup> G7 Trade Ministers' Digital Trade Principles, Press Release, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 19 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/g7-trade-ministers-digital-trade-principles>

<sup>1593</sup> UK-Chile Trade Dialogue Ministerial Joint Statement, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 26 October 2021. Access Date: 19 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/united-kingdom-chile-trade-dialogue-ministerial-joint-statement>

On 11 November 2021, Minister Mordaunt upheld the principles of free and fair trade in her speech to the House of Commons.<sup>1594</sup> She noted that “trading superpowers have a special responsibility to practice free trade and fair trade to support the multilateral trading system” and proposed the creation of “the most advanced FTA [Free Trade Agreement] in the world” between the UK and the US.

On 2 December 2021, the UK alongside over 60 other WTO members delivered an agreement on Services Domestic Regulation. The agreement will remove barriers to services trade through cutting red tape surround licensing and qualifications.<sup>1595</sup>

On 9 December 2021, Secretary Trevelyan and Singapore Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations S Iswaran agreed in principle for a digital economy agreement. The agreement will overhaul “outdated trade rules that affect both goods and services exporters.”<sup>1596</sup>

On 16 December 2021, the UK signed a trade deal with Australia in a virtual ceremony. The free trade agreement lowered tariffs and will help businesses in both countries.<sup>1597</sup>

On 14 January 2022, the UK and India released a joint statement of the 15th meeting of the India-UK Joint Economic and Trade Committee. They committed to continuing negotiations on a free trade agreement and further discussing other matters such as WTO reform.<sup>1598</sup>

On 19 January 2022, Secretary Trevelyan, US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo and US Trade Representative Katherine Tai announced the beginning of bilateral trade discussions “to address global steel and aluminium excess capacity.” They agreed to continue discussions to address shared economic challenges in these industries.<sup>1599</sup>

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system. The UK has taken action to champion freer and fairer trade by actively renegotiating trade agreements across a range of sectors. Additionally, the UK has taken steps towards creating a reformed trading system by advancing the WTO’s trade rules.

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

*Analyst: Chiara Barsanti*

### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system.

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<sup>1594</sup> Minister Mordaunt Chatham House speech, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 11 November 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/minister-mordaunt-chatham-house-speech>

<sup>1595</sup> UK helps broker groundbreaking WTO agreement set to cut cost of global services trade by £113 billion, Department for International Trade (London) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-helps-broker-groundbreaking-wto-agreement-set-to-cut-cost-of-global-services-trade-by-113-billion>

<sup>1596</sup> UK agrees world's most comprehensive digital trade deal with Singapore, Department for International Trade (London) 9 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-agrees-worlds-most-comprehensive-digital-trade-deal-with-singapore>

<sup>1597</sup> UK and Australia sign world-class trade deal, Department for International Trade (London) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-australia-sign-world-class-trade-deal>

<sup>1598</sup> India-UK Joint Statement on the JETCO, Department for International Trade (London) 14 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/india-uk-joint-statement-on-the-jetco>

<sup>1599</sup> UK-US Joint Statement on Addressing Global Steel and Aluminium Excess Capacity, Department for International Trade (London) 19 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-us-joint-statement-on-addressing-global-steel-and-aluminium-excess-capacity>

On 15 June 2021, Trade Representative Katherine Tai met with members of the European Parliament's International Trade Committee. She highlighted how "transatlantic cooperation could help promote a worker-centered trade policy and cooperate to face global challenges." They also discussed the need to work together proactively on reform of the World Trade Organization (WTO).<sup>1600</sup>

On 29 June 2021, Representative Tai today met virtually with Singapore Minister of Trade and Industry Gan Kim Yong to discuss bilateral trade and investment. They agreed to collaborate on areas of shared interest including WTO reform.<sup>1601</sup>

On 1 July 2021, Representative Tai met with Finland's Minister for Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade Ville Skinnari and discussed opportunities of collaboration on a wide range of issues including WTO reform.<sup>1602</sup>

On 6 July 2021, Representative Tai met with Canada's Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade Mary Ng. They discussed areas for collaboration including developing an inclusive trade policy and WTO reform.<sup>1603</sup>

On 21 July 2021, Representative Tai met with Australian Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment Dan Tehan to discuss bilateral trade relations and relating issues, such as WTO reform.<sup>1604</sup>

On 28 July 2021, Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Africa at the National Security Council Dana Banks announced further details of the recently launched Prosper Africa Build Together Campaign.<sup>1605</sup> New details include an additional USD80 million funding, as well as discussions on increasing two-way trade and investment between the US and Africa.

On 2 August 2021, Representative Tai and Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo co-hosted the inaugural Industry Trade Advisory Committee (ITAC) meeting.<sup>1606</sup> They addressed shared priorities with ITAC members, one of which was to remove trade barriers.

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<sup>1600</sup> Readout of Ambassador Tai's Meeting with the European Parliament Committee on International Trade, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/june/readout-ambassador-tais-meeting-european-parliament-committee-international-trade>

<sup>1601</sup> Readout of Ambassador Tai's Virtual Meeting with Singapore Trade and Industry Minister Gan Kim Yong, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/june/readout-ambassador-tais-virtual-meeting-singapore-trade-and-industry-minister-gan-kim-yong>

<sup>1602</sup> Readout of Ambassador Tai's Meeting with Finland Minister for Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade Ville Skinnari, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 1 July 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/july/readout-ambassador-tais-meeting-finland-minister-development-cooperation-and-foreign-trade-ville>

<sup>1603</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting with Canada's Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade Mary Ng, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/july/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-canadas-minister-small-business-export-promotion-and>

<sup>1604</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting with Australian Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment Dan Tehan, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 21 July 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/july/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-australian-minister-trade-tourism-and-investment-dan-tehan>

<sup>1605</sup> Digital Press Briefing on U.S.-Africa Trade and Investment through Prosper Africa, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.state.gov/digital-press-briefing-on-u-s-africa-trade-and-investment-through-prosper-africa>

<sup>1606</sup> Readout of the Inaugural Industry Trade Advisory Committee Meeting, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 2 August 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/08/readout-inaugural-industry-trade-advisory-committee-meeting>

On 6 August 2021, the US and Uruguay concluded the ninth Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA). Both agreed to “review the existing TIFA and its protocols and to develop new instruments to reflect up-to-date trade rules that support competitiveness and economic recovery.”<sup>1607</sup>

On 18 August 2021, the WTO announced that the US had contributed USD600,000 in 2021 to the WTO’s Global Trust Fund.<sup>1608</sup> The donation aims to help developing countries play a more prominent role in global trade negotiations through financing training and capacity-building activities for government officials.

On 13 September 2021, Representative Tai met with United Arab Emirates Minister of Economy Abdulla Bin Touq Al-Marri and Minister of State for Foreign Trade Thani bin Ahmed Al-Zeyoudi. Ambassador Tai reiterated the US’ support for WTO reforms, such as “adjusting the institution’s approach to special and differential treatment” and requested support from the UAE.<sup>1609</sup>

On 15 September 2021, the US released a joint media statement with the countries in attendance at the ninth East Asia Summit Economic Ministers’ Meeting. The meeting reaffirmed its commitment to the free and fair multilateral trading system centered on the WTO and the need for WTO reform.<sup>1610</sup>

On 20 September 2021, the Department of Commerce modified regulations regarding antidumping and countervailing duty practices.<sup>1611</sup> Secretary Raimondo stated that the modifications aim to safeguard stakeholders in the US economy from actions that undermine free and fair trade.

On 28 September 2021, Secretary Antony Blinken’s attended the US-EU Trade and Technology Council (TTC) inaugural meeting.<sup>1612</sup> The meeting highlights a focus on deepening transatlantic trade and investment, with additional mentions of tackling unfair trade practices around the world. A press release from the Department of Commerce the following day further reinforces the TTC’s objective of avoiding new and unnecessary barriers to trade of new technologies.<sup>1613</sup>

On 28 September 2021, Representative Tai met with European Commission Executive Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis. They discussed bilateral and multilateral issues, including WTO reform.<sup>1614</sup>

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<sup>1607</sup> Joint Statement of the United States and Uruguay — Trade and Investment Council, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 6 August 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/august/joint-statement-united-states-and-uruguay-trade-and-investment-council>

<sup>1608</sup> United States gives USD 600,000 to boost negotiating capacities in developing countries, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. [https://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/pres21\\_e/pr885\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres21_e/pr885_e.htm)

<sup>1609</sup> Readout Of Ambassador Katherine Tai’s Meeting with United Arab Emirates Minister Of Economy Abdulla Bin Touq Al-Marri And Minister Of State For Foreign Trade Dr. Thani Bin Ahmed Al-Zeyoudi, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 13 September 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/september/readout-ambassador-katherine-tai-meeting-united-arab-emirates-minister-economy-abdulla-bin-touq-al>

<sup>1610</sup> Joint Media Statement: The Ninth EAS Economic Ministers’ Meeting, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 15 September 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/september/joint-media-statement-ninth-eas-economic-ministers-meeting>

<sup>1611</sup> Commerce Strengthens Rules to Fight Unfair Trade Practices, International Trade Administration (Washington D.C.) 20 September 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.trade.gov/press-release/commerce-strengthens-rules-fight-unfair-trade-practices>

<sup>1612</sup> The United States-European Union Trade and Technology Council, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 28 September 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.state.gov/the-united-states-european-union-trade-and-technology-council>

<sup>1613</sup> U.S.-EU Trade and Technology Council Inaugural Joint Statement, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 29 September 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/09/us-eu-trade-and-technology-council-inaugural-joint-statement>

<sup>1614</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai Meeting with European Commission Executive Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 28 September 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/september/readout-ambassador-katherine-tai-meeting-european-commission-executive-vice-president-valdis>

On 7 October 2021, Secretary Raimondo and Singapore Minister for Trade and Industry Gan Kim Yong signed a memorandum of understanding, implementing the US-Singapore Partnership for Growth and Innovation.<sup>1615</sup> The partnership aims to strengthen trade and investment collaboration between the US and Singapore.

On 18 October 2021, Representative Tai met with Honduras' Secretary for Economic Development, María Antonia Rivera. They committed to strengthening implementation of the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement and “optimizing the Agreement’s potential through regional integration, facilitating trade, and capacity building.”<sup>1616</sup>

On 19 October 2021, Secretary Raimondo announced 13 new grants totaling USD3 million to assist targeted projects that promote US exports in international markets to remove, reduce or prevent trade barriers.<sup>1617</sup>

On 22 October 2021, Representative Tai released a statement following the conclusion of the G7 Trade Ministers Meeting. She stated that “the G7 committed to working closely with our allies and like-minded partners towards building truly fair international trade that enables healthy competition and confronts unfair market distorting practices.”<sup>1618</sup>

On 22 October 2021, Representative Tai met with France Minister-Delegate for Foreign Trade Franck Riester at the G7 Trade Ministers Meeting. They discussed the need for WTO reform, including the dispute settlement system.<sup>1619</sup>

On 31 October 2021, the US and the EU took steps to “re-establish historical transatlantic trade flows in steel and aluminium.” The US committed to not apply section 232 duties and allow duty-free importation of steel and aluminium from the EU.<sup>1620</sup>

On 17 November 2021, the Office of the United States Trade Representative, Japan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Japan’s Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry announced the launch of the US-Japan

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<sup>1615</sup> U.S.-Singapore Partnership for Growth and Innovation: A Joint Statement by U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo and Singapore Minister for Trade and Industry Gan Kim Yong, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/10/us-singapore-partnership-growth-and-innovation-joint-statement-us>

<sup>1616</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai’s Meeting with Honduras’ Secretary for Economic Development María Antonia Rivera, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 18 October 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/october/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-honduras-secretary-economic-development-maria-antonia>

<sup>1617</sup> Commerce Secretary Awards 13 Grants to Boost U.S. Exports, Support High Quality Jobs, International Trade Administration (Washington D.C.) 19 October 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.trade.gov/press-release/commerce-secretary-awards-13-grants-boost-us-exports-support-high-quality-jobs>

<sup>1618</sup> Statement from Ambassador Katherine Tai on the G7 Trade Ministers Meeting, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/october/statement-ambassador-katherine-tai-g7-trade-ministers-meeting>

<sup>1619</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai’s Meeting with France Minister-Delegate for Foreign Trade Franck Riester, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/october/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-france-minister-delegate-foreign-trade-franck-riester>

<sup>1620</sup> Joint US-EU Statement on Trade in Steel and Aluminum, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 31 October 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/october/joint-us-eu-statement-trade-steel-and-aluminum>

Partnership on Trade. Ambassador Tai stated that the partnership “will deepen the cooperation between the United States and Japan that has defined our strong bilateral trade relationship.”<sup>1621</sup>

On 19 November 2021, Representative Tai and Korea’s Minister of Trade Yeo Han-koo released a Joint Statement at the conclusion of the sixth Joint Committee Meeting of the Korea-US Free Trade Agreement (KORUS FTA). They agreed to “initiate new approaches through enhanced channels of communication to effectively address emerging trade-related issues” and discussed the implementation of the KORUS FTA.<sup>1622</sup>

On 23 November 2021, the US and India today released a joint statement at the India-United States Trade Policy Forum. The countries agreed to work together on bilateral trade issues and to relaunch workshops “focused on accelerating implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement.”<sup>1623</sup>

On 30 November 2021, Representative Tai met with Japan’s Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Hagiuda Koichi and Executive Vice President of the European Commission Valdis Dombrovskis. They agreed to continue their cooperation for trade issues, such as identifying non-market access problems, identifying gaps in enforcement and WTO reform.<sup>1624</sup>

On 2 December 2021, the US and over 60 other WTO member announced the successful conclusion of negotiations of the WTO Joint Statement Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation. The rules will “improve the transparency and fairness of processes for obtaining authorizations to provide services by professionals and firms in a wide array of fields.”<sup>1625</sup>

On 7 December 2021, Representative Tai met with Austria’s Minister for Digital and Economic Affairs Margarete Schramböck. They discussed the need for WTO reform and highlighted accomplishments such as the launch of the Trade and Technology Council, which will provide a platform to address non-market practices.<sup>1626</sup>

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<sup>1621</sup> United States and Japan Announce The Formation Of The U.S.-Japan Partnership On Trade, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 17 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/november/united-states-and-japan-announce-formation-us-japan-partnership-trade-0>

<sup>1622</sup> Joint Statement by the Trade Ministers of the United States of America and the Republic of Korea on the Occasion of the Sixth Meeting of the Joint Committee of the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 19 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/november/joint-statement-trade-ministers-united-states-america-and-republic-korea-occasion-sixth-meeting>

<sup>1623</sup> Joint Statement from the United States - India Trade Policy Forum, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 23 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/november/joint-statement-united-states-india-trade-policy-forum>

<sup>1624</sup> Joint Statement of the Trade Ministers of the United States, Japan, and the European Union After a Trilateral Meeting, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/november/joint-statement-trade-ministers-united-states-japan-and-european-union-after-trilateral-meeting>

<sup>1625</sup> United States Welcomes Successful Conclusion of Negotiation of WTO Joint Statement Initiative On Services Domestic Regulation, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/december/united-states-welcomes-successful-conclusion-negotiation-wto-joint-statement-initiative-services>

<sup>1626</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai’s Virtual Meeting with Austrian Minister for Digital and Economic Affairs Margarete Schramböck, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/december/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-virtual-meeting-austrian-minister-digital-and-economic-affairs>

On 7 December 2021, Representative Tai met with the UK Secretary of State for International Trade Anne-Marie Trevelyan. They agreed to continue cooperation on a variety of topics, including WTO reform.<sup>1627</sup>

On 12 January 2022, Deputy Trade Representative Jayme White today held a virtual meeting with Canada's Deputy Minister of International Trade David Morrison. They emphasized the close relationship between countries and reiterated their commitment "to fully implementing the USMCA and ensuring that trade advances equity and opportunity in North America."<sup>1628</sup>

On 19 January 2022, Secretary of Commerce Gina M. Raimondo, Representative Tai and the UK's Secretary of State for International Trade Anne-Marie Trevelyan announced the start of bilateral discussions to address global steel and aluminum excess capacity. The negotiations will include addressing US tariffs on imports from the UK under Section 232 and the UK's retaliatory tariffs on certain US exports to the UK.<sup>1629</sup>

On 21 January 2022, Representative Tai attended the virtual informal WTO ministerial gathering and reiterated the US' "deep commitment to the WTO and the urgent need to begin innovative discussions about reforming the institution."<sup>1630</sup>

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system. The US has taken strong action towards championing freer and fairer trade by participating in multilateral trade discussions, allocating funds towards removing trade barriers and lowering tariffs. Additionally, the US has taken steps towards creating a reformed trading system by adopting a declaration to update the WTO's rules of trade.

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

*Analyst: Joseph MuQin Shen*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system.

On 15 June 2021, the EU and the United States agreed to engage in discussions to resolve the Airbus-Boeing trade dispute.<sup>1631</sup> The European Parliament's Chair of the Committee on International Trade Bernd Lange welcomed the aircraft subsidy deal suspending tariffs for four months.<sup>1632</sup>

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<sup>1627</sup> Readout of Ambassador Tai's Meeting with United Kingdom Secretary of State for International Trade Anne-Marie Trevelyan, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022.

<https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/december/readout-ambassador-tais-meeting-united-kingdom-secretary-state-international-trade-anne-marie>

<sup>1628</sup> Readout of Ambassador Jayme White's Virtual Meeting with Canada's Deputy Minister of International Trade David Morrison, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 12 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022.

<https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/january/readout-ambassador-jayme-whites-virtual-meeting-canadas-deputy-minister-international-trade-david>

<sup>1629</sup> Joint United States – United Kingdom Statement on Addressing Global Steel and Aluminum Excess Capacity, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 19 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/january/joint-united-states-united-kingdom-statement-addressing-global-steel-and-aluminum-excess-capacity>

<sup>1630</sup> Readout of Ambassador Tai's Virtual Meeting with WTO Ministers, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 19 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/january/readout-ambassador-tais-virtual-meeting-wto-ministers>

<sup>1631</sup> EU and US reach deal to end Airbus-Boeing trade dispute, Euronews (Lyon) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.euronews.com/2021/06/15/eu-and-us-close-to-a-deal-to-end-airbus-boeing-trade-dispute>

On 15 June 2021, the EU-US Summit took place in Brussels.<sup>1633</sup> The summit resulted in three major new trade initiatives, including the creation of a Cooperative Framework for Large Civil Aircraft, engaging in discussions to resolve discussions on measures regarding steel and aluminum by the end of the year, and establishing an EU-US Trade and Technology Council.<sup>1634</sup>

On 29 September 2021, the EU-US Trade and Technology Council (TTC) met for the first time.<sup>1635</sup> The TTC is a new forum designed to deepen economic ties, coordinate digital policy, and ensure swift and efficient dispute resolution.<sup>1636</sup> The EU reaffirmed the TTC's objectives to coordinate approaches to key global technology, economic and trade issues and to deepen transatlantic trade and economic relations, basing policies on shared democratic values.<sup>1637</sup>

On 30 September 2021, the European Parliament's Chair of the Committee on International Trade Bernd Lange made a statement at the TTC's inaugural meeting.<sup>1638</sup> The EU, together with the US, reaffirmed the TTC's objectives to coordinate approaches to economic and trade issues and to deepen transatlantic trade and economic relations.

On 2 November 2021, the EU reached an agreement with the US regarding steel and aluminum tariffs.<sup>1639</sup> A portion of European steel and aluminum exports will be allowed to enter the US without tariffs under the deal, and the EU will drop its retaliatory tariffs on American goods.

On 18 November 2021, Executive Vice President of the European Commission Valdis Dombrovskis held an online meeting with Japan's Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Koichi Hagiuda to promote cooperation between the EU and Japan.<sup>1640</sup>

On 22 November 2021, the European Parliament's Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection adopted a draft report on tackling non-tariff and non-tax barriers in the EU's single market.<sup>1641</sup> The draft report highlights the importance of the single market and points to persistent non-tariff barriers – a situation that has deteriorated during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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<sup>1632</sup> Trade Committee chair welcomes aircraft subsidy deal: statement, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210615IPR06205/trade-committee-chair-welcomes-aircraft-subsidy-deal-statement>

<sup>1633</sup> EU leaders meet US Biden in EU-US Summit in Brussels, Euronews (Lyon) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.euronews.com/2021/06/15/eu-s-michel-and-von-der-leyen-greet-biden-at-council-building>

<sup>1634</sup> EU-US Summit, Brussels, 15 June 2021, European Council (Strasbourg) 5 October 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2021/06/15/>

<sup>1635</sup> EU-US Trade and Technology Council inaugural joint statement, European Commission (Brussels) 29 September 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/STATEMENT\\_21\\_4951](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/STATEMENT_21_4951)

<sup>1636</sup> EU and US vow to boost microchip supplies and promote trustworthy AI, Euronews (Lyon) 1 October 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.euronews.com/2021/09/30/eu-and-us-vow-to-boost-microchip-supplies-and-promote-trustworthy-ai>

<sup>1637</sup> EU-US Trade and Technology Council Inaugural Joint Statement, European Commission (Brussels) 29 September 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/STATEMENT\\_21\\_4951](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/STATEMENT_21_4951)

<sup>1638</sup> EU-US Trade and Technology Council Inaugural Joint Statement, European Commission (Brussels) 29 September 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/STATEMENT\\_21\\_4951](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/STATEMENT_21_4951)

<sup>1639</sup> EU and US each agreement to settle rift over Trump-era steel and aluminium tariffs, Euronews (Lyon) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.euronews.com/2021/10/31/eu-and-us-reach-agreement-to-settle-rift-over-trump-era-steel-and-aluminium-tariffs>

<sup>1640</sup> Minister Hagiuda Holds Video Conference with H.E. Mr. Valdis Dombrovskis, Executive Vice President of the European Commission for an Economy that Works for People and European Commissioner for Trade, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1118\\_002.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1118_002.html)

<sup>1641</sup> Tackling non-tariff and non-tax barriers in the Single Market, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 23 November 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/tackling-non-tariff-and-non-tax-barriers/product-details/20211119CAN64241>



On 2 December 2021, the EU, alongside over 60 other members of the World Trade Organization (WTO), adopted a declaration on the conclusion of negotiations on services domestic regulation.<sup>1642</sup> The aim is to reduce barriers in services trade. The regulation marks the “the first new set of services rules agreed in over a quarter of a century.”<sup>1643</sup>

On 6 December 2021, Vice President Dombrovskis met with Japan’s Minister Hagiuda and United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai. They committed to cooperating on WTO reform.<sup>1644</sup>

On 8 December 2021, Vice President Dombrovskis announced a new trade instrument that will allow the EU to impose sanctions on foreign governments, companies and individuals who abuse trade and financial ties with the aim of forcing a change in EU policy.<sup>1645</sup> Once the final version of the regulation is in place, any EU country will be permitted to ask the European Commission to trigger the mechanism.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system. The EU has taken strong action towards championing freer and fairer trade by removing tariffs and non-tariff barriers to trade and introducing a new trade dispute mechanism. Additionally, the EU has taken steps towards creating a reformed trading system by participating in updating rules within the WTO.

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

*Analyst: Jesslene Lee*

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<sup>1642</sup> Joint Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/serv\\_e/jsdomreg\\_e.htm#participation](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/serv_e/jsdomreg_e.htm#participation)

<sup>1643</sup> Negotiations on services domestic regulation conclude successfully in Geneva, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/news21\\_e/jssdr\\_02dec21\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news21_e/jssdr_02dec21_e.htm)

<sup>1644</sup> METI Minister Hagiuda Attends Trilateral Meeting of Trade Ministers - Joint Statement Released, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1130\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1130_001.html)

<sup>1645</sup> Brussels is vowing to fight back against economic coercion. But how far will it go?, Euronews (Lyon) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.euronews.com/2021/12/08/brussels-is-vowing-to-fight-back-against-economic-coercion-but-how-far-will-it-go>

### 13. Gender: Education Equality

“We will do this in a way that values the individual and promotes equality, especially gender equality, including by supporting a target to get 40 million more girls into education and with at least \$2¾ billion for the Global Partnership for Education.”

*Carbis Bay G7 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 (100%)	

#### Background

Gender equality has been addressed at the G7 summits sporadically since the 1990 Houston Summit, with a more sustained increase in recent years.<sup>1646</sup> In 1979, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against all Women (CEDAW), which propelled international discourse on gender equality.<sup>1647</sup> The Convention advocates for “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.”

The creation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action at the culmination of the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995 further promoted gender equality in global governance.<sup>1648</sup> The Platform for Action provides a blueprint for the advancement of women’s rights across twelve areas of concern, including education and training, which 189 countries agreed to.

The UN General Assembly’s adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development turned further attention to global gender equality.<sup>1649</sup> Specifically, Sustainable Development Goal Five seeks to “achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls” by 2030. All 193 UN General Assembly member states committed to this goal, demonstrating a global willingness to end gender inequality.

The commitment made by the G7 members at the 2021 Cornwall Summit to promote gender equality and support education for girls emerged from the recommendations of the G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council (GEAC). The GEAC acknowledged the potential global setback with respect to gender equality posed by the

<sup>1646</sup> G7 Performance on Gender Equality, The Global Governance Project (London) 7 June 2021. Access Date: 19 September 2021. <https://www.globalgovernanceproject.org/g7-performance-on-gender-equality-3/>

<sup>1647</sup> Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, United Nations Women (New York) 18 December 1979. Access Date: 19 September 2021. <https://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/>

<sup>1648</sup> Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, United Nations Women (New York) 15 September 1995. Access Date: 19 September 2021. [https://beijing20.unwomen.org/~media/headquarters/attachments/sections/csw/pfa\\_e\\_final\\_web.pdf](https://beijing20.unwomen.org/~media/headquarters/attachments/sections/csw/pfa_e_final_web.pdf)

<sup>1649</sup> Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (New York) 17 September 2015. Access Date: 19 September 2021. <https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda>

COVID-19 pandemic and called on G7 leaders to take urgent action.<sup>1650</sup> The GEAC focused the recommendations around three themes: “girls’ education and the participation of women and girls in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM); women’s empowerment; and eradicating violence against women and girls.”

At the 2002 Kananaskis Summit, the G8 members committed to improving education for girls globally.<sup>1651</sup> The commitments made were part of a larger goal to achieve the Millennium Development Goal of universal primary education by 2015.<sup>1652</sup> This marked the beginning of G7 commitments to girls’ education.

At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, the G8 members reaffirmed their commitment to achieve gender equality in education by 2015. The reaffirmation of this commitment came after failing to meet interim targets relating to the 2002 commitment.<sup>1653</sup>

At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, the G8 members established the Muskoka Initiative to increase healthcare assistance to developing countries to reduce the number of maternal, newborn, and under five child deaths.<sup>1654</sup> The G8 leaders also committed to addressing gender inequality in developing countries and improving education for girls.

At the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit, the G7 members reaffirmed their commitment to gender equality.<sup>1655</sup> Specifically, the members focused on promoting women’s economic empowerment by increasing technical and vocational training for women by one third by 2030. The members affirmed their support for the UN Women’s Empowerment Principles and called on companies to apply them to their practices.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, the G7 members committed to acting in line with the G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls: towards Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace.<sup>1656</sup> The members focused on promoting capacity-building to help women and girls realize their full potential through education and training. The members also promoted the role of women in STEM careers.

The 2017 Taormina Summit was an important milestone for global gender equality as the Gender Equality Ministers and G7 leaders met for the G7 Ministerial Meeting on Gender Equality.<sup>1657</sup> The G7 members reaffirmed their previous commitments to gender equality, including promoting the participation of women in STEM, reducing the wage gap and promoting equal opportunities for women.

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, the G7 leaders increased their attention to gender equality. The “Charlevoix Declaration on Quality Education for Girls, Adolescent Girls and Women in Developing Countries”

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<sup>1650</sup> Recommendations of the Gender Equality Advisory Council 2021 to the Leaders of the G7, G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council (Cornwall) June 2021. Access Date: 19 September 2021.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/992410/RECOMMENDATIONS\\_OF\\_THE\\_GENDER\\_EQUALITY\\_ADVISORY\\_COUNCIL\\_2021\\_TO\\_THE\\_LEADERS\\_OF\\_THE\\_G7.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/992410/RECOMMENDATIONS_OF_THE_GENDER_EQUALITY_ADVISORY_COUNCIL_2021_TO_THE_LEADERS_OF_THE_G7.pdf)

<sup>1651</sup> A New Focus on Education for All, G7/G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2002. Access Date: 18 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/education.html>

<sup>1652</sup> Gender Still High on the G7 Agenda, G7/ G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 April 2016. Access Date: 18 September 2021. <http://www.g7g20.com/articles/julia-kulik-gender-still-high-on-the-g7-agenda>

<sup>1653</sup> All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7/G8 Information Centre (Toronto) n.d. Access Date: 19 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8\\_commitments-to-2012.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf)

<sup>1654</sup> Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Center (Toronto) 26 June 2010. Access Date: 19 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>

<sup>1655</sup> G7 Leaders’ Declaration: Elmau, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 19 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>1656</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Center (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 19 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

<sup>1657</sup> G7 Ministerial Meeting on Gender Equality: Declaration of the Minister Taormina, Italy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 November 2017. Access Date: 19 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/gender/2017-gender-quality.html>

committed the G7 members to closing the education gap, helping women access post-secondary education, and providing at least twelve years of quality education for women and girls, among other commitments.<sup>1658</sup>

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, the G7 leaders committed to individually adopting laws that advance gender equality and empower women.<sup>1659</sup> The G7 leaders also reaffirmed their support for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence and highlighted the importance of working with developing countries to ensure women have access to STEM education.<sup>1660</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

The G7 members committed to “[value] the individual and [promote] equality, especially gender equality, including by supporting a target to get 40 million more girls into education and with at least \$2¾ billion for the Global Partnership for Education.”<sup>1661</sup>

This commitment is linked to, although not the same as, the global sustainable development goal on education (SDG4) milestone girls’ education target of “40 million more girls in education by 2026 in low and lower-middle income countries,” and to the G7 Foreign and Development Ministers’ Girls Education Declaration of 5 May 2021.<sup>1662</sup>

To “value” is understood to mean to consider or rate highly.<sup>1663</sup>

To “promote” is understood to mean to support or renew old efforts or create new efforts in the area of gender equality. In this case, the efforts do not have to be brand new initiatives and can be any action that builds upon or develops new initiatives for increasing the number of girls in education.<sup>1664</sup>

“Gender equality” refers to the equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of women and men and girls and boys.<sup>1665</sup> It does not mean that all genders will be the same but that women’s and men’s rights, responsibilities and opportunities will not depend on whether they are born male or female. “Women” is understood to mean female individuals aged 18 or more, and “girls” refers to female individuals below the age of 18 years.<sup>1666</sup>

To “support” is understood to mean the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity.<sup>1667</sup> In this case, the G7 members must aid, assist, or back up the target of getting 40 million more girls into education. Examples of actions that support this target include those highlighted in the Girls

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<sup>1658</sup> Charlevoix Declaration on Quality Education for Girls, Adolescent Girls and Women in Developing Countries, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 19 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/education-commitment.html>

<sup>1659</sup> Annex for the Biarritz Partnership on Gender Equality, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 19 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/biarritz-partnership-on-gender-equality.html>

<sup>1660</sup> Declaration on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) N.D. Access Date: 19 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-on-gender-equality.pdf>

<sup>1661</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

<sup>1662</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

<sup>1663</sup> Definition of Value, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/value>

<sup>1664</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 24 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>1665</sup> Concepts and Definitions, UN Women (New York) n.d. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/conceptsanddefinitions.htm>

<sup>1666</sup> Convention on the Rights of the Child, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (Geneva) 20 November 1989. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CRC.aspx>

<sup>1667</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 24 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

Education Declaration as “political commitments” or the “removal of obstacles to education,” such as scaling up early literacy and math programmes, expanding girls’ opportunities to obtain Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and reducing sexual or gender-based violence in or out of schools.<sup>1668</sup> Actions taken to promote gender equality domestically would also support this target.

The first part of this commitment has a depth component of how strong the action taken by the G7 member is.<sup>1669</sup> For full compliance, a G7 member must take significant action either domestically or internationally. Full compliance requires stronger actions such as the allocation of personnel or money, or the expansion of programs or legislation that support the educational goal. Actions towards partial compliance could include verbal reaffirmation of the goal of 40 million more girls in education, or sharing information internationally that benefits this goal.

The Global Partnership for Education (GPE) is a global fund and multi-stakeholder partnership, established in 2002, that focuses exclusively on bringing quality education to children in lower-income countries.<sup>1670</sup> Examples of actions that support the second part of the commitment of USD2.75 billion towards the GPE include assignment of budgetary resources, or launches of monetary partnerships.

To achieve full compliance, or a score of +1, the G7 member must promote gender equality by both taking strong action to support the target of getting 40 million more girls into education and by contributing monetarily to the USD2.75 billion goal towards the Global Partnership for Education. Examples of strong action, as mentioned above, include allocating money and funding, expanding upon or creating new programs that work to increase the number of girls in education.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be awarded if the G7 member only takes strong action towards one of the commitment targets—either 40 million more girls in education or USD2.75 billion to the GPE. Taking only weak action in one component of the commitment will not be sufficient for receiving partial compliance.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be awarded if the G7 member has completed only weak action to the commitment of 40 million more girls in education or no action towards either of the aforementioned criteria. An example of an action that is too weak to be counted towards compliance, as mentioned above, include merely restating the commitment internationally (such as at conferences but without making any commitments).

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has NOT taken strong actions to promote gender equality, by supporting NEITHER the target to get 40 million more girls into education NOR the goal to generate at least \$2¾ billion for the Global Partnership for Education.
0	The G7 member has taken strong actions to promote gender equality, by supporting the target to EITHER get 40 million more girls into education OR generate at least \$2¾ billion for the Global Partnership for Education.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong actions to promote gender equality, by supporting BOTH the target to get 40 million more girls into education AND generate at least \$2¾ billion for the Global Partnership for Education.

*Compliance Director: Kiyala Amos-Flom  
Lead Analyst: Alexandra Nicu*

<sup>1668</sup> Declaration on Girls’ Education, UK Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (London) 5 May 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/g7-foreign-and-development-ministers-meeting-may-2021-communique/declaration-on-girls-education-recovering-from-covid-19-and-unlocking-agenda-2030#fn:1>

<sup>1669</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 24 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>1670</sup> Factsheet: The Global Partnership for Education, Global Partnership for Education (Washington D.C.) February 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.globalpartnership.org/content/global-partnership-education-factsheet>

**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to promote gender equality, including by supporting a target to get 40 million girls into education and generating at least USD2.75 billion for the Global Partnership for Education.

On 13 June 2021, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced a CAD300 million investment over five years into the Global Partnership for Education, specifically to support girls' education and to strengthen education systems in developing countries to achieve equitable and quality education for children worldwide.<sup>1671</sup>

On 30 June 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau announced almost CAD180 million to advance gender equality around the world during the opening ceremony of the Generation Equality Forum.<sup>1672</sup> This commitment includes CAD100 million in new support for low- and middle-income countries that will help increase women's ability to participate in the economy, in education and in public life, CAD10 million in emergency support to the joint United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) Global Programme to End Child Marriage and promote the rights of girls, and CAD18.45 million in funding for five targeted projects to address inequality and discrimination faced by LGBTQ2 communities, to support gender-lens investing, to strengthen civic education and democracy abroad and advance gender equality in parliaments and legislatures.

On 6 July 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau, Premier of Saskatchewan Scott Moe and Chief of Cowessess First Nation Cadmus Delorme announced that the first Coordination Agreement under the "Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families" was signed by the Cowessess First Nation and the Province of Saskatchewan.<sup>1673</sup> As part of this agreement, the Government of Canada will invest CAD38.7 million over the next two years to support the implementation of the First Nation child and family service system, which will reduce obstacles to education.

On 8 July 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier of British Columbia John Horgan announced an agreement that will include the Government of Canada investing CAD3.2 billion over the next five years to provide affordable early learning and child care for children under six years of age in British Columbia.<sup>1674</sup> This is part of Prime Minister Trudeau's goal to provide CAD10 a day child care across Canada.

On 13 July 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier of Nova Scotia Iain Rankin announced an agreement that will include the Government of Canada investing CAD605 million over the next five years to provide affordable early learning and child care for children under six years of age in Nova Scotia.<sup>1675</sup> This is part of Prime Minister Trudeau's goal to provide CAD10 a day child care across Canada.

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<sup>1671</sup> Prime Minister concludes productive G7 Leaders' Summit in United Kingdom, Office of the Prime Minister (Carbis Bay) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 18 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/06/13/prime-minister-concludes-productive-g7-leaders-summit-united-kingdom>

<sup>1672</sup> Prime Minister announces measures to advance gender equality worldwide, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/06/30/prime-minister-announces-measures-advance-gender-equality-worldwide>

<sup>1673</sup> New support for child and family services in Cowessess First Nation, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/07/06/new-support-child-and-family-services-cowessess-first-nation>

<sup>1674</sup> Canada announces historic first early learning and child care agreement, Office of the Prime Minister (Coquitlam) 8 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/07/08/canada-announces-historic-first-early-learning-and-child-care>

<sup>1675</sup> Nova Scotian families to benefit from early learning and child care agreement, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/07/13/nova-scotian-families-benefit-early-learning-and-child-care-agreement>

On 26 July 2021, Member of Parliament for Fredericton Jenica Atwin announced on behalf of the Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Rural Economic Development Maryam Monsef, CAD230,000 in funding to support organizations fighting to end gender-based violence in Canada.<sup>1676</sup> CAD200,000 of the funds are dedicated to the New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council with the remaining CAD30,000 going to the New Brunswick Champions for Child Rights Inc to create culturally sensitive and gender-inclusive programs for underserved populations. By supporting at-risk populations and underserved communities, focusing on Indigenous and 2SLGBTQQA+ peoples, Canada is expanding the opportunity for women and girls to pursue further education.

On 27 July 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier of Prince Edward Island Dennis King announced an agreement that will include the Government of Canada investing CAD121.3 million over the next five years to provide affordable early learning and child care for children under six years of age in Prince Edward Island.<sup>1677</sup> This is part of Prime Minister Trudeau's goal to provide CAD10 a day child care across Canada.

On 28 July 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau and the Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador Andrew Furey announced an agreement that will include the Government of Canada investing CAD347 million over the next five years to provide affordable early learning and child care for children under six years of age in Newfoundland and Labrador.<sup>1678</sup> This is part of Prime Minister Trudeau's goal to provide CAD10 a day child care across Canada.

On 29 July 2021, Minister Monsef announced 237 projects to receive funding under the CAD100 million Feminist Response and Recovery Fund following the call for proposals.<sup>1679</sup> These projects aim to further gender equality in Canada by ensuring inclusive recovery from the social and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 15 November 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier of Alberta Jason Kenney announced an agreement that will include the Government of Canada investing CAD3.8 billion over the next five years to provide affordable early learning and child care for children under six years of age in Alberta.<sup>1680</sup> This is part of Prime Minister Trudeau's goal to provide CAD10 a day child care across Canada.

On 13 December 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier of New Brunswick Blaine Higgs announced an agreement that will include the Government of Canada investing CAD492 million over the next five years to provide affordable early learning and child care for children under six years of age in New Brunswick.<sup>1681</sup> This is part of Prime Minister Trudeau's goal to provide CAD10 a day child care across Canada.

On 15 December 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier of the Northwest Territories Caroline Cochrane announced an agreement that will include the Government of Canada investing CAD51 million over the next

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<sup>1676</sup> Government of Canada: Government of Canada invests \$230,000 in two projects supporting women and families in New Brunswick, Women and Gender Equality Canada (Ottawa) 26 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2021/07/government-of-canada-invests-230000-in-two-projects-supporting-women-and-families-in-new-brunswick.html>

<sup>1677</sup> \$10 a day child care for families in Prince Edward Island, Office of the Prime Minister (Charlottetown) 27 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/07/27/10-day-child-care-families-prince-edward-island>

<sup>1678</sup> \$10 a day child care for families in Newfoundland and Labrador, Office of the Prime Minister (St. John's) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 11 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/07/28/10-day-child-care-families-newfoundland-and-labrador>

<sup>1679</sup> Government of Canada: Government of Canada announces recipients of \$100-million Feminist Response and Recovery Fund, Women and Gender Equality Canada (Ottawa) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2021/07/government-of-canada-announces-recipients-of-100-million-feminist-response-and-recovery-fund.html>

<sup>1680</sup> \$10-a-day child care for families in Alberta, Office of the Prime Minister (Edmonton) 15 November 2021. Access Date: 11 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/11/15/10-day-child-care-families-alberta>

<sup>1681</sup> \$10-a-day child care for families in New Brunswick, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 13 December 2021. Access Date: 11 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/12/13/10-day-child-care-families-new-brunswick>

five years to provide affordable early learning and child care for children under six years of age in the Northwest Territories.<sup>1682</sup> This is part of Prime Minister Trudeau's goal to provide CAD10 a day child care across Canada.

On 14 January 2022, Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier of Nova Scotia Tim Houston announced that child care fees in Nova Scotia will be reduced by an average of 25 per cent per family.<sup>1683</sup> The fee changes will go into effect on 1 April 2022 and be paid retroactively to 1 January 2022. This is part of Prime Minister Trudeau's goal to provide CAD10 a day child care across Canada, and a further reduction will go into place by the end of 2022, reducing child care fees per family by an average of 50 per cent.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to promote gender equality. Canada has made strong efforts to support both the target to get 40 million more girls to school and has actively invested funds towards reaching the target of USD2.75 billion for the Global Partnership for Education, particularly through investment in childcare and women's safety.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: William Chapman-Black*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to promote gender equality, including by supporting a target to get 40 million girls into education and generating at least USD2.75 billion for the Global Partnership Education.

On 30 June 2021, France hosted the Generation Equality Forum co-chaired with the United Nations and Mexico.<sup>1684</sup> The conference introduced the Global Acceleration Plan for Gender Equality, which included USD40 billion in new investments benefitting women and girls, as well as a commitment of USD100 million to improve access to contraception and family planning. The commitments made at the Generation Equality Forum moves forward towards removing obstacles that have prevented girls from fair educational opportunities.<sup>1685</sup>

On 30 June 2021, President Emmanuel Macron announced a EUR333 million pledge to the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) over the next five years, with half of this contribution directly supporting girls' education.<sup>1686</sup> This pledge was announced at the Generation Equality Forum in Paris.

On 20 July 2021, the Parliament adopted a new programming Act on Inclusive Development and Combating Global Inequalities, which will increase France's official development assistance to 0.55 per cent of the gross

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<sup>1682</sup> \$10-a-day child care for families in the Northwest Territories, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/12/15/10-day-child-care-families-northwest-territories>

<sup>1683</sup> Nova Scotia families to save hundreds each month in child care fees, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 14 January 2022. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2022/01/14/nova-scotia-families-save-hundreds-each-month-child-care-fees>

<sup>1684</sup> The Generation Equality Forum: a historic global feminist event, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/feminist-diplomacy/generation-equality-forum-2021/article/the-generation-equality-forum-a-historic-global-feminist-event-30-june-2-july>

<sup>1685</sup> The Generation Equality Forum: a historic global feminist event, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/feminist-diplomacy/generation-equality-forum-2021/article/the-generation-equality-forum-a-historic-global-feminist-event-30-june-2-july>

<sup>1686</sup> The Global Partnership for Education welcomes France's 333 million euro pledge announced by President Emmanuel Macron at the Generation Equality Forum, Global Partnership for Education (Paris) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.globalpartnership.org/news/global-partnership-education-welcomes-frances-333-million-euro-pledge-announced-president>



national income by 2022 to invest in multilateral funds for education and gender equality.<sup>1687</sup> This increase in resources will ensure France is able to assist the most vulnerable women in Africa and invest in funds to support education and gender equality.

On 9 September 2021, the Ministry of National Education, Youth and Sports agreed to an amendment to the Management Delegation Agreement Participating in the Fight Against Menstrual Insecurity.<sup>1688</sup> The Ministry of National Education, Youth and Sports agreed to an authorization and payment credit of EUR80,000 to fund the free distribution of menstruation products open to the public.

On 27 September 2021, the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian reinforced France's commitment to providing reparations for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence.<sup>1689</sup> This announcement included a EUR6 million pledge to the Global Fund of Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, and an added budget of EUR120 million for their Support Fund for Feminist Organizations over three years.

On 28 September 2021, France reinforced its joint commitment with UN Women and Mexico to the rights of women and girls during International Safe Abortion Day.<sup>1690</sup> This announcement included an investment of EUR5 million for the Centre Organization for Safe Abortion Dialogue (Centre ODAS) to improve accessibility to safe abortions across West and Central Africa.

On 25 November 2021, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs introduced France's Third National Action Plan (2021-2025) to implement the UN Security Council's resolutions on the "Women, Peace and Security" Agenda.<sup>1691</sup> The Plan includes strengthening and developing available training on the inclusion of gender and protection of women against sexual violence, spreading awareness on challenges linked to fighting gender-based violence, increasing women's participation in decisions relating to peace and security and strengthening programs funded to empower women.

France has fully complied with its commitment to promote gender equality. France has made strong efforts to support the target to get 40 million more girls into education, particularly through addressing the unequal accessibility to educational resources that disproportionately affect girls globally. France has also actively contributed funds towards reaching the target of USD 2.75 billion for the Global Partnership Education.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Vanessa Mabelle*

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<sup>1687</sup> A new ambition for French development policy, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 20 July 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/a-new-ambition-for-french-development-policy/article/a-new-ambition-for-french-development-policy>

<sup>1688</sup> Amendment to the Management Delegation Agreement Participating in the Fight Against Menstrual Insecurity, Ministry of National Education, Youth and Sports (Paris) 9 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.education.gouv.fr/bo/21/Hebdo43/MENE2133119X.htm>

<sup>1689</sup> 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly - Reparations for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence: status and prospects - Statement by Mr. Jean-Yves le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 27 September 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/news-and-events/news/article/76th-session-of-the-united-nations-general-assembly-reparations-for-survivors>

<sup>1690</sup> International Safe Abortion Day, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 28 September 2021. Access Date: 30 November 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/feminist-diplomacy/news/article/international-safe-abortion-day-sept-28>

<sup>1691</sup> France's 3rd National Action Plan 2021-2025, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 25 November 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/feminist-diplomacy/news/france-s-3rd-national-action-plan-2021-2025/>

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to take strong actions to promote gender equality, including by supporting a target to get 40 million girls into education and generating at least USD2.75 billion for the Global Partnership for Education.

On 30 June 2021, Chancellor Angela Merkel announced EUR140 million for women and girls' economic empowerment at the Generation Equality Forum in Paris, France.<sup>1692</sup> This includes business education and vocational training to support women entrepreneurs through the Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative, which will implement projects in more than 60 countries and support more than 130,000 female entrepreneurs.

On 29 July 2021, Germany attended the Global Education Summit and, as a member state of the European Union, contributed to "Team Europe's" pledge of EUR1.7 billion to the GPE.<sup>1693</sup> This pledge was an expansion of Germany's "SHE: Support Her Education" initiative of EUR100 million over the next four years to assist one million girls in developing countries who lost their access to education as a result of the COVID-19 crisis, which was announced prior to this compliance cycle on 19 May 2021.<sup>1694</sup>

On 27 September 2021, Federal Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development Gerd Müller announced Germany's EUR50 million pledge to the Multi-Year Resilience Programmes of Education Cannot Wait (ECW), the United Nations international fund for education in emergencies.<sup>1695</sup> Germany's donation will contribute to ECW's efforts to provide quality education to the most vulnerable children globally, including girls.

On 24 January 2022, Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Svenja Schulze announced Germany's additional EUR200 million donation to the ECW.<sup>1696</sup> Minister Schulze emphasized that Germany is committed to helping millions of children in crisis settings gain access to quality education in a safe learning environment. With this donation, Germany is now the ECW's leading donor with Germany's total contributions to the ECW to now be over EUR318.8 million.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to take strong actions to promote gender equality, by supporting both the target to get 40 million more girls into education and generating at least USD2.75 billion for the Global Partnership for Education. Germany has also contributed monetarily to supporting children's education in crisis settings.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Maryam Rehman*

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<sup>1692</sup> Minister Müller: Germany Steps Up Projects in Support of Women's Economic Participation, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 22 December 2021. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/archive-press-releases/germany-support-of-womens-economic-participation-85230>

<sup>1693</sup> Vier Milliarden Dollar für globales Lernen, Tagesschau (Berlin) 29 July 2021. Translation Provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.tagesschau.de/ausland/europa/internationale-gemeinschaft-bildungsgipfel-101.html>

<sup>1694</sup> In COVID-19 crisis, Germany supports Global Partnership for Education together with Malala Fund, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 19 May 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/archive-press-releases/germany-supports-global-partnership-for-education-79296>

<sup>1695</sup> Germany announces €50 in new, additional funding to Education Cannot Wait for crisis-affected children and youth (New York) 27 September 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.educationcannotwait.org/germany-contribution/>

<sup>1696</sup> World Education Day: Germany gives 200 million euros for children in need, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Geneva) 24 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/germany-gives-200-million-euros-for-children-in-need-102634>

## Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to promote gender equality, including by supporting a target to get 40 million girls into education and generating at least USD2.75 billion for the Global Partnership for Education.

On 29 July 2021, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Marina Sereni confirmed the increase of Italy's multi-year contribution to the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) to EUR25 million over the next five years while attending the GPE Global Education Summit in London.<sup>1697</sup> Half of this funding will be designated for educating children in Africa. This commitment was previously announced with less detail during the beginning of the GPE "Raise Your Hand" financing campaign on 9 June 2021 and Italy's previous contribution to the GPE was only EUR12 million.<sup>1698</sup>

On 22 September 2021, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Luigi Di Maio chaired a ministerial event, organised by Italy, on the situation in Afghanistan in relation to women and girls.<sup>1699</sup> Minister Di Maio reaffirmed Italy's commitment to preserve and protect human rights and access to education for women.

On 12 October 2021, Prime Minister Mario Draghi announced at the G20 extraordinary leaders' meeting on Afghanistan that a proper focus regarding Afghanistan should be drawn on supporting women and children.<sup>1700</sup> Prime Minister Draghi stated that there should be more cooperation with the international organizations in order to help rebuild Afghanistan's education and healthcare system.

On 15 October 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI) adopted the Governmental Circular No. 3/2021, which promotes gender equality in daily work and stresses the need to ensure concrete implementation of the Italian constitutional principle of equality in both the prohibition of discrimination and the active promotion of effective gender equality.<sup>1701</sup>

On 28 October 2021, Prime Minister Draghi delivered a speech at Bari's "Antonio Cuccovillo" Istituto Tecnico Superiore (ITS), a higher technical institute, that stressed the importance of bridging the gender gap among ITS students.<sup>1702</sup> Prime Minister Draghi announced that it is the government's duty to "break down

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<sup>1697</sup> Foreign Affairs Note – Global Education Summit; Sereni, Italy will contribute 25 million in the next 5 years to the Global Partnership for Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/07/global-education-summit-sereni-dall-italia-25-milioni-nei-prossimi-5-anni-alla-global-partnership-for-education-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/07/global-education-summit-sereni-dall-italia-25-milioni-nei-prossimi-5-anni-alla-global-partnership-for-education-2/)

<sup>1698</sup> Italy pledges €25 million towards the Global Partnership for Education "Raise Your Hand" financing campaign, Global Partnership for Education (Rome) 9 June 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.globalpartnership.org/news/italy-pledges-eu25m-towards-global-partnership-education-raise-your-hand-financing-campaign>

<sup>1699</sup> Minister Luigi Di Maio chairs the ministerial event, organised by Italy, on the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/approfondimenti/2021/09/il-ministro-luigi-di-maio-presiede-l-evento-ministeriale-organizzato-dall-italia-sulla-situazione-di-donne-e-ragazze-in-afghanistan-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/approfondimenti/2021/09/il-ministro-luigi-di-maio-presiede-l-evento-ministeriale-organizzato-dall-italia-sulla-situazione-di-donne-e-ragazze-in-afghanistan-2/)

<sup>1700</sup> G20 extraordinary leaders' meeting on Afghanistan, Prime Minister Draghi's closing remarks, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 12 October 2021. Access Date: 28 December 2021. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/g20-extraordinary-leaders-meeting-afghanistan-prime-minister-draghis-closing-remarks/18220>

<sup>1701</sup> Press release on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 25 November 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/11/giornata-internazionale-per-leliminazione-della-violenza-contro-le-donne/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/11/giornata-internazionale-per-leliminazione-della-violenza-contro-le-donne/)

<sup>1702</sup> Prime Minister Draghi's speech at the 'Antonio Cuccovillo' higher technical institute, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 28 October 2021. Access Date: 28 December 2021. <https://www.governo.it/it/node/18357>

prejudice and the barriers that continue to hold talented women back,” and called on schools to take actions to improve gender equality.<sup>1703</sup>

On 25 November 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI) joined UN Women’s “Orange the World: End Violence against Women Now!” campaign, which aims to raise awareness and prevent all forms of gender-based violence.<sup>1704</sup>

On 3 December 2021, Italy approved a bill to tackle gender-based violence by reducing barriers to reporting and by providing economic support to victims.<sup>1705</sup> The bill will have to be approved by parliament to be enacted.

On 10 December 2021, MAECI, in collaboration with UNICEF, announced the start of “Every Young Person Matters,” a program designed to prevent school drop-outs in Albania.<sup>1706</sup> MAECI also announced a contribution of EUR4 million to the project.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to promote gender equality. Italy has supported the target to get 40 million more girls into education through addressing gender-based violence and school drop-outs and has taken strong actions to generate at least USD2.75 billion for the Global Partnership for Education.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Yu Bi*

#### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to promote gender equality, including by supporting a target to get 40 million girls into education and generating at least USD2.75 billion for the Global Partnership for Education.

On 22 June 2021, Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Kōichi Hagiuda participated in the G20 Education Ministers’ Meeting.<sup>1707</sup> This meeting discussed issues of educational poverty and the new practices of blended learning resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Following the meeting, the Ministers signed the G20 Education Ministers’ Declaration, reaffirming their commitment to education.

On 25 August 2021, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed a USD50 million loan agreement with the Indian financial institution Northern Arc Capital (NAC).<sup>1708</sup> This loan is co-financed with the United States International Development Finance Corporation and supports NAC in the provision of

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<sup>1703</sup> Prime Minister Draghi’s speech at the ‘Antonio Cuccovillo’ higher technical institute, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 28 October 2021. Access Date: 28 December 2021. <https://www.governo.it/it/node/18357>

<sup>1704</sup> Press release on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 25 November 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/11/giornata-internazionale-per-leliminazione-della-violenza-contro-le-donne/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/11/giornata-internazionale-per-leliminazione-della-violenza-contro-le-donne/)

<sup>1705</sup> Italian govt moves to crack down on violence against women, Reuters (Rome) 3 December 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/italian-govt-moves-crack-down-violence-against-women-2021-12-03/>

<sup>1706</sup> MAECI and UNICEF together to prevent early school leaving in Albania, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 10 December 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/12/maeci-e-unicef-insieme-per-prevenire-labbandono-scolastico-in-albania/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/12/maeci-e-unicef-insieme-per-prevenire-labbandono-scolastico-in-albania/)

<sup>1707</sup> Minister Hagiuda attends G20 Education Ministers’ Meeting, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Tokyo) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. [https://www.mext.go.jp/en/news/topics/detail/mext\\_00068.html](https://www.mext.go.jp/en/news/topics/detail/mext_00068.html)

<sup>1708</sup> Signing a loan agreement for the “women’s financial inclusion facility” in India (Private Sector Investment Finance): Improving women’s access to finance, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2021/20210831\\_10e.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2021/20210831_10e.html)

funding to non-bank financial entities that provide financial services to women. By promoting the economic role of women, this loan helps to remove obstacles to education.<sup>1709</sup>

On 20 October 2021, the JICA signed a USD75 million loan with the Vietnam Prosperity Joint Stock Commercial Bank (VP Bank).<sup>1710</sup> This loan agreement aims to support VP Bank's targeted sponsorship of women-owned businesses in Vietnam, especially micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. By promoting women-owned businesses, this loan encourages women to pursue economic roles and thus removes barriers to education.

On 29 November 2021, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida attended the 65th meeting of the Council for Gender Equality.<sup>1711</sup> After the meeting, Prime Minister Kishida outlined four goals for his cabinet: eliminating wage disparities between men and women, realizing a society where women can live with dignity and pride, expanding the role of men in family lives and local communities, and achieving the target of the Fifth Basic Plan for Gender Equality. The Kishida government has also promised to grant preferential treatment to women-friendly companies in public procurements.

On 24 January 2022, Japan pledged USD8 million towards the Global Partnership for Education (GPE).<sup>1712</sup> The majority of funds is earmarked for the education of children in countries in conflict, with USD6.2 million to Yemen and USD1.6 million to Syria, and the remaining USD700,000 will be used by the GPE fund to help countries develop and implement education sector plans.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to promote gender equality. Japan has made strong efforts to support the target to get 40 million more girls to school and has actively invested funds toward reaching the target USD2.75 billion for the Global Partnership for Education, particularly by way of foreign investment through the Japan International Cooperation Agency.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: William Chapman-Black*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to promote gender equality, including by supporting a target to get 40 million girls into education and generating at least USD2.75 billion for the Global Partnership for Education.

On 25 June 2021, the United Kingdom's Ambassador to the World Trade Organization, United Nations and other International Organisations Simon Manley highlighted the UK's efforts in improving gender equality,

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<sup>1709</sup> Signing a loan agreement for the "women's financial inclusion facility" in India (Private Sector Investment Finance): Improving women's access to finance, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2021/20210831\\_10e.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2021/20210831_10e.html)

<sup>1710</sup> Signing of a loan agreement for the "Project of promoting women's financial inclusion targeting micro, small and medium-sized enterprises in Vietnam" (Private Sector Investment and Finance), Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 20 October 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2021/20211020\\_10e.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2021/20211020_10e.html)

<sup>1711</sup> Council for Gender Equality, The Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 29 November 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101\\_kishida/actions/202111/\\_00058.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101_kishida/actions/202111/_00058.html)

<sup>1712</sup> Japan pledges over US\$8 million to the Global Partnership for Education, Global Partnership for Education (Washington D.C.) 24 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.globalpartnership.org/news/japan-pledges-over-us8-million-global-partnership-education>

stating that the UK was working to ensure all girls can access 12 years of quality education by tabling, with the United Arab Emirates, an ambitious resolution at the Human Rights Council.<sup>1713</sup>

On 12 July 2021, Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab announced a new UK aid funding to address a chronic lack of research into the best methods to provide education for vulnerable children in conflicts and long-term crises worldwide.<sup>1714</sup> The GBP15.8 million research project, launching in September 2021, will focus on Jordan, Lebanon, Myanmar, northern Nigeria, South Sudan and Syria, as these areas are currently home to an estimated 3 million children who are either refugees or internally displaced.

On 12 July 2021, Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab introduced a resolution on girls' education at the UN Human Rights Council that recognises the importance of ensuring access to at least 12 years of quality education for all girls.<sup>1715</sup> He also requested that other UN member states contribute to the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), referencing the UK's pledge of GBP430 million to the GPE made on 11 June 2021.<sup>1716</sup>

On 29 July 2021, the UK co-hosted the GPE Global Education Summit with Kenya, highlighting their commitment to spend GBP400 million in UK aid supporting girl's education in addition to their pledge to the GPE.<sup>1717</sup> The leaders in the summit were also asked to commit to spend at least 20 per cent of their national budgets on education, particularly for girls who are out of schools and lack education resources.

On 17 September 2021, UK's International Ambassador for Human Rights Rita French addressed the UN Human Rights Council, declaring that the UK will promote universal access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights and remains committed to 12 years of quality education for all girls worldwide by 2030.<sup>1718</sup>

On 3 October 2021, the Home Office announced that the recent round of bids from the Safer Streets Fund will offer an extra share of GBP23.5 million to police forces and local authorities in England and Wales in order to help women and girls feel safer on the streets.<sup>1719</sup> This fund aims to prevent sexual harassment, which is a barrier to girls' education.

On 8 October 2021, the Prime Minister's Special Envoy on Girls' Education Helen Grant visited Nepal to visit UK-supported activists, advocates and campaigners who are addressing the rights of women and girls on

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<sup>1713</sup> UN Economic and Social Council: UK statement on gender equality, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 25 June 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/un-economic-and-social-counciluk-statement-on-gender-equality>

<sup>1714</sup> New UK funding to boost education for children in conflict zones, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 12 July 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-funding-to-boost-education-for-children-in-conflict-zones>

<sup>1715</sup> UN Human Rights Council 47: UK statement for the introduction of the resolution on girls education, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 12 July 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/un-human-rights-council-47-uk-statement-for-the-introduction-of-the-resolution-on-girls-education>

<sup>1716</sup> GPE welcomes U.K. pledge of GBP 430 million towards 'Raise Your Hand' financing campaign made at G7 Summit in Cornwall, Global Partnership for Education (London) 11 June 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.globalpartnership.org/news/gpe-uk-pledge-gbp-430-million-raise-your-hand-financing-campaign-made-g7-summit-cornwall>

<sup>1717</sup> PM urges leaders to prevent Covid-19 'legacy of wasted talent' at Global Education Summit, Prime Minister's Office 10 Downing Street (London) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-urges-leaders-to-prevent-covid-19-legacy-of-wasted-talent-at-global-education-summit>

<sup>1718</sup> UN Human Rights Council 48: UK statement for the interactive dialogue on the human rights of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 17 September 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/un-human-rights-council-48-uk-statement-for-the-interactive-dialogue-on-the-human-rights-of-women-and-girls-in-conflict-and-post-conflict-situations>

<sup>1719</sup> Police and local authorities given extra £23.5 million for safer streets, Home Office (London) 3 October 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/police-local-authoritiesgiven-extra-235m-for-safer-streets>

education and climate change.<sup>1720</sup> Her visit followed the Government of Nepal's announcement to boost spending on education by over 50 per cent at the Global Education Summit in July 2021, which will improve gender equality and standards in access to education.

On 31 October 2021, Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced a pledge of GBP50 million to support 2.5 million vulnerable people in Afghanistan, most of whom are women and girls, while attending the G20 Summit.<sup>1721</sup> This funding was drawn from the UK's GBP286 million aid commitment to Afghanistan announced by Prime Minister Johnson in September 2021 and provided through UN agencies and the International Committee of the Red Cross. He also reiterated to the G20 the need to prioritise the rights of women and girls in all international development efforts.

On 16 November 2021, Foreign Secretary Liz Truss announced more than GBP20 million of new funding to help stop violence against women and girls around the world.<sup>1722</sup> The UK will utilize GBP18 million of the funding to end child marriage in partnership with the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The UK will also allocate GBP3 million of the funding for organizations on the frontline tackling gender-based violence and GBP1.4 billion of the funding to the Global Survivors Fund, which aims to support survivors of sexual violence through financial support and education.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to promote gender equality. The United Kingdom has supported the target to get 40 million more girls into education through funding and initiating projects that prevent further dropout of schools of girls globally and generating at least USD2.75 billion for the Global Partnership for Education.

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

*Analyst: Yu Bi*

#### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to promote gender equality, including by supporting a target to get 40 million girls into education and generating at least USD2.75 billion for the Global Partnership for Education.

On 15 June 2021, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Administrator Samantha Power launched the Regional Challenge to Advance Gender Equality in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, a new USAID effort to advance gender equality and increase women's access, agency and power.<sup>1723</sup> The program includes USD5 million in funding towards projects that advance gender equality, such as addressing gender-based violence and closing the gender gap in technology.

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<sup>1720</sup> UK Prime Minister's Special Envoy for Girls' Education visits Nepal, British Embassy Kathmandu (London) 8 October 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-prime-ministers-special-envoy-for-girls-education-visits-nepal>

<sup>1721</sup> PM pledges £50 million to UN Afghanistan appeal, Prime Minister's Office 10 Downing Street (London) 31 October 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-pledges-50-million-to-un-afghanistan-appeal>

<sup>1722</sup> Foreign Secretary launches campaign to tackle sexual violence in conflict around the world, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 16 November 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretary-launches-campaign-to-tackle-sexual-violence-in-conflict-around-the-world>

<sup>1723</sup> USAID Administrator Samantha Power Launches New Challenge to Support Opportunities for Women in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jun-15-2021-usaid-administrator-samantha-power-launches-new-challenge-support-women>

On 27 June 2021, the Department of State joined the global community in recognizing Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises Day.<sup>1724</sup> This day aims to celebrate the contributions of women-owned entrepreneur businesses, recognizing that these types of businesses do not have equal access to capitals and networks needed to expand. Promoting women's economic empowerment helps to remove barriers to education.

On 30 June 2021, the US announced its commitments to the Generation Equality Forum, which was convened by United Nations Women and co-hosted by the governments of France and Mexico.<sup>1725</sup> These commitments included domestic and international efforts and funded initiatives to prevent and respond to gender-based violence, strengthen women's economic security, and protect and advance sexual and reproductive health and rights.

On 29 July 2021, the US invested USD305 million into the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) over the next three years.<sup>1726</sup> This pledge took place at the GPE Global Education Summit, which raised USD4 billion to help 175 million children access education, particularly in regard to girls' education.<sup>1727</sup>

On 6 August 2021, USAID announced USD500,000 to grantees in Europe and Africa for projects that will reduce gender-based violence.<sup>1728</sup> These grants aim to strengthen the quality of gender-based violence programming and education. This award is from the USAID's Collective Action to Reduce Gender-Based Violence (CARE-GBV) Small Grants Program and grantees feature projects in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Nigeria, North Macedonia and South Africa.

On 27 September 2021, USAID announced an additional USD37 million contribution to Education Cannot Wait (ECW), the UN's global fund for education in emergencies.<sup>1729</sup> This contribution, which is the US' largest to date, intends to address the more than 31 million children who remain out of school due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding includes USD5 million earmarked for conflict-afflicted communities in northern Mali to provide continued learning and resilient education systems.

On 1 October 2021, USAID Administrator Samantha Power announced the launch of the US-India Alliance for Women's Economic Empowerment during the Fourth Annual Leadership Summit of the US-India

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<sup>1724</sup> Recognizing Women Entrepreneurs on Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises Day, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 27 June 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.state.gov/dipnote-u-s-department-of-state-official-blog/recognizing-women-entrepreneurs-on-micro-small-and-medium-sized-enterprises-day/>

<sup>1725</sup> Fact Sheet: United States to Announce Commitments to the Generation Equality Forum, The White House (Washington D.C.) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/06/30/fact-sheet-united-states-to-announce-commitments-to-the-generation-equality-forum/>

<sup>1726</sup> United States Announces \$305 Million Investment in the Global Partnership for Education, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jul-29-2021-united-states-announces-305-million-investment-global-partnership>

<sup>1727</sup> Global Education Summit in London raises US\$4 billion for the Global Partnership for Education to help 175 million children learn, Global Partnership for Education (London) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.globalpartnership.org/news/global-education-summit-london-raises-us4-billion-global-partnership-education-help-175>

<sup>1728</sup> USAID Awards \$500,000 to Local Organizations in Africa and Europe to Address Gender-Based Violence, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 6 August 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/aug-6-2021-usaid-awards-500000-local-organizations-africa-and-europe-address-gbv>

<sup>1729</sup> United States Announces \$37 Million Contribution to Education Cannot Wait, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 27 September 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/sep-27-2021-united-states-announces-37-million-contribution-education-cannot-wait>



Strategic Partnership Forum.<sup>1730</sup> The alliance aims to advance women's entrepreneurship and workforce participation in India, including through non-formal and lifelong learning.

On 22 October 2021, the White House established the US' first-ever National Strategy on Gender Equity and Equality, setting forth interconnecting priorities to advance gender equity and equality domestically and internationally.<sup>1731</sup> The National Strategy includes proposals to improve women's economic security, dismantle barriers to equal opportunity within education and advance women's full participation in democracy through closing gender gaps for women and girls in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to promote gender equality. The United States has taken strong actions to support the target to get 40 million more girls into education through federal and foreign policies and has taken strong actions to help generate USD2.75 billion for the Global Partnership for Education.

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

*Analyst: Vanessa Mabelle*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to promote gender equality, including by supporting a target to get 40 million girls into education and generating at least USD2.75 billion for the Global Partnership for Education.

On 21 June 2021, the European Union and Kenya launched a new cooperative partnership called the Strategic Dialogue.<sup>1732</sup> Through this program, Kenya and the EU will strengthen their cooperation on multiple regional and global issues, including gender equality.

On 30 June 2021, President of the European Council Charles Michel gave remarks at the Generation Equality Forum in Paris, France, and emphasized the need to prioritize gender equality through education access.<sup>1733</sup>

On 29 July 2021, the EU and its Member States pledged EUR1.7 billion to the Global Partnership for Education (GPE).<sup>1734</sup> Collectively, this is the largest contribution to the GPE to date, and it will help transform education systems in up to 90 countries and territories for more than one billion school children.

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<sup>1730</sup> USAID Administrator Power Announces the United States' Launch of the U.S.-India Alliance for Women's Economic Empowerment, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 1 October 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022.

<https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/oct-1-2021-usaid-administrator-power-announces-united-states-launch-us-india>  
<sup>1731</sup> Fact Sheet: National Strategy on Gender Equity and Equality, The White House (Washington D.C.) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/10/22/fact-sheet-national-strategy-on-gender-equity-and-equality/>

<sup>1732</sup> Joint statement to the press by the Republic of Kenya and the European Union, European Council/Council of the European Union (Brussels) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/06/21/joint-statement-to-the-press-by-the-republic-of-kenya-and-the-european-union/>

<sup>1733</sup> Remarks by President Charles Michel at the Generation Equality Forum, European Council/Council of the European Union (Brussels) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/06/30/remarks-by-president-charles-michel-at-the-generation-equality-forum/>

<sup>1734</sup> Global Education Summit: Team Europe pledges leading contribution of €1.7 billion to the Global Partnership for Education, European Commission (Brussels) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/global-education-summit-team-europe-pledges-leading-contribution-eu17-billion-global\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/global-education-summit-team-europe-pledges-leading-contribution-eu17-billion-global_en)

This investment was also an expansion on the EU's 10 June 2021 pledge of EUR700 million between 2021 and 2027 for the GPE.<sup>1735</sup>

On 27 September 2021, President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen announced an additional pledge of EUR25 million for Education Cannot Wait (ECW), a United Nations fund for the education of children in emergencies and protracted crises, in particular girls, children with disabilities, minorities and other marginalized children.<sup>1736</sup> The new funding brings the total EU contribution to ECW to EUR52.5 million.

On 10 November 2021, Commissioner for International Partnerships Jutta Urpilainen announced at the Global Education Meeting, co-hosted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and France, that by 2027, the EU will devote over EUR6 billion to improving education worldwide.<sup>1737</sup> Although, Commissioner Urpilainen originally committed to increase financing for education from seven per cent to 10 per cent of her portfolio, the current estimates reveal that financing for education actually represents around 13 per cent of her portfolio.

The European Union has fully complied with the commitment to promote gender equality by supporting both the target to get 40 million more girls into education and generating at least USD2.75 billion for the Global Partnership for Education. The European Union has especially prioritized funds for girls' education in crisis settings.

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

*Analyst: Maryam Rehman*

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<sup>1735</sup> Education: EU increases its commitment to Global Partnership for Education with a pledge of €700 million for 2021-2027, European Commission (Brussels) 10 June 2021. Access Date: 19 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_2933](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_2933)

<sup>1736</sup> EU announces €25 million for education in crisis contexts and €140 million to support research in sustainable food systems, European Commission (Brussels) 27 September 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/eu-announces-eu25-million-education-crisis-contexts-and-eu140-million-support-research\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/eu-announces-eu25-million-education-crisis-contexts-and-eu140-million-support-research_en)

<sup>1737</sup> Commissioner Urpilainen: the EU will devote over 6 billion euros to education worldwide, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/commissioner-urpilainen-to-devote-6-billion-education-worldwide\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/commissioner-urpilainen-to-devote-6-billion-education-worldwide_en)

## 14. Democracy: China

“With regard to China, and competition in the global economy, we will continue to consult on collective approaches to challenging non-market policies and practices which undermine the fair and transparent operation of the global economy.”

*Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France		0	
Germany		0	
Italy	-1		
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union		0	
Average		+0.13 (56%)	

### Background

Much of the current framework regulating fairness in international trade was established with the signing of the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT) on 30 October 1947.<sup>1738</sup> Updated in 1994, this document regulates tariff levels in most sectors of international trade, and provides rules and guidelines in other trade-related areas, such as the creation of customs unions.<sup>1739</sup> International trade is currently regulated by the World Trade Organization (WTO), which was founded with the intent to provide “a single institutional framework encompassing the GATT, as modified by the Uruguay Round.” The current framework includes specific measures to fight intellectual property theft, including the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS).<sup>1740</sup> The agreement “establishes minimum standards of protection and enforcement that each government has to give to the intellectual property held by nationals of fellow WTO members.”<sup>1741</sup> China joined the WTO on 11 December 2001, and thus is subject to its agreements on fair trade and intellectual property.<sup>1742</sup>

The G7 has consistently made fair market policies an area of concern throughout its history. Similar language to that used in the Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué has been written into numerous previous summit Communiqués, including at the 2017 Taormina Summit, 2018 Charlevoix Summit and the 2019 Biarritz Summit.<sup>1743</sup>

<sup>1738</sup> History of the GATT, World Trade Organization (Geneva) September 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021.

[https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/gatt\\_e/gatt\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/gatt_e/gatt_e.htm)

<sup>1739</sup> Legal texts: the WTO Agreements, World Trade Organization (Geneva) September 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021.

[https://www.wto.org/english/docs\\_e/legal\\_e/ursum\\_e.htm#General](https://www.wto.org/english/docs_e/legal_e/ursum_e.htm#General)

<sup>1740</sup> TRIPS — Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, World Trade Organization (Geneva) September 2021. Access Date: 27 September 2021. [https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/trips\\_e/trips\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/trips_e/trips_e.htm)

<sup>1741</sup> Intellectual property: protection and enforcement, World Trade Organization (Geneva) September 2021. Access Date: 27 September 2021. [https://www.wto.org/english/thewto\\_e/whatis\\_e/tif\\_e/agrm7\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/agrm7_e.htm)

<sup>1742</sup> China and the WTO, World Trade Organization (Geneva) September 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021.

[https://www.wto.org/english/thewto\\_e/countries\\_e/china\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/countries_e/china_e.htm)

<sup>1743</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 27 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-of-leaders.html>

Central to these efforts have been the protection of intellectual property rights (IPR). At the 2008 L'Aquila Summit, G8 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.”<sup>1744</sup> At the 2011 Deauville Summit, G8 members stated that they would “renew [their] commitment to ensuring effective action against violations of intellectual property rights in the digital arena” and “encourage continued innovation in legal online trade in goods and content that are respectful of intellectual property rights.”<sup>1745</sup> These commitments were reaffirmed in specific language at the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, where G7 leaders addressed the need to eliminate “non-market oriented policies and practices, and inadequate protection of intellectual property rights, such as forced technology transfer or cyber-enabled theft.”<sup>1746</sup>

The 2021 G7 Leaders' Communiqué is the first to explicitly reference China regarding unfair market policies.<sup>1747</sup> This comes as the Chinese government invests heavily in emerging markets via the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The BRI was first proposed by the Government of China in 2013 as a regional investment program with the goal of developing economies adjacent to Chinese trade routes.<sup>1748</sup> The World Bank projects that the entire project will cost USD575 billion, with the potential to “increase trade between 2.7% and 9.7%, increase income by up to 3.4% and lift 7.6 million people from extreme poverty.”<sup>1749</sup> However, these potential upsides come with significant risk. Corruption in particular has been identified as a major risk to the initiative and the fair functioning of the global economy unless the Government of China and its Belt and Road partners “adopt deeper policy reforms that increase transparency, expand trade, improve debt sustainability and mitigate environmental, social and corruption risks.”

In response to the risks posed by the BRI, President of the United States Joe Biden announced the Build Back Better World Partnership (B3W) on 12 June 2021.<sup>1750</sup> The partnership, announced alongside the other G7 leaders, intends to create “strategic competition with China and commit to concrete actions to help meet the tremendous infrastructure need in low- and middle-income countries.” As such, B3W is a direct counter to the Chinese-led BRI. The initiative is explicit in its goals of transparent funding and anticorruption, an acknowledgement of long-standing concerns among G7 members that fairness and transparency in the global economy are under threat from an expanded Chinese influence.

### **Commitment Features**

While the G7 has always championed free market policies as a universal means to foster strong economic growth for all countries, this is the first instance where the G7 has explicitly challenged a particular country for its approach to economic policymaking. Consequently, given China's unique position as the second-largest economy in terms of nominal gross domestic product (GDP) and the largest outside of the G7, as well as its growing influence in the global economic system, the G7 leaders have made the following commitment:

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<sup>1744</sup> Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.html>

<sup>1745</sup> G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html>

<sup>1746</sup> The G7 Summit Charlevoix Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/Communiqué.html>

<sup>1747</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 26 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/road.html>

<sup>1748</sup> Belt and Road Initiative, The World Bank (Washington D.C.) 29 March 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2021. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/regional-integration/brief/belt-and-road-initiative>

<sup>1749</sup> Belt and Road Initiative, The World Bank (Washington D.C.) 29 March 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2021. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/regional-integration/brief/belt-and-road-initiative>

<sup>1750</sup> Fact Sheet: President Biden and G7 Leaders Launch Build Back Better World (B3W), The White House (Washington D.C.) 12 June 2021. Access Date: 27 September 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/06/12/fact-sheet-president-biden-and-g7-leaders-launch-build-back-better-world-b3w-partnership/>

“With regard to China, and competition in the global economy, we will continue to consult on collective approaches to challenging non-market policies and practices which undermine the fair and transparent operation of the global economy.”<sup>1751</sup>

The interpretation of “with regard to China, and competition in the global economy” can effectively be summarized as the challenge that G7 members view China posing to a global economic environment that encourages competitiveness. Within the context of the global economy, competition and competitiveness can be defined in a number of ways, however the broadest and deepest framework is that used by the World Economic Forum (WEF) in its Global Competitiveness Index (GCI). Specifically, the GCI defines competitiveness as “the set of institutions, policies, and factors that determine the level of productivity of a country,” and uses 12 guiding pillars to measure this: institutional strength, infrastructure, macroeconomic environment, health & primary education, higher education & training, goods market efficiency, labour market efficiency, financial market development, technological readiness, market size, business sophistication and innovation.<sup>1752</sup> Thus, this phrase can be defined as the impact of China’s economic approach toward addressing these factors in the global economic system.

“Consult on collective approaches” can be interpreted as discussed or proposed courses of action to be taken by G7 members, in partnership with each other, including civil society and the private sector to address the role and impact of China in the global economy through multilateral and united means.<sup>1753</sup>

“Challenging non-market policies and practices” can be interpreted as to “confront or defy boldly” actions and initiatives which go against the rules-based system established through agreements such as GATT and upheld by institutions such as the WTO.<sup>1754</sup> In particular, these policies which have been widely condemned by G7 members and multilateral organizations include the heavy direction and guidance of the economy by the state, state ownership of business, technology transfers, high subsidization, etc.; all of which are hallmarks of China’s economic approach.<sup>1755</sup>

“Undermine” can be defined as “to subvert or weaken insidiously or secretly.”<sup>1756</sup>

“Fair and transparent operation of the global economy” can be interpreted as the practice of conduct in the global economic arena which conforms with the established rules and is “characterized by the visibility [and] accessibility of information” to the economic practices and conduct of countries in the global arena.<sup>1757</sup> Furthermore, the G7 Trade Ministers’ Communiqué elaborated on two key pillars of transparency which it hopes to promote throughout the compliance cycle: ensuring that “necessary resources to conduct the needed technical work in [ensuring transparency]” are collected to gather “deeper and more thorough evidence [... to] improve global understanding of the problem and build pressure on all nations to play by the rules,” and

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<sup>1751</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 27 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-Communiqué.html>

<sup>1752</sup> Global Competitiveness Report 2014-2015, World Economic Forum (Geneva) 3 September 2014. Access Date: 28 September 2021. [https://reports.weforum.org/global-competitiveness-report-2014-2015/methodology/?doing\\_wp\\_cron=1632968855.4877169132232666015625](https://reports.weforum.org/global-competitiveness-report-2014-2015/methodology/?doing_wp_cron=1632968855.4877169132232666015625)

<sup>1753</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 28 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/Communiqué.html>

<sup>1754</sup> Challenge, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 28 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/challenge>

<sup>1755</sup> G7 Trade Ministers’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 May 2021. Access Date: 28 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/trade/210528-Communiqué.html>

<sup>1756</sup> Undermine, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 28 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/undermine>

<sup>1757</sup> Transparent, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 28 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/transparent>

committing to work together with the members of the WTO to “reinforce the fundamental principle of transparency.”<sup>1758</sup>

Thus, the commitment can effectively be divided into three core areas which address the main non-market policies and practices which the G7 leaders view as threatening “the fair and transparent operation of the global economy” as it relates to China: harmful and excessive subsidization, a lack of transparency with respect to the role of the state and state-owned enterprises in the economy, and forced technology transfer.<sup>1759</sup>

### **Harmful and Excessive Subsidization**

The WTO’s Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures defines a subsidy as:

“Financial contribution by a government or any public body within the territory of a Member, i.e. where:

- a government practice involves a direct transfer of funds (e.g. grants, loans, and equity infusion), potential direct transfers of funds or liabilities (e.g. loan guarantees);
- government revenue that is otherwise due is foregone or not collected (e.g. fiscal incentives such as tax credits);
- a government provides goods or services other than general infrastructure, or purchases goods;
- a government makes payments to a funding mechanism, or entrusts or directs a private body to carry out one or more of the type of functions illustrated in [the] above which would normally be vested in the government and the practice, in no real sense, differs from practices normally followed by governments.”<sup>1760</sup>

With regards to China and subsidies, there have been three important issues that G7 members have raised in past meetings. First, emerging markets which seek to enter foreign markets in sectors like mineral resources, energy and agriculture, for example, must unfairly compete with China’s highly subsidized exports of these key industries.<sup>1761</sup> Second, the competitiveness of China’s domestic market is also highly questioned, with concerns that China has exploited its market power “by restricting exports and raising prices for foreign consumers,” whereby subsidies could “shift profits from exporters in other countries.” Third, during periods of economic downturn, China may be well-insulated from the layoffs and bankruptcies that characterize recessionary periods due to these subsidies, not only bearing its “share of the burden of the negative shock,” but pushing that cost onto other countries which do not use these subsidies. Therefore, consultation on collective approaches to address this aspect of China’s competition could include but are not limited to: discussions on new subsidy rules, encouraging subsidy de-incentivization, establishing stricter penalties for breaching subsidy rules and creating effective competition policy requirements.

### **Lack of Transparency with Respect to the Role of the State and State-Owned Enterprises in the Economy**

In line with the G7 members’ emphasis on transparency in the global economic system, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), defines transparency as: “an environment in which the

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<sup>1758</sup> G7 Trade Ministers’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 May 2021. Access Date: 28 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/trade/210528-Communiqué.html>

<sup>1759</sup> G7 Trade Ministers’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 May 2021. Access Date: 28 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/trade/210528-Communiqué.html>

<sup>1760</sup> Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 15 April 1994. Access Date: 29 September 2021. [https://www.wto.org/english/docs\\_e/legal\\_e/24-scm.pdf](https://www.wto.org/english/docs_e/legal_e/24-scm.pdf)

<sup>1761</sup> WTO’ing a Resolution to the China Subsidy Problem, Peterson Institute for International Economics (Washington D.C.) October 2019. Access Date: 29 September 2021. <https://www.piie.com/sites/default/files/documents/wp19-17.pdf>

objectives of policy, its legal, institutional, and economic framework, policy decisions and their rationale, data and information related to monetary and financial policies, and the terms of agencies' accountability, are provided to the public in a comprehensible, accessible, and timely manner."<sup>1762</sup>

In addition to the excessive subsidization in certain industries, China's economic approach has been characterized by G7 members as "opaque" and "inconsistent with the commitments it made when it joined the WTO."<sup>1763</sup> In 2020, Transparency International ranked China 78th in the world in terms of corruption perception, which included among other criteria "ensuring open and transparent contracting" as well as publishing and guaranteeing access to relevant data on "spending and distribution of resources."<sup>1764</sup> With regards to initiatives such as the BRI, the World Bank has suggested the BRI presents wide risks to global infrastructure projects "exacerbated by the limited transparency and openness of the initiative."<sup>1765</sup> These transparency risks, indicative of the larger problems associated with the Chinese economic approach include concerns over debt sustainability, public procurement and corruption, public and private sector financing of these initiatives as well as the potential environmental and social risks imposed on local communities. This concern extends not only to the government's behaviour, but those of state-owned enterprises (SOE) as well. The OECD's Guidelines on Corporate Governance of State-Owned Enterprises was established to ensure SOEs "operate efficiently, transparently and on equal footing with private companies."<sup>1766</sup> Since SOEs like the China Investment Corporation and Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, for example, play a large role in supporting and expanding China's economic reach, G7 members have included them as areas of concern in this commitment.

Therefore, examples of consultation on collective approaches to address this aspect of China and economic competition include but are not limited to: discussions on the financial and non-financial disclosure and reporting obligations placed on SOEs, monitoring of legal compliance, encouraging competitive neutrality, publication of relevant data, or the establishment of minimum standards of quality for infrastructure projects.<sup>1767</sup>

### **Forced Technology Transfer**

The increasingly controversial practice known as "forced technology transfer" (FTT) has formed a key area of concern in the G7 members' approach towards China in recent years. While there exists no formal, commonly-agreed definition for FTTs, an apt characterization is "systematic state measures involving intellectual property meant to increase foreign-domestic technology transfer that simultaneously weaken[s] appropriability of foreign innovations."<sup>1768</sup> Essentially, foreign companies are obligated to share their

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<sup>1762</sup> Transparency, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 24 July 2002. Access Date: 30 September 2021. <https://stats.oecd.org/glossary/detail.asp?ID=4474>

<sup>1763</sup> China's Trade-Disruptive Economic Model, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 11 July 2018. Access Date: 30 September 2021. <https://docs.wto.org/dol2fe/Pages/SS/directdoc.aspx?filename=q:/WT/GC/W745.pdf>

<sup>1764</sup> Corruption Perceptions Index 2020, Transparency International (Berlin) January 2021. Access Date: 1 October 2021. [https://images.transparencycdn.org/images/CPI2020\\_Report\\_EN\\_0802-WEB-1\\_2021-02-08-103053.pdf](https://images.transparencycdn.org/images/CPI2020_Report_EN_0802-WEB-1_2021-02-08-103053.pdf)

<sup>1765</sup> Belt and Road Economics: Opportunities and Risks of Transport Corridors, The World Bank (Washington D.C.) 18 June 2019. Access Date: 1 October 2021. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/regional-integration/publication/belt-and-road-economics-opportunities-and-risks-of-transport-corridors>

<sup>1766</sup> Transparency and Disclosure Practices of State-Owned Enterprises and their Owners, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) n.d. Access Date: 30 September 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/corporate/Transparency-Disclosure-Practices-SOEs.pdf>

<sup>1767</sup> Belt and Road Economics: Opportunities and Risks of Transport Corridors, The World Bank (Washington D.C.) 18 June 2019. Access Date: 1 October 2021. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/regional-integration/publication/belt-and-road-economics-opportunities-and-risks-of-transport-corridors>; Transparency and Disclosure Practices of State-Owned Enterprises and their Owners, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) n.d. Access Date: 30 September 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/corporate/Transparency-Disclosure-Practices-SOEs.pdf>

<sup>1768</sup> Understanding and managing "forced" technology transfer, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 30 September 2021. [https://www.oecd.org/industry/ind/WP6-Workshop\\_Item\\_1.2.3\\_Prudhomme.pdf](https://www.oecd.org/industry/ind/WP6-Workshop_Item_1.2.3_Prudhomme.pdf)

technologies with the Government of China or other domestic companies in exchange for access to China’s market. Three key risks associated with this for foreign companies are the inherent business risks of divulging trade secrets, attaining a disadvantage in the domestic Chinese market and entrapment through leverage on the government’s part. Therefore, examples of consultation on collective approaches to address this aspect of China and economic competition include but are not limited to: discussions on policy and law monitoring, intellectual property rights risk assessments, consulting on means to incorporate FTTs into existing or new financial regulatory frameworks, and ensuring adequate protection and support for foreign companies doing business in China.

The G7 member will be found in full compliance if it has strongly consulted on collective approaches in more than one area of harmful and excessive subsidization, lack of transparency with respect to the role of the state and forced technology transfer. The G7 member will be found in partial compliance if it has less than strongly consulted in any area of harmful and excessive subsidization, lack of transparency with respect to the role of the state or forced technology transfer.

Examples of strong consultation on these three areas include but are not limited to consulting in a multilateral or plurilateral forum or engaging bilaterally or trilaterally with other G7 members, including actively participating in meetings or establishing joint policy initiatives. Examples of less than strong consultation on these areas include but are not limited to verbal declarations or reaffirmations of commitments from previous years. It should further be noted that as the commitment stresses the need for collective approaches towards this issue, any non-consultative or *unilateral* verbal declarations or attendance at meetings without evidence of active participation will be regarded as partial compliance.

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	The G7 member has NOT consulted in ANY of the three areas of consulting on collective approaches to harmful and excessive subsidization; lack of transparency with respect to the role of the state; and state-owned enterprises in the economy and forced technology transfer
0	The G7 member has partially or strongly consulted in ANY area of consulting on collective approaches to harmful and excessive subsidization; lack of transparency with respect to the role of the state; and/or state-owned enterprises in the economy and forced technology transfer
+1	The G7 member has strongly consulted in at least TWO of the three areas of consulting on collective approaches to harmful and excessive subsidization; lack of transparency with respect to the role of the state; AND state-owned enterprises in the economy; and/or forced technology transfer

*Compliance Director: Malhaar Moharir  
Lead Analyst: Justin O'Brien*

**Canada: 0**

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to consult on collective approaches to challenging non-market policies and practices which undermine the fair and transparent operation of the global economy.

On 21 October 2021, the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) made preliminary determinations of dumping and subsidizing regarding container chassis originating in or exported from China. This comes after following a written complaint from Max-Atlas Equipment International Inc. (Max Atlas), alleging that imports of container chassis from China were being dumped and subsidized.<sup>1769</sup> Max Atlas alleged that the dumping and subsidizing are threatening the Canadian industry producing similar goods. The CBSA will continue its investigations and make final decisions by 19 January 2022. As of 31 January 2022, any potential decision has not been made public by the CBSA.

<sup>1769</sup> Container chassis Statement of Reasons—preliminary determinations, Canada Border Services Agency (Ottawa) 5 November 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/sima-lmsi/i-e/cc2021/cc2021-pd-eng.html#toc15>



On 17 November 2021, Canadian International Trade Minister Mary Ng opened formal trade talks with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).<sup>1770</sup> Canada and ASEAN published a joint statement that highlighted a free trade agreement's potential to "help diversify supply chains, increase trade and investment, and reinforce Canada and ASEAN's shared commitment to open markets and rules-based trade." These discussions were undertaken with the goal of market diversification for Canadian businesses, and to reduce Canada's reliance on trade with China.

On 12 December 2021, Canada was a party to the first meeting between the G7 Foreign and Development Ministers and ASEAN members.<sup>1771</sup> Topics of discussion at the meeting included shared interests in open markets, sustainable and quality infrastructure, strengthening supply chains, capacity building in the burgeoning areas of technology and digitalization, and the importance of international rules-based trade and investment system.

On 10 January 2022, the government of Canada decided to pursue "a foreign investment protection agreement with Taiwan."<sup>1772</sup> Minister Ng announced that Canada's intention is to pursue a deeper bilateral trade agreement with Taiwan and diversify its trade relations in Asia. Former Ambassador to China Guy Saint-Jacques noted that "Taiwan plays by international trade rules and makes for a more reliable and predictable business partner than China."

On 12 January 2022, Global Affairs Canada proposed another plan to diversify its trade and investment partnerships in Asia and in turn, reduce Canada's reliance on China.<sup>1773</sup> The plan sets out CAD3.5 billion over the next five years, specifically toward contributing to infrastructure investments in the Indo-Pacific and establishing a larger diplomatic presence in the area as part of a collective Western-led approach to counter the Belt and Road Initiative.

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to consult on collective approaches to challenging non-market policies and practices which undermine the fair and transparent operation of the global economy. Canada has partially consulted with regional allies including fellow G7 members, Taiwan and ASEAN members to counter China's lack of transparency and role of the state and excessive and harmful subsidization. Canada has not adequately consulted on forced technology transfer.

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Clarissa Chan*

### **France: 0**

France has partially complied with its commitment to consult on collective approaches to challenging non-market policies and practices which undermine the fair and transparent operation of the global economy.

On 12 October 2021, French Minister Delegate for Foreign Trade and Economic Attractiveness Franck Riester and French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian attended a meeting of G20

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<sup>1770</sup> Canada, Asian bloc to begin free trade talks in effort to diversify from China, Canadian Broadcasting Centre (Ottawa) 17 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/asean-canada-free-trade-talks-1.6252619>

<sup>1771</sup> Chair's Statement – ASEAN, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 December 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/211212-foreign-and-development-asean.html>

<sup>1772</sup> Canada seeks deeper trade links with Taiwan, as part of new China strategy, Canadian Television Network (Toronto) 10 January 2022. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.ctvnews.ca/politics/canada-seeks-deeper-trade-links-with-taiwan-as-part-of-new-china-strategy-1.5734448>

<sup>1773</sup> Ottawa eyes Indo-Pacific plan to shift trade away from China, The Globe and Mail (Toronto) 12 January 2022. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/politics/article-trudeau-government-advised-to-spend-big-to-diversify-trade-away-from/>

trade ministers in Sorrento.<sup>1774</sup> Attending trade and investment ministers underscored “the importance of fair competition,” and affirmed the need to strengthen international rules on industrial subsidies.<sup>1775</sup>

On 22 October 2021, Minister Delegate Riester and Minister Le Drian attended a meeting of G7 trade ministers in London.<sup>1776</sup> G7 Trade Ministers issued a statement saying they would increase efforts to counter market-distorting practices and “develop stronger international rules on practices such as market-distorting industrial subsidies and trade-distorting actions by state enterprises.” The ministers also endorsed a transparency and notification proposal to be considered at the next WTO General Council meeting.

On 29 October 2021, President of the United States Joe Biden and French President Emmanuel Macron met in Rome to commit to closer bilateral and transatlantic cooperation in the pursuit of peace, security and prosperity worldwide.<sup>1777</sup> In a joint statement, the leaders said that with emerging technologies, they will ensure norms and standards governing their use will reflect “our shared democratic values, while respecting our respective regulatory autonomy.”

On 12 December 2021, France was a party to the first meeting between the G7 Foreign and Development Ministers and ASEAN members.<sup>1778</sup> Topics of discussion at the meeting included shared interests in open markets, sustainable and quality infrastructure, strengthening supply chains, capacity building in the burgeoning areas of technology and digitalization, and the importance of international rules-based trade and investment system.

France has partially complied with its commitment to consult on collective approaches to challenging non-market policies and practices which undermine the fair and transparent operation of the global economy. France has strongly consulted with fellow G7 and European Union members, having actively participated in meetings regarding harmful and excessive subsidization. However, France has not adequately consulted in the areas of the lack of transparency of the role of the state and forced technology transfer.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Benjamin Steven*

### **Germany: 0**

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to consult on collective approaches to challenging non-market policies and practices which undermine the fair and transparent operation of the global economy.

On 30 June 2021, German Federal Foreign Minister Heiko Maas signed a Joint Declaration of Intent with the UK’s Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab.<sup>1779</sup> The declaration included a commitment to strengthening NATO-EU cooperation on issues like cyber-security and addressing China. In addition, the declaration includes a

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<sup>1774</sup> G20 - Participation of Franck Riester in the trade ministers meeting, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 12 October 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/economic-diplomacy-foreign-trade/news/article/g20-participation-of-franck-riester-in-the-trade-ministers-meeting-sorrento-12>

<sup>1775</sup> G20 MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON TRADE AND INVESTMENT, Department of International Trade (Paris) 12 October 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.g20.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/G20-TIMM-statement-PDF.pdf>

<sup>1776</sup> G7 Trade Ministers’ Communique, Department for International Trade (London) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/g7-trade-ministers-communique-october-2021>

<sup>1777</sup> United States-France Joint Statement, Élysée (Paris), 29 October 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2021. <https://www.elysee.fr/en/emmanuel-macron/2021/10/29/united-states-france-joint-statement>

<sup>1778</sup> Chair’s Statement – ASEAN, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 December 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/211212-foreign-and-development-asean.html>

<sup>1779</sup> JOINT DECLARATION by the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/gbr-joint-declaration/2468908>

commitment to strengthening international bodies such as “the UN, the WTO and the Bretton Woods institution, and holding China to its international commitments.”<sup>1780</sup> This declaration is aimed at increasing enforcement of China’s legal compliance and preventing unchecked state interference in the economy.

On 10 August 2021, Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs Peter Beyer published an essay in a collection on “the future of Transatlantic partnership.”<sup>1781</sup> In his essay, Beyer supports the EU’s labeling of China as a “systemic rival.” He noted Beijing’s attempts to “force [member states] into dependence” through the Belt and Road Initiative and calls on the West to “put into practice a transatlantic strategy for China.” Moreover, the essay calls for WTO reform and highlights China’s misuse of the WTO system to avoid adhering to international standards. Beyer’s essay calls for increased monitoring toward Chinese infrastructure projects like the Belt and Road Initiative as well as greater enforcement against China’s influence in international bodies like the WTO.

On 12 December 2021, Germany was a party to the first meeting between the G7 Foreign and Development Ministers and ASEAN members.<sup>1782</sup> Topics of discussion at the meeting included shared interests in open markets, sustainable and quality infrastructure, strengthening supply chains, capacity building in the burgeoning areas of technology and digitalization, and the importance of international rules-based trade and investment system.

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to consult on collective approaches to challenging non-market policies and practices which undermine the fair and transparent operation of the global economy. Germany has partially consulted with international organizations including the WTO over China’s excessive subsidization and lack of transparency over the role of the state in the economy. Germany has not adequately consulted on forced technology transfer.

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Alan Fan*

### **Italy: -1**

Italy has failed to comply with its commitment to consult on collective approaches to challenging non-market policies and practices which undermine the fair and transparent operation of the global economy.

On 28 June 2021, Foreign Minister Luigi Di Maio stated during a news conference in Rome alongside U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, that the U.S. is a much more important ally for Italy than China, and reaffirmed Italy’s alliance with the US, NATO and the EU.<sup>1783</sup> Minister Di Maio’s statements signaled a diplomatic turn away from China, after Italy became the first G7 country and the biggest EU member state to join China’s Belt and Road Initiative in 2019. The close Sino-Italian commercial ties were a concern for the US and some EU countries as they had labelled Beijing a strategic and systemic rival.

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<sup>1780</sup> JOINT DECLARATION by the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/gbr-joint-declaration/2468908>

<sup>1781</sup> Forging the New West Analyses and Essays on the Future of the Transatlantic Partnership, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 10 August 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/blob/2476566/0d0f5a2e00c821c50fc5f669471a0247/2021-aa-festschrift-40-jahre-ko-tra-en-data.pdf>

<sup>1782</sup> Chair’s Statement – ASEAN, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 December 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/211212-foreign-and-development-asean.html>

<sup>1783</sup> Italy’s Di Maio says ties to US more important than those to China, Politico Europe (Brussels) 28 June 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.politico.eu/article/italys-di-maio-says-ties-to-us-more-important-than-those-to-china>

On 18 November 2021, Prime Minister Mario Draghi vetoed a Chinese company's attempt to acquire a US-based group's screen-printing equipment business in Italy, using its anti-takeover legislation or "golden powers."<sup>1784</sup> This is the third proposed takeover by China that Prime Minister Draghi had blocked since his government took office in February 2021, citing concerns over consequences in the strategic semiconductor sector.

On 12 December 2021, Italy was a party to the first meeting between the G7 Foreign and Development Ministers and ASEAN members.<sup>1785</sup> Topics of discussion at the meeting included shared interests in open markets, sustainable and quality infrastructure, strengthening supply chains, capacity building in the burgeoning areas of technology and digitalization, and the importance of international rules-based trade and investment system.

Italy has failed to comply with its commitment to consult on collective approaches to challenging non-market policies and practices which undermine the fair and transparent operation of the global economy. Italy has consulted with G7 members in a collaborative environment during the Foreign and Development Ministers Meeting, but has not taken measurable steps beyond the G7 environment to collectively address any of the three areas of harmful and excessive subsidization, lack of transparency regarding the role of the state over the economy and forced technology transfer.

Thus, Italy receives a score of -1.

*Analyst: Lynn Hu*

### **Japan: 0**

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to consult on collective approaches to challenging non-market policies and practices which undermine the fair and transparent operation of the global economy.

On 15 June 2021, Japan filed a complaint to the WTO concerning anti-dumping measures imposed by China on certain steel products from Japan, specifically steel billets, hot-rolled coils and hot-rolled plates.<sup>1786</sup> In the request circulated to WTO members, Japan asserts that the anti-dumping measures imposed in 2019 by China's Ministry of Commerce, appear to be inconsistent with various provisions under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 1994 and the Anti-Dumping Agreement.

On 24 September 2021, the Quadrilateral countries — Australia, India, Japan and the United States — released the Principles on Technology Design, Development, Governance, and Use Statement.<sup>1787</sup> In the statement, all four countries expected technology suppliers, vendors and distributors build in safety and security-by-design approaches as part of their development process, and noted the common challenges posed by the illicit transfer and theft of technology. Furthermore, the countries said they support free and fair market competition where the best technical solutions succeed, including with the help of transparently awarded state incentives.

On 27 October 2021, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida vowed during the summit between Japan and members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to strengthen cooperation with ASEAN in order to

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<sup>1784</sup> Italy's Draghi vetoes third Chinese takeover this year, Reuters (London) 23 November 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/markets/deals/italys-draghi-vetoes-third-chinese-takeover-this-year-2021-11-23>

<sup>1785</sup> Chair's Statement – ASEAN, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 December 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/211212-foreign-and-development-asean.html>

<sup>1786</sup> Japan initiates WTO dispute complaint against Chinese steel duties, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. [https://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/news21\\_e/ds601rfc\\_15jun21\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news21_e/ds601rfc_15jun21_e.htm)

<sup>1787</sup> Quad Principles on Technology Design, Development, Governance, and Use, the White House (Washington D.C.) 24 September 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/09/24/quad-principles-on-technology-design-development-governance-and-use/>

realize a free and open Indo-Pacific region and counter China's increasingly assertive territorial claims and military buildup.<sup>1788</sup> He also raised concerns over the human rights situation in Hong Kong, Xinjiang, as well as the importance of peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait.

On 18 November 2021, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Hayashi Yoshimasa engaged in an informal dialogue with the Chinese State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi.<sup>1789</sup> During the call, which primarily focused on territorial issues, the Minister also called for the prompt removal of import restrictions placed on Japanese food products.

On 30 November 2021, the trade ministers of the United States, the European Union and Japan met virtually and agreed to renew a trilateral partnership in efforts to address global challenges posed by non-market policies and practices, an indirect reference to China's excessive industrial subsidy policy.<sup>1790</sup> In a joint statement, the Ministers identified three areas of focus: 1) Identification of problems due to non-market practices; 2) Identification of gaps in existing enforcement tools; and 3) Identification of areas where further work is needed to develop rules to address such practices.

On 12 December 2021, Japan was a party to the first meeting between the G7 Foreign and Development Ministers and ASEAN members.<sup>1791</sup> Topics of discussion at the meeting included shared interests in open markets, sustainable and quality infrastructure, strengthening supply chains, capacity building in the burgeoning areas of technology and digitalization, and the importance of international rules-based trade and investment system.

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to consult on collective approaches to challenging non-market policies and practices which undermine the fair and transparent operation of the global economy. Japan has taken partial action in all three areas of countering harmful and excessive subsidization, the lack of transparency with regards to the role of the state over the economy, and forced technology transfer through both unilateral action and some consultation with allies.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Lynn Hu*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to consult on collective approaches to challenging non-market policies and practices which undermine the fair and transparent operation of the global economy.

On 17 June 2021, the United Kingdom and the United States released a joint-statement on a cooperative framework for large civil aircraft.<sup>1792</sup> This framework included an agreement for both countries to jointly

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<sup>1788</sup> Japan PM raises China human rights and Taiwan Strait at ASEAN, Nikkei Asia (Tokyo) 27 October 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/Japan-PM-raises-China-human-rights-and-Taiwan-Strait-at-ASEAN>

<sup>1789</sup> Japan-China Foreign Ministers' Telephone Talk, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e\\_000234.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000234.html)

<sup>1790</sup> Joint Statement of the Trade Ministers of the United States, Japan, and the European Union After a Trilateral Meeting, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/november/joint-statement-trade-ministers-united-states-japan-and-european-union-after-trilateral-meeting>

<sup>1791</sup> Chair's Statement – ASEAN, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 December 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/211212-foreign-and-development-asean.html>

<sup>1792</sup> Joint US-UK statement on a cooperative framework for Large Civil Aircraft, Office of the Prime Minister (London) 17 June 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-us-uk-statement-on-a-cooperative-framework-for-large-civil-aircraft>

analyze and address “non-market practices of third parties that may harm their respective large civil aircraft industries.” To address “non-market economies, such as China,” the framework calls for both countries to “share information regarding cybersecurity concerns,” screen inward investments into the large civil aircraft sector, screen outward investments into non-market economies for non-market forces, and identify solutions to non-market practices. This framework is clearly aimed at decreasing the effectiveness of non-market policies such as excessive government intervention.

On 19 July 2021, the UK condemned a Chinese state-backed cyberattack on Microsoft Exchange servers.<sup>1793</sup> The attack was “highly likely to enable large-scale espionage, including acquiring personally identifiable information and intellectual property.” The UK called on China to reaffirm its commitment “not to conduct or support cyber-enabled theft of intellectual property or trade secrets.”

On 20 October 2021, Ambassador to the World Trade Organization and United Nations Simon Manley delivered a statement detailing some of the anti-competitive practices which China employs.<sup>1794</sup> These include hidden subsidies, inconsistent application of regulations toward Chinese and foreign firms, and lack of enforcement towards counterfeit goods. Moreover, Manley notes China’s 326,000 state-owned enterprises have an unfair advantage over “domestic private firms and foreign investors.” Manley calls on the Chinese government to publish “all materials related to its three-year reform plan for its state-owned enterprises.”

On 11 November 2021, Minister of State for Trade Policy Penny Mordaunt called for reform to the WTO dispute settlement system and “modernisation of the WTO rulebook.”<sup>1795</sup> In addition, Mordaunt supported “the adoption of the transparency and notification proposal within the General Council.” These reforms are aimed at addressing anti-competitive policies such as excessive state subsidies and other forms of government intervention.

On 12 December 2021, the UK hosted the first meeting between the G7 Foreign and Development Ministers and ASEAN members, as part of its G7 presidency.<sup>1796</sup> Topics of discussion at the meeting included shared interests in open markets, sustainable and quality infrastructure, strengthening supply chains, capacity building in the burgeoning areas of technology and digitalization, and the importance of international rules-based trade and investment system.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to consult on collective approaches to challenging non-market policies and practices which undermine the fair and transparent operation of the global economy. While the UK has taken some unilateral action regarding China’s non-market policies, the United Kingdom has strongly consulted with allies including all G7 members and the WTO in all three areas of harmful and excessive subsidization, lack of transparency regarding the role of the state over the economy and forced technology transfer.

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

*Analyst: Alan Fan*

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<sup>1793</sup> UK and allies hold Chinese state responsible for a pervasive pattern of hacking, Office of the Prime Minister (London) 19 July 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-allies-hold-chinese-state-responsible-for-a-pervasive-pattern-of-hacking>

<sup>1794</sup> WTO Trade Policy Review of China: UK Statement, Office of the Prime Minister (London) 20 October 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-allies-hold-chinese-state-responsible-for-a-pervasive-pattern-of-hacking>

<sup>1795</sup> Minister Mordaunt Chatham House speech, Office of the Prime Minister (London) 11 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/minister-mordaunt-chatham-house-speech>

<sup>1796</sup> Chair’s Statement – ASEAN, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 December 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/211212-foreign-and-development-asean.html>

## United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to consult on collective approaches to challenging non-market policies and practices which undermine the fair and transparent operation of the global economy.

On 15 June 2021, the United States and the European Union announced a cooperative framework to address large civil aircraft disputes.<sup>1797</sup> In the announcement, both sides intend to “collaborate on jointly analyzing and addressing non-market practices of third parties that may harm their respective civil aircraft industries.” As part of the agreement, the United States and the European Union will explore ways to cooperate on information sharing regarding non-market practices in the large civil aircraft sector, including subsidies.

On 15 June 2021, the United States and the European Union released a statement pledging to update the World Trade Organization rulebook with “more effective disciplines on industrial subsidies, unfair behaviour of state-owned enterprises and other trade and market-distorting practices.”<sup>1798</sup>

On 24 September 2021, the Quadrilateral countries — Australia, India, Japan and the United States — released a statement affirming that technology should be designed and governed by democratic values.<sup>1799</sup> The countries expressed an expectation that technology suppliers, vendors and distributors build in safety and security-by-design approaches as part of the development process. Additionally, the countries said they support free and fair market competition where the best technical solutions succeed, including with the help of transparently awarded state incentives.

On 29 September 2021, the US-EU Trade and Technology Council met for the first time in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.<sup>1800</sup> The US and the EU announced an intention to share information on “non-market distortive policies and practices,” including: forced technology transfer, state-sponsored theft of intellectual property, market-distorting industrial subsidies including support to and through SOEs and anti-competitive and non-market actions of SOEs.

On 6 October 2021, the United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai met with France’s Minister of Economy, Finance and Recovery Bruno Le Maire during the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development Ministerial Council Meeting.<sup>1801</sup> Ambassador Tai and Minister Le Maire discussed “ongoing non-market economic and trade challenges posed by China, which prevent American and French businesses from fairly competing in the global marketplace.” Ambassador Tai also expressed her hope to continue discussing these topics on an ongoing basis in the future.

On 6 October 2021, the United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai met with Canada’s Minister for Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade Mary Ng during the Organization for Economic

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<sup>1797</sup> USTR Announces Joint U.S.-E.U. Cooperative Framework for Large Civil Aircraft, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/june/ustr-announces-joint-us-eu-cooperative-framework-large-civil-aircraft>

<sup>1798</sup> U.S.-EU Summit Statement, the White House (Washington D.C.) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/06/15/u-s-eu-summit-statement/>

<sup>1799</sup> Quad Principles on Technology Design, Development, Governance, and Use, the White House (Washington D.C.) 24 September 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/09/24/quad-principles-on-technology-design-development-governance-and-use/>

<sup>1800</sup> U.S.-EU Trade and Technology Council Inaugural Joint Statement, the White House (Pittsburgh) 27 September 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/09/29/u-s-eu-trade-and-technology-council-inaugural-joint-statement/>

<sup>1801</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai’s Meeting with France’s Minister of Economy, Finance and Recovery Bruno Le Maire, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 6 October 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/october/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-frances-minister-economy-finance-and-recovery-bruno-le>

Co-operation and Development Ministerial Council Meeting.<sup>1802</sup> The pair discussed the importance of the multilateral trading system and the need for action to combat challenges posed by non-market economies.

On 12 October 2021, the United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai met with Germany's Federal Minister of Economics and Energy Peter Altmaier during the G7 Trade Ministerial meeting in London, where the pair reviewed US-EU progress on shared global challenges including the "impact of China's non-market practices that result in excess capacity in steel and aluminum."<sup>1803</sup>

On 22 October 2021, the United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai met with Italy's Minister of Foreign Affairs Luigi Di Maio, where the pair highlighted the importance of strengthening the transatlantic trade relationships and cooperating on shared long-term challenges posed by non-market economies.<sup>1804</sup>

On 4 November 2021, the United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai held a virtual meeting with Japan's Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Hagiuda Koichi.<sup>1805</sup> The two discussed shared priorities and exchanged views on the importance of working together on addressing root causes of non-market excess capacity and cooperating on addressing market-distorting measures and economic coercion.

On 12 November 2021, the United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai and the United States Secretary of Commerce Gina M. Raimondo announced the start of consultations with Japan to address global steel and aluminum excess capacity.<sup>1806</sup> A release from the announcement said the two reiterated concerns on the impact on U.S. industries from non-market excess capacity driven largely by China. The release also said the United States and Japan will look to resolve bilateral concerns in these two areas.

On 30 November 2021, the United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai, Japanese Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Hagiuda Koichi and Executive Vice President of the European Commission Valdis Dombrovskis met virtually and agreed to renew their trilateral partnership to address global challenges posed by non-market policies and practices of third countries that undermine their workers and businesses.<sup>1807</sup> The trio agreed to focus work in three areas: identifying problems due to non-market practices,

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<sup>1802</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting with Canada's Minister for Small Business, Export Promotion, and International Trade, Mary Ng, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 6 October 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2021. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/october/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-canadas-minister-small-business-export-promotion-and-international-trade>

<sup>1803</sup> Readout of Ambassador Tai's Meeting with German Federal Minister for Economics and Energy Peter Altmaier on the Margins of the G7 Trade Ministerial, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2021. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/october/readout-ambassador-tais-meeting-german-federal-minister-economics-and-energy-peter-altmaier-margins>

<sup>1804</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting with Italy Minister of Foreign Affairs Luigi Di Maio, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 12 November 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2021. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/october/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-italy-minister-foreign-affairs-luigi-di-maio>

<sup>1805</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Virtual Meeting with Japanese Minister of Economy, Trade, And Industry Hagiuda Koichi, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2021. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/november/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-virtual-meeting-japanese-minister-economy-trade-and-industry>

<sup>1806</sup> U.S. Statement on Working With Japan to Address Global Steel and Aluminum Excess Capacity, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 12 November 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2021. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/november/us-statement-working-japan-address-global-steel-and-aluminum-excess-capacity>

<sup>1807</sup> Joint Statement of the Trade Ministers of the United States, Japan, and the European Union After a Trilateral Meeting, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2021. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/november/joint-statement-trade-ministers-united-states-japan-and-european-union-after-trilateral-meeting>



identifying gaps in existing enforcement tools or developing new tools and identifying areas where rules need to be developed to address such practices.

On 2 December 2021, Deputy Secretary of State Wendy R. Sherman and European External Action Service Secretary General Stefano Sannio held the second high-level meeting of the U.S.-EU Dialogue on China in Washington.<sup>1808</sup> According to a joint press release, the pair emphasized the importance of protecting intellectual property rights, critical infrastructure and sensitive technology as well as information-sharing on tools to shield against risks from non-market policies.

On 12 December 2021, the United States was party to the first meeting between the G7 Foreign and Development Ministers and ASEAN members, as part of its G7 presidency.<sup>1809</sup> Topics of discussion at the meeting included shared interests in open markets, sustainable and quality infrastructure, strengthening supply chains, capacity building in the burgeoning areas of technology and digitalization, and the importance of international rules-based trade and investment system.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to consult on collective approaches to challenging non-market policies and practices which undermine the fair and transparent operation of the global economy. Through extensive collaboration with and leadership among allies in both bilateral and multilateral frameworks, the United States has strongly consulted on all three areas of harmful and excessive subsidization, lack of transparency regarding the state role over the economy and forced technology transfer.

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

*Analyst: Benjamin Steven*

### **European Union: 0**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to consult on collective approaches to challenging non-market policies and practices which undermine the fair and transparent operation of the global economy.

On 16 June 2021, European Commission Executive Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis and the United States Trade representative Katherine Tai met to discuss suspending tariffs on the aircraft industry.<sup>1810</sup> The two members made their decision to focus on “jointly analyzing and addressing non-market practices of third parties that may harm [...] large civil aircraft sectors.” The European Union’s statement with the United States represents its commitment to challenging non-market practices.

On 28 June 2021, the European Commission began an expiry review into duties imposed upon China’s molybdenum wires import dumping under Article 11(2) of the Basic Regulation.<sup>1811</sup> This investigation reflects the EU’s effort to combat China’s anti-free market practices.

On 2 July 2021, the European Commission began an expiry review into extending anti-dumping duties levied against silicon originating from China under Article 11(2) of the Basic Regulation.<sup>1812</sup> This inquiry marks the EU’s effort to protect against non-market practices including dumping.

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<sup>1808</sup> U.S.-EU Joint Press Release by the EEAS and Department of State on the Second High-Level Meeting of the U.S.-EU Dialogue on China, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2021. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-eu-joint-press-release-by-the-eeas-and-department-of-state-on-the-second-high-level-meeting-of-the-u-s-eu-dialogue-on-china/>

<sup>1809</sup> Chair’s Statement – ASEAN, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 December 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/211212-foreign-and-development-asean.html>

<sup>1810</sup> EU and US take decisive step to end aircraft dispute, European Commission (Brussels) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=2275>

<sup>1811</sup> Case R744- Molybdenum Wires, European Commission (Brussels) 28 June 2021. Access Date: 26 November 2021. [https://trade.ec.europa.eu/tdi/case\\_details.cfm?ref=ong&id=2537&sta=1&en=20&page=1&c\\_order=date&c\\_order\\_dir=Down](https://trade.ec.europa.eu/tdi/case_details.cfm?ref=ong&id=2537&sta=1&en=20&page=1&c_order=date&c_order_dir=Down)

On 16 July 2021, the European Commission began an expiry review into extending duties set against the dumping of sodium cyclamate originating from China and Indonesia.<sup>1813</sup> The EU's review continues its commitment to protecting against China's anti-free market practices.

On 29 July 2021, the European Commission began an expiry review into extending anti-dumping measures imposed upon aspartame originating from China under Article 11(2) of the Regulation (EU) 2016/1036 of the European Parliament and Council.<sup>1814</sup>

On 3 August 2021, the European Commission began an expiry review into extending duties levied against the dumping of cold-rolled flat steel products from China and Russia under Article 11(2) of the Regulation (EU) 2016/1036 of the European Parliament and Council.<sup>1815</sup>

On 25 August 2021, the European Union Chamber of Commerce in China released a statement outlining its stance on China's data security and personal information protection law.<sup>1816</sup> The statement is supportive of the advancement in legal protection of data security in China, but expresses concern for the potential negative impact of restrictions on business and suggests amendments to create clear and consistent Chinese data security law.

On 15 September 2021, the European Commission acted against Chinese aluminum foil manufacturers who avoided pre-existing anti-dumping duties through shipping their goods from Thailand.<sup>1817</sup> Consequently, the European Commission is examining whether to expand its anti-dumping duties on aluminum foil to Thailand.

On 16 September 2021, the European Parliament adopted texts on a new EU-China Strategy.<sup>1818</sup> Within the adopted resolutions, the European Parliament outlines how Chinese initiatives like the Belt and Road Initiative, Five-Year Plan, and Made in China 2025 have deleterious "consequences for the world order, and pose serious threats to rules-based multilateralism and core democratic values." Moreover, the resolution details the EU's obligation to counteract Chinese influence among EU members and multilateral organizations such as the United Nations and World Trade Organization.

On 16 September 2021, the European Parliament released its vision for its strategy on China.<sup>1819</sup> The European Parliament stresses that "the ratification process of the Comprehensive Agreement on Investment (CAI) cannot begin until China lifts sanctions against MEPs and EU institutions." Additionally, the European

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<sup>1812</sup> Case R743- Silicon, European Commission (Brussels) 2 July 2021. Access Date: 26 November 2021.

[https://trade.ec.europa.eu/tdi/case\\_details.cfm?ref=ong&id=2535&sta=1&en=20&page=1&c\\_order=date&c\\_order\\_dir=Down](https://trade.ec.europa.eu/tdi/case_details.cfm?ref=ong&id=2535&sta=1&en=20&page=1&c_order=date&c_order_dir=Down)

<sup>1813</sup> Case R741- Sodium cyclamate, European Commission (Brussels) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022.

[https://trade.ec.europa.eu/tdi/case\\_details.cfm?ref=ong&id=2533&sta=1&en=20&page=1&c\\_order=date&c\\_order\\_dir=Down](https://trade.ec.europa.eu/tdi/case_details.cfm?ref=ong&id=2533&sta=1&en=20&page=1&c_order=date&c_order_dir=Down)

<sup>1814</sup> Case R742- Aspartame, European Commission (Brussels) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022.

[https://trade.ec.europa.eu/tdi/case\\_details.cfm?ref=ong&id=2534&sta=1&en=20&page=1&c\\_order=date&c\\_order\\_dir=Down](https://trade.ec.europa.eu/tdi/case_details.cfm?ref=ong&id=2534&sta=1&en=20&page=1&c_order=date&c_order_dir=Down)

<sup>1815</sup> Case R745- Cold-rolled flat steel products, European Commission (Brussels) 3 August 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022.

[https://trade.ec.europa.eu/tdi/case\\_details.cfm?ref=ong&id=2538&sta=1&en=20&page=1&c\\_order=date&c\\_order\\_dir=Down](https://trade.ec.europa.eu/tdi/case_details.cfm?ref=ong&id=2538&sta=1&en=20&page=1&c_order=date&c_order_dir=Down)

<sup>1816</sup> European Chamber Stance on China's Data Security Law and Personal Information Protection Law, European Commission (Brussels) 25 August 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022.

[https://trade.ec.europa.eu/tdi/case\\_details.cfm?ref=ong&id=2533&sta=1&en=20&page=1&c\\_order=date&c\\_order\\_dir=Down](https://trade.ec.europa.eu/tdi/case_details.cfm?ref=ong&id=2533&sta=1&en=20&page=1&c_order=date&c_order_dir=Down)

<sup>1817</sup> Commission takes action against circumvention of anti-dumping duties on Chinese aluminum foil, European Commission (Brussels) 15 September 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022.

<https://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=2300&title=Commission-takes-action-against-circumvention-of-anti-dumping-duties-on-Chinese-aluminium-foil>

<sup>1818</sup> Texts adopted on a new EU-China Strategy, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 16 September 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/A-9-2021-0252\\_EN.html#title1](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/A-9-2021-0252_EN.html#title1)

<sup>1819</sup> Parliament sets out its vision for a new EU strategy on China, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 16 September 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2021-0382\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2021-0382_EN.html)

Parliament relays the importance of excluding non-secure Chinese companies from 5G and 6G networks, promoting a more-secure global economy.

On 24 September 2021, the European Commission began investigating the imposition of anti-dumping duties upon electrolytic chromium-coated steel imports originating from China and Brazil.<sup>1820</sup>

On 29 September 2021, the EU-US Trade and Technology Council released a joint statement outlining the resolutions made during their meeting in Pittsburgh.<sup>1821</sup> The two countries affirmed their commitment toward taking joint measures against non-market economics, specifically through reforming the WTO to address and counteract anti-free market practices, such as forced technology transfer, unfair subsidies and intellectual property theft.

On 11 October 2021, the European Commission decided to impose anti-dumping duties ranging from 14.3 per cent to 24.6 per cent on imports of flat-rolled aluminum products from China.<sup>1822</sup>

On 31 October 2021, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and President of the United States Joe Biden met to discuss a Global Arrangement on Sustainable Steel and Aluminum wherein both G7 members agreed to repeal their tariffs on steel and aluminum imports.<sup>1823</sup>

On 18 November 2021, the European Commission commenced an investigation under Article 10 of the Regulation (EU) 2016/1036 into subsidized imports of graphite electrode systems from China.<sup>1824</sup>

On 18 November 2021, the European Commission decided to adopt anti-dumping measures in three different anti-dumping cases.<sup>1825</sup> One of the cases involved imposing anti-dumping duties ranging from 19.7 per cent to 44 per cent against optical fiber cables imports originating from China.

On 30 November 2021, European Commission Executive Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis, US Trade representative Katherine Tai and Japan Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Hagiuda Koichi released a joint statement on their trilateral partnership.<sup>1826</sup> In their partnership, the nations agreed to address the following: “problems due to non-market practices,” “gaps in existing enforcement tools,” “new tools to address [non-market] practices,” and “areas where further work is needed to develop rules to address such practices.”

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<sup>1820</sup> Case AD683- Electrolytic chromium coated steel (ECCS), European Commission (Brussels) 24 September 2021. Access Date: 26 November 2021.

<sup>1821</sup> EU-US Trade and Technology Council Inaugural Joint Statement, European Commission (Brussels) 29 September 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement\\_21\\_4951](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_21_4951)

<sup>1822</sup> Commission adopts definitive anti-dumping measures on imports of flat-rolled aluminum products from China and suspends their application temporarily for 9 months, European Commission (Brussels) 11 October 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. <https://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=2310>

<sup>1823</sup> EU and US agree to start discussions on a Global Arrangement on Sustainable Steel and Aluminum and suspend steel and aluminum trade disputes, European Commission (Brussels) 31 October 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_5721](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5721)

<sup>1824</sup> Case AS685- Graphite electrode systems, European Commission (Brussels) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. [https://trade.ec.europa.eu/tdi/case\\_details.cfm?ref=ong&id=2562&sta=1&en=20&page=1&c\\_order=date&c\\_order\\_dir=Down](https://trade.ec.europa.eu/tdi/case_details.cfm?ref=ong&id=2562&sta=1&en=20&page=1&c_order=date&c_order_dir=Down)

<sup>1825</sup> Commission imposes definitive duties in three anti-dumping cases to defend EU producers and protect jobs, European Commission (Brussels) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. <https://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=2322&title=Commission-imposes-definitive-duties-in-three-anti-dumping-cases-to-defend-EU-producers-and-protect-jobs>

<sup>1826</sup> Joint statement of the ministers of US, Japan and EU on trilateral cooperation, European Commission (Brussels) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=2330&title=Joint-statement-of-the-ministers-of-US-Japan-and-EU-on-trilateral-cooperation>

On 1 December 2021, the European Commission and High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy announced the EUR 300 billion Global Gateway project “to boost smart, clean and secure links in digital, energy and transport and strengthen health, education and research systems across the world.”<sup>1827</sup> The Global Gateway intends to be the EU’s alternative to China’s Belt and Road Initiative.

On 30 November 2021, US Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken and Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and European Commission Vice President Josep Borrell released a joint statement reiterating their “shared commitments to Transatlantic security and confronting common security challenges.”<sup>1828</sup>

On 8 December 2021, Vice-President Josep Borrell and executive Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis released a joint statement on China blocking Lithuania’s imports and shipments.<sup>1829</sup> In the statement, officials reiterated that “the EU is ready to stand up against all types of political pressure and coercive measures applied against any Member State.”

On 8 December 2021, the European Commission decided to adopt anti-dumping measures ranging from 15.7 per cent to 28.5 percent on aluminum converter foil imports originating from China.<sup>1830</sup>

On 16 December 2021, the European Commission chose to impose anti-dumping duties ranging from 7.2 per cent to 19.2 percent on Chinese steel wind towers.<sup>1831</sup>

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to consult on collective approaches to challenging non-market policies and practices which undermine the fair and transparent operation of the global economy. Particularly through extensive consultation among EU members concerning anti-dumping measures, the EU has demonstrated its commitment toward addressing lack of transparency regarding the role of the state over the economy as well as harmful and excessive subsidization. These actions however represent largely unilateral initiatives, and the EU has not adequately consulted with global partners especially in the area of forced technology transfer.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Tara Parsons*

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<sup>1827</sup> Global Gateway: up to €300 billion for the European Union’s strategy to boost sustainable links around the world, European Commission (Brussels) 1 December 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_6433](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6433)

<sup>1828</sup> EU-U.S. Joint Statement by the Secretary of State of the United States of America and the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice President of the European Commission, European Commission (Brussels) 3 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. [https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/108372/eu-us-joint-statement-secretary-state-united-states-america-and-eu-high-representative\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/108372/eu-us-joint-statement-secretary-state-united-states-america-and-eu-high-representative_en)

<sup>1829</sup> Joint Statement by High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell and Executive Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis on China’s measures against Lithuania, European Commission (Brussels) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_6433](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6433)

<sup>1830</sup> Commission imposes anti-dumping duties on Chinese aluminum converter foil imports, European Commission (Brussels) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=2338>

<sup>1831</sup> Commission imposes anti-dumping duties on imports of steel wind towers from China, European Commission (Brussels) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=2346>

## 15. Regional Security: Addressing Instability

“As democratic societies we support global institutions in their efforts to...[address]...instability.”

*Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France		0	
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.88 (94%)	

### Background

In 2021, ongoing conflict in Ethiopia’s Tigray region, terrorism in the Sahel, regime change in Afghanistan, military coup in Myanmar, along with other sources of tension prompted the G7 leaders to affirm their efforts to support global institutions in addressing instability.<sup>1832</sup> Maintaining regional stability is crucial for the global community to be able to focus their efforts in rebuilding the economy and renewing cooperation in their recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The G7 leaders reaffirmed their support for international institutions as the means to address latent and ongoing instability.<sup>1833</sup>

The collective desire to support international institutions in maintaining stability has persisted in the G7 agenda throughout the years. At the 1996 Lyon Summit, the G7 supported the European Union’s effort in establishing new institutions: the collective presidency, the council of ministers, the parliament, the constitutional court and the central bank in the context of supporting the implementation of peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina.<sup>1834</sup> In the same year, the G7 affirmed their determination to enforce full implementation of all United Nations Security Council resolutions concerning Iraq and Libya.<sup>1835</sup>

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, the G8 called for an international conference that builds on the UN Security Council Resolution to break the link between illicit trade in diamonds and armed conflict in Africa.<sup>1836</sup>

At the 2002 Kananaskis Summit, G8 leaders further devoted efforts to train African peace support forces through regional centres like the Kofi Annan International Peace Training Centre.<sup>1837</sup>

<sup>1832</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/Summit/2021cornwall/210613-communicue.html>

<sup>1833</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/Summit/2021cornwall/210613-communicue.html>

<sup>1834</sup> G7/8 Summit Compliance Data Sets by Issue 1985-2013: Conflict Prevention, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 April 2015. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/compliance/dataset/conflict.html>

<sup>1835</sup> G7/8 Summit Compliance Data Sets by Issue 1985-2013: Conflict Prevention, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 April 2015. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/compliance/dataset/conflict.html>

<sup>1836</sup> G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 25 October 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>

At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, the G8 leaders committed to continue to contribute to the African Union's Mission in Sudan (Darfur).<sup>1838</sup>

At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, the G8 reiterated their support in cooperating with the EU and the UN to assist the African Union and African sub-regional organizations to develop the African Standby Force.<sup>1839</sup> At this Summit, the G8 leaders also committed to pursue reforms in the UN to ensure that resources are available in advance for the establishment of new peacekeeping and peace support operations.<sup>1840</sup>

At the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, the G8 leaders committed to provide humanitarian assistance in coordination with the African Union and the UN.<sup>1841</sup>

At the 2008 Hokkaido-Toyako Summit, the G8 leaders committed to further strengthening the coordination of their efforts in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region in cooperation with international organizations.<sup>1842</sup>

At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, the leaders expressed support for the International Security Assistance Force's transition strategy in Afghanistan.<sup>1843</sup> They also committed to strengthening the capacities of regional organizations for maritime security and international peace operations.<sup>1844</sup>

At the 2011 Deauville Summit, the G8 leaders established the Deauville Partnership for Arab Countries in Transition in response to the events of the Arab Spring.<sup>1845</sup>

At the 2013 Lough Erne Summit, the G8 leaders committed support for the transition of Arab Spring countries through the Deauville Partnership.<sup>1846</sup>

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, the G7 stated that they will “work with the UN and INTERPOL to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.”<sup>1847</sup>

The G7 has supported global institutions in promoting peace in various regions and actively engaged in live events as they emerge. At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, the G7 once again brought the issue of regional

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<sup>1837</sup> G7/8 Summit Compliance Data Sets by Issue 1985-2013: Conflict Prevention, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 April 2015.

Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/compliance/dataset/conflict.html>

<sup>1838</sup> G7/8 Summit Compliance Data Sets by Issue 1985-2013: Conflict Prevention, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 April 2015.

Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/compliance/dataset/conflict.html>

<sup>1839</sup> G7/8 Summit Compliance Data Sets by Issue 1985-2013: Conflict Prevention, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 April 2015.

Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/compliance/dataset/conflict.html>

<sup>1840</sup> G7/8 Summit Compliance Data Sets by Issue, 1985-2013: Regional Security, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 April 2015.

Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/compliance/dataset/security.html>

<sup>1841</sup> G7/8 Summit Compliance Data Sets by Issue, 1985-2013: Regional Security, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 April 2015.

Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/compliance/dataset/security.html>

<sup>1842</sup> G7/8 Summit Compliance Data Sets by Issue, 1985-2013: Regional Security, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 April 2015.

Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/compliance/dataset/security.html>

<sup>1843</sup> G7/8 Summit Compliance Data Sets by Issue, 1985-2013: Regional Security, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 April 2015.

Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/compliance/dataset/security.html>

<sup>1844</sup> G7/8 Summit Compliance Data Sets by Issue, 1985-2013: Regional Security, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 April 2015.

Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/compliance/dataset/security.html>

<sup>1845</sup> Declaration of the G8 on the Arab Springs, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 26 Oct 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-arabsprings-en.html>

<sup>1846</sup> G7/8 Summit Compliance Data Sets by Issue, 1985-2013: Regional Security, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 April 2015.

Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/compliance/dataset/security.html>

<sup>1847</sup> 2019 G7 Biarritz Summit Final Compliance Report, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 December 2020. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2019compliance-final/10-2019-g7-final-compliance-g5-sahel-police.pdf>

security to the forefront as they made the commitment “to support global institutions in their efforts to...address...instability.”<sup>1848</sup>

The G7 leaders elaborated on their commitment to address stability by stating that they endorse the statement made by the G7 Foreign and Development Ministers in May 2021 in which they “commit to tackling threats jointly and committing our resources to achieve shared security.”<sup>1849</sup> Further, the G7 leaders reviewed current issues and expressed their support for: stable and predictable relations with Russia, the territorial integrity of Ukraine, fundamental freedom in Belarus, national reconciliation and consensus in Ethiopia, the fight against terrorism in the Sahel, stabilization in Libya, peace processes in Afghanistan, the denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula, stable democracy in Myanmar, a free and open Indo-Pacific region, peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait, non-proliferation and regional stability in Iran, sovereignty and holding armed groups accountable in Iraq.<sup>1850</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

In the Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 leaders stated that: “[As democratic societies we support global institutions in their efforts to] ... [address] ... instability.”

“Support” is understood to mean the “the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity.”<sup>1851</sup>

“Global institutions” refers to “organizations created by sovereign states to conclude an international treaty.”<sup>1852</sup> These include but are not limited to the G7, G20, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), the Council of Europe (CoE), the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the Organisation for Economic Development and Cooperation (OECD), the World Bank, the Northern Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL).

“Instability” means “the quality or state of being likely to change or fail suddenly.”<sup>1853</sup> In the context of examples given in the Communiqué, this is understood as political instability which is the “perception about the likelihood that the government will get destabilised or overthrown through unconstitutional means.”<sup>1854</sup> These may include but are not limited to domestic sources of instability, such as regime change and social unrest, inter-state sources of instability such as territorial conflict and aggression or extra-territorial sources of conflict such as terrorism and underground violent activities.<sup>1855</sup>

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<sup>1848</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/Summit/2021cornwall/210613-communicue.html>

<sup>1849</sup> G7 Foreign and Development Ministers’ Meeting Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 May 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/G7-foreign-and-development-ministers-meeting-communicue-london-5-may-2021.pdf>

<sup>1850</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/Summit/2021cornwall/210613-communicue.html>

<sup>1851</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Global Governance Program (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 26 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>1852</sup> International Organizations, Oxford Bibliographies (Oxford) 2 March 2011. Access Date: 26 October 2021. <https://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780199743292/obo-9780199743292-0033.xml>

<sup>1853</sup> Instability, Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries (Oxford) n.d. Access Date: 26 October 2021. <https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/instability>

<sup>1854</sup> The Worldwide Governance Indicators: Methodology and Analytical Issues, World Bank (Washington D.C.) September 2010. Access Date: 26 October 2021. <http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/pdf/WGI.pdf>

<sup>1855</sup> Political Stability and Absence of Violence/Terrorism, World Bank (Washington D.C.) September 2010. Access Date: 26 October 2021. <http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/pdf/WGI.pdf>

In the context of the Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué and the G7 Foreign and Development Minister’s Statement, G7 members must both indicate support and commit resources to global institutions in their efforts to address instability to achieve full compliance on this commitment. Committing resources can take the form of financial contribution, diplomatic efforts, intelligence sharing or logistical and personnel support. It can also involve setting up partnerships, creating programs to build capacity, brokering international agreements and taking legal or economic action.

Partial compliance will be awarded to G7 members that indicate support but do not take substantial action that contributes to global institutions’ efforts to address instability. This includes verbally affirming global institutions’ efforts in addressing instability, issuing public statements that call on other countries to adhere to global institutions’ call for addressing instability, or attending meetings that involve no substantial individual action.

Non-compliance, denoted by a score of –1, is awarded to G7 members that do not indicate any support or commit any resources to global institutions’ efforts in addressing instability.

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	The G7 member did NOT indicate support OR commit resources to global institutions in their efforts to address instability.
0	The G7 member indicated support BUT did NOT commit resources to global institutions in their efforts to address instability.
+1	The G7 member indicated support AND committed resources to global institutions in their efforts to address instability.

*Compliance Director: Chan Wai Suet Gi Gi  
Lead Analyst: Nadiya Kovalenko*

**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to support global institutions in their efforts to address instability.

On 17 June 2021, Minister of National Defense Harjit Singh Sajjan reaffirmed Canada’s commitment to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) during a NATO 2030 panel.<sup>1856</sup> Minister Sajjan outlined key threats to defense and security, including cyber-attacks and the detrimental effect of climate change on defense infrastructure.

On 21 June 2021, Minister of Foreign Affairs Marc Garneau announced additional sanctions against Belarusian individuals and entities under the Special Economic Measures Act.<sup>1857</sup> The Ministry of Foreign Affairs imposed sanctions on 17 individuals and five entities linked to the Belarusian regime. Minister Garneau made the announcement in coordination with the United States (US), the United Kingdom (UK) and the European Union (EU). The sanctions came into effect on the same day.

<sup>1856</sup> Minister of National Defense participates virtually in GLOBSEC 2021 Bratislava Forum, National Defence (Ottawa) 17 June 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2021/06/minister-of-national-defence-participates-virtually-in-globsec-2021-bratislava-forum.html>

<sup>1857</sup> Canadian imposes additional sanctions on Belarusian individuals and entities over attacks on human rights and fundamental freedoms, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/06/canada-imposes-additional-sanctions-on-belarusian-individuals-and-entities.html>



On 27 June 2021, Minister Garneau met with Indonesian Minister of Foreign Affairs Retno Marsudi.<sup>1858</sup> Minister Garneau thanked Indonesia for its involvement in discussions of humanitarian aid and the security crisis in Myanmar. Minister Garneau also reiterated Canada's support for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and their Five Point Consensus to end the violence in Myanmar and restore safety, security and democracy to the country.

On 28 June 2021, Canada opened new headquarters for the Canadian Armed Forces Task Force in Riga, Latvia.<sup>1859</sup> The headquarters will increase interoperability between parties and states involved in NATO military operations and host visiting foreign envoys.

On 28 June 2021, Canada participated in and reaffirmed its commitment to the Global Coalition to Defeat Daesh/ISIS.<sup>1860</sup> At a meeting held in Rome, the ministers of the coalition committed to enhance intelligence sharing through bilateral and multilateral channels and to continue the fight against online extremism. The Coalition welcomed the EU to support Iraqi authorities through the European Union Advisory Mission in Iraq mission.<sup>1861</sup>

On 29 June 2021, Minister Sajjan participated in a virtual panel during the EU Defense Washington Forum with representatives from Denmark and the US.<sup>1862</sup> Minister Sajjan addressed the implications of climate change on Canada's Arctic security capacity and underscored the importance of continental defense coordination with the US.

On 11 July 2021, Global Affairs Canada released a statement calling on all involved parties to abide by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Seas.<sup>1863</sup> Canada condemned China's actions that undermine security in the East and South China Seas, especially those off the coast of the Philippines.

On 6 August 2021, Canada endorsed the G7 Ministers' Joint Statement regarding their commitment to maritime security and the protection of commercial shipping.<sup>1864</sup> The statement condemned the unlawful attack on a merchant vessel off the coast of Oman that is suspected of Iran.

On 9 August 2021, Minister Sajjan, Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defense Lawrence McAulay, Minister Garneau and Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Bill Blair released a

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<sup>1858</sup> Minister Garneau meets with Indonesian counterpart, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 27 June 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/06/minister-garneau-meets-with-indonesian-counterpart.html>

<sup>1859</sup> New Canadian Headquarters Building Opens in Latvia, National Defence (Ottawa) 28 June 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2021/06/new-canadian-headquarters-building-opens-in-latvia.html>

<sup>1860</sup> Ministerial Meeting of the Global Coalition to Defeat Daesh/ISIS, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 28 June 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/06/ministerial-meetingof-the-global-coalition-to-defeatdaeshisis.html>

<sup>1861</sup> Ministerial Meeting of the Global Coalition to Defeat Daesh/ISIS, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 28 June 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/06/ministerial-meetingof-the-global-coalition-to-defeatdaeshisis.html>

<sup>1862</sup> Defense Minister Sajjan participates in the EU Defense Washington Forum, National Defence (Ottawa) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2021/06/defence-minister-sajjan-participates-in-the-eu-defense-washington-forum.html>

<sup>1863</sup> Statement by Global Affairs Canada on South China Sea ruling, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 11 July 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/07/statement-by-global-affairs-canada-on-south-china-sea-ruling.html>

<sup>1864</sup> MV Mercer Street attack: G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 6 August 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/08/mv-mercerc-street-attack-g7-foreign-ministers-statement.html>

joint statement in commemoration of National Peacekeepers' Day.<sup>1865</sup> The statement reiterated support for the Canadian Armed Forces and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police's involvement in UN and other initiatives. The statement further expressed support for global peace and security missions, especially the ongoing missions in Mali and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

On 14 August 2021, Minister Sajjan and US Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin approved a joint statement regarding the modernization of the North American Aerospace Defense Command.<sup>1866</sup> The statement reiterated the importance of the Canadian-American alliance and their bilateral commitment to continental maritime exchanges and aerospace defense. The two countries committed to investment in operational systems enhancements, including communications integration and ongoing research funding.

On 15 October 2021, the Government of Canada approved a joint statement with several other governments expressing concern over the political instability in Myanmar and the threat it poses to regional security.<sup>1867</sup> The statement reaffirmed Canada's commitment to ASEAN's plans to resolve the crisis. The statement called on Myanmar to cooperate with the "Five-Point Consensus."

On 19 October 2021, Minister Sajjan announced the deployment of a CP-140 Aurora Air detachment with trained operational personnel to Japan to support the international effort to enforce UN Security Council sanctions imposed on North Korea.<sup>1868</sup> This deployment follows Canada's extension of Operation NEON until 2023.

On 26 November 2021, Minister of Foreign Affairs Melanie Joly spoke with Ethiopia's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister Demeke Mekonnen about the ongoing humanitarian crisis and escalating military conflict in Ethiopia.<sup>1869</sup> Minister Joly emphasized the need to draw the conflict to a peaceful resolution. Both ministers agreed on the importance of negotiations with the African Union and High Representative Obasanjo.

On 6 December 2021, Minister Joly issued a statement on the convictions of State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi and President Win Myint in Myanmar.<sup>1870</sup> The statement condemned the detention of democratically elected leaders, journalists and pro-democracy advocates as well as the use of lethal force extrajudicially. The statement called on Myanmar to release arbitrarily detained individuals and declared Canada's support for ASEAN, its Chair's Special Envoy and ongoing cooperation with the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General.

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<sup>1865</sup> Statement marking National Peacekeeper's Day, National Defence (Ottawa) 9 August 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2021/08/statement-marking-national-peacekeepers-day.html>

<sup>1866</sup> Joint Statement on NORAD Modernization, National Defence (Ottawa) 14 August 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2021/08/joint-statement-on-norad-modernization.html>

<sup>1867</sup> Joint Statement of Support for the Special Envoy of the ASEAN Chair on Myanmar, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 15 October 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/10/joint-statement-of-support-for-the-special-envoy-of-the-asean-chair-on-myanmar.html>

<sup>1868</sup> Canada deploys Aurora Air Detachment to Japan to bolster the integrity of global maritime sanctions against North Korea, National Defence (Ottawa) 19 October 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2021/10/canada-deploys-aurora-air-detachment-to-japan-to-bolster-the-integrity-of-global-maritime-sanctions-against-north-korea.html>

<sup>1869</sup> Minister Joly speaks with Ethiopian counterpart, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 26 November 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/11/minister-joly-speaks-with-ethiopian-counterpart.html>

<sup>1870</sup> Canada gravely concerned over Aung San Suu Kyi and Win Myint convictions, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 6 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/canada-gravely-concerned-over-aung-san-suu-kyi-and-win-myint-convictions.html>

On 12 December 2021, Global Affairs Canada released a joint statement together with the G7 Foreign Ministers regarding Russian aggression towards Ukraine.<sup>1871</sup> The statement condemned Russian military build-up along the border and its increasingly aggressive rhetoric. The statement further called upon Russia to initiate de-escalation and act within the bounds of international law.

On 13 December 2021, Minister Joly met with Korea's Minister of Foreign Affairs Ching Eui-yong.<sup>1872</sup> During their meeting, ministers discussed their countries' peace and security agenda, and Minister Joly reaffirmed Canada's commitment to maintaining the security and stability of the region.

On 14 December 2021, Minister Joly and Minister of International Development and Minister responsible for the Pacific Economic Development Agency of Canada Harjit S. Sajjan concluded their program at the G7 Foreign and Development Ministers' Meeting.<sup>1873</sup> During the conference, Minister Joly discussed Russia's destabilizing behaviour, joint commitments to human rights and democracy and the ongoing crises in Ethiopia and Afghanistan.

On 20 December 2021, Global Affairs Canada published a joint statement with the G7 Foreign Ministers regarding the Hong Kong Legislative Council elections held on 19 December 2021.<sup>1874</sup> The statement condemned the rollback of Hong Kong's political independence and democratic processes. It also called upon China to act within the bounds of the Sino-British Joint Declaration and other legal agreements to preserve Hong Kong's freedoms.

On 23 December 2021, Global Affairs Canada released a joint statement with the governments of Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden and the UK condemning the deployment of mercenary troops in Mali.<sup>1875</sup> The statement characterized this development as a threat to the security of both Mali and the West African region. The statement further noted the involvement of the Russian Federation in facilitating the deployment of the Wagner Group and called on all involved parties to abide by the agreements made in the Algiers Process. It also emphasized the decisions produced by the Economic Community of West African States regarding the use of private security companies and highlighted the EU's restrictive measures against the Wagner Group and associated individuals.

On 6 January 2022, Minister Joly issued a statement on the situation in Kazakhstan, condemning the violence and violation of human rights in the country.<sup>1876</sup> The statement also called upon the government of Kazakhstan to exercise restraint and actively pursue de-escalation through open dialogue.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to support global institutions in their efforts to address instability. Through its investment in shared operations infrastructure, deployment of resources and armed

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<sup>1871</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement on Russia and Ukraine, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 12 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-russia-and-ukraine.html>

<sup>1872</sup> Minister Joly meets with South Korea's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 13 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/minister-joly-meets-with-south-koreas-minister-of-foreign-affairs.html>

<sup>1873</sup> Minister Joly and Minister Sajjan conclude G7 Foreign and Development Ministers' Meeting, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/minister-joly-and-minister-sajjan-conclude-g7-foreign-and-development-ministers-meeting.html>

<sup>1874</sup> G7 foreign ministers' statement on Hong Kong Legislative Council elections, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-hong-kong-legislative-council-elections.html>

<sup>1875</sup> Joint statement on deployment of Wagner Group in Mali, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 23 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/joint-statement-on-deployment-of-wagner-group-in-mali.html>

<sup>1876</sup> Statement on protests in Kazakhstan, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 6 January 2022. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/01/statement-on-protests-in-kazakhstan.html>

forces personnel as well as the imposition of coordinated economic sanctions, Canada has demonstrated its commitment to regional security.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Sophia Shum Gagnier*

### **France: 0**

France has partially complied with its commitment to support global institutions in their efforts to address instability.

On 28 June 2021, Foreign Affairs Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian reiterated France's support for Iraq at the Global Coalition to Defeat Daesh/ISIS.<sup>1877</sup> Ministers in attendance reaffirmed the 2021 Pledge Drive for Stabilization.

On 28 August 2021, President Emmanuel Macron attended the Baghdad Conference for Cooperation and Partnership, reaffirming France's bilateral relationship with Iraq.<sup>1878</sup> President Macron confirmed France's commitment in the fight against terrorism and its contribution to stabilization efforts in Iraq.

On 7-9 September 2021, Minister for the Armed Forces Florence Parly announced a recruitment effort at the International Cybersecurity Forum in Lille, France, to increase France's cybersecurity and cyber-defense operations.<sup>1879</sup> Minister Parly announced that the Ministry of Armed Forces will recruit 770 cyber-combatants in addition to the 1,100 cyber-combatants already recruited.

On 30-31 October 2021, President Emmanuel Macron hosted an informal meeting of the EU and African Union leaders at the G20 Summit in Rome, Italy.<sup>1880</sup> This meeting reaffirmed G20 members' support for the G20 Compact with Africa to promote the resilience and sustainability of the region.

On 18 November 2021, France and other G7 members condemned the Lukashenko regime in Belarus for the orchestration of the migration crisis along the Belarusian-Polish border.<sup>1881</sup>

On 19 November 2021, France and other North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) members condemned the Russian Federation's anti-satellite missile test, stating that the field of orbital debris the missile test created poses a risk to human life.<sup>1882</sup>

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<sup>1877</sup> Ministerial Meeting of the Global Coalition to Defeat Daesh/ISIS - Joint Communiqué, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 28 June 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/security-disarmament-and-non-proliferation/news/2021/article/ministerial-meeting-of-the-global-coalition-to-defeat-daesh-isis-joint>;

<sup>1878</sup> Press conference given by President Emmanuel Macron from Baghdad, Élysée (Paris) 28 August 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.elysee.fr/en/emmanuel-macron/2021/08/28/press-conference-given-by-president-emmanuel-macron-from-baghdad>

<sup>1879</sup> FIC 2021: Florence Parly announces the recruitment of 770 additional cyber-fighters by 2025, Ministry of Armed Forces (Paris) 10 September 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/actualites/articles/fic-2021-florence-parly-annonce-le-recrutement-de-770-cyber-combattants-supplementaires-d-ici-a-2025>

<sup>1880</sup> G20 summit, Rome, Italy, 30-31 October 2021, European Council (Brussels) 31 October 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2021/10/30-31/>

<sup>1881</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement on Belarus, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/belarus/news/article/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-belarus-18-nov-2021>

<sup>1882</sup> Statement by the North Atlantic Council on the recent Russian Federation test firing of an anti-satellite missile, Permanent Representation of France to North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Paris) 19 November 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://otan.delegfrance.org/Declaration-du-Conseil-de-l-Atlantique-Nord-concernant-le-tir-d-essai-d-un>

On 30 November and 1 December 2021, Minister Le Drian attended the NATO Foreign Ministers meeting in Riga, Latvia.<sup>1883</sup> The ministers of France and other NATO members discussed NATO's posture towards increased Russian aggression in Europe and other regional security concerns.

On 12 December 2021, France released a joint statement together with the G7 Foreign Ministers regarding Russian aggression towards Ukraine.<sup>1884</sup> The statement condemned Russian military build-up along the border and its increasingly aggressive rhetoric. The statement further called upon Russia to initiate de-escalation and act within the bounds of international law.

On 20 December 2021, France published a joint statement with the G7 Foreign Ministers regarding the Hong Kong Legislative Council elections held on 19 December 2021.<sup>1885</sup> The statement condemned the rollback of Hong Kong's political independence and democratic processes. It also called upon China to act within the bounds of the Sino-British Joint Declaration and other legal agreements to preserve Hong Kong's freedoms.

On 13-14 January 2022, France participated in an informal Defense Ministers' Meeting in Brest, France.<sup>1886</sup> During the meeting, Defense Ministers from the EU member states, including France, provided briefings on their security and defense priorities.

France has partially complied with its commitment to support global institutions in their efforts to address instability. France has consistently re-affirmed its support of regional defense and security missions, namely in North Africa and the Middle East and in Eastern Europe, of international actors and institutions. However, France has not taken any concrete actions to bolster regional security measures through committing resources to international institutions.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Elizabeth Franceschini*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to support global institutions in their efforts to address instability.

On 28 June 2021, Foreign Minister Heiko Maas visited Italy to attend meetings of the Global Coalition against Daesh.<sup>1887</sup> Minister Maas confirmed Germany's commitment to the stabilization of areas in Syria and Iraq liberated from the Daesh and other territories threatened by this militant group in Africa and beyond.

On 29 June 2021, Minister Maas visited Italy to attend meetings of the G20 Foreign and Development Ministers and the Arab League.<sup>1888</sup> Minister Maas reaffirmed Germany's commitment to collaboration

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<sup>1883</sup> NATO – Jean-Yves Le Drian to attend foreign ministers meeting, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/security-disarmament-and-non-proliferation/news/2021/article/nato-jean-yves-le-drian-to-attend-foreign-ministers-meeting-riga-nov-30-and-dec>

<sup>1884</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement on Russia and Ukraine, Government of Canada: Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 12 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-russia-and-ukraine.html>

<sup>1885</sup> G7 foreign ministers' statement on Hong Kong Legislative Council elections, Government of Canada: Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-hong-kong-legislative-council-elections.html>

<sup>1886</sup> Informal Meeting of Defense Ministers, Ministry of Armed Forces (Paris) 13 January 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/portail-defense/actualites2/reunion-informelle-des-ministres-de-la-defense>

<sup>1887</sup> Fight against IS, Syria, G20: Foreign Minister Maas in Italy, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 28 June 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/maas-italy/2468598>

between the G20 members on multilateralism, cooperation with Africa, food security and development financing.

On 8 July 2021, Federal Minister of Defense Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer met with the Chinese Minister of National Defense Wei Fenghe in a video conference, discussing the situation in the Indo-Pacific.<sup>1889</sup> Minister Kramp-Karrenbauer reiterated Germany's stance in support of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea arbitral tribunal award of July 2016.

On 11 August 2021, Minister Maas hosted the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bahrain Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani for discussions on issues of regional security in the Yemen conflict and Israel-Bahrain relations.<sup>1890</sup> Germany committed to providing humanitarian support and cooperating with the United Nations and regional partners to continue to contribute to regional security in the region.

On 17 August 2021, the Federal Foreign Office hosted a virtual meeting of Special Representatives of the US, the EU, France, Germany, Italy, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), Norway and the UK, discussing the situation in Afghanistan and possible pathways of action.<sup>1891</sup> The participating states issued a statement in support of peace in Afghanistan and for the civilian population, calling on all parties to respect the rule of law, human rights and constitutional order.

On 2 September 2021, Minister Maas attended an informal meeting of EU Foreign Ministers in Slovenia, discussing issues of regional security in relation to Afghanistan as well as European relations in the Gulf and China.<sup>1892</sup> Minister Maas worked to coordinate with EU member states to develop strategies of action to ensure security in these regions.

On 14 September 2021, Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel travelled to the Western Balkan region and met with the heads of governments of Albania, Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Northern Macedonia, promoting the rapprochement between these Balkan states and the EU.<sup>1893</sup> The Chancellor emphasized the need for cooperation between the Balkan countries to ensure continued regional stability.

On 22 September 2021, Minister Maas co-chaired a Ministerial meeting on Libya with participants from the UN and members of the Berlin Process.<sup>1894</sup> The participants affirmed their commitment to the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) and the UN Security Council resolution 2570 and called for an extension of the UNSMIL mandate to continue building a stable Libya.

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<sup>1888</sup> Fight against IS, Syria, G20: Foreign Minister Maas in Italy, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 28 June 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/maas-italy/2468598>

<sup>1889</sup> VTC of Kramp-Karrenbauer and Chinese Minister of National Defence Wei Fenghe, Federal Ministry of Defence (Berlin) 8 July 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.bmvg.de/en/vtc-kramp-karrenbauer-and-chinese-minister-of-national-defence-5108890>

<sup>1890</sup> Germany and Bahrain: Exchange on regional developments in the Middle East, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 11 August 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/maas-bin-rashid-al-zayani/2476606>

<sup>1891</sup> Chairman's statement on the Meeting of the Special Representatives of the European Union, France, Germany, Italy, NATO, Norway, the United Kingdom and the United States on 17 August 2021 on Afghanistan, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2477482>

<sup>1892</sup> Foreign Minister Heiko Maas at the informal meeting of EU foreign ministers in Slovenia, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 28 June 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/europe/-/2479880>

<sup>1893</sup> Prosperity, stability and peace for countries of the Western Balkans, The Federal Government (Berlin) 14 September 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/trip-western-balkans-1960260>

<sup>1894</sup> Summary of the Co-Chairs Germany, France and Italy of the Ministerial Meeting on Libya held on the margins of the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2483886>

On 8 October 2021, Minister of State at the Federal Foreign Office Niels Annen travelled to Turkey to hold talks on issues of regional security in Syria, Afghanistan, and the eastern Mediterranean.<sup>1895</sup> This visit highlighted Germany's commitment to ensuring regional stability in the Middle East and upholding the EU borders.

On 16 October 2021, Minister Annen travelled to Algeria, Tunisia and Libya to discuss issues of regional security and attended the Libya Stabilization Conference.<sup>1896</sup> This visit highlighted Germany's commitment to ensuring regional stability in North Africa and its importance to the German Government.

On 20 October 2021, the Federal Foreign Office issued a statement condemning the recent testing of a ballistic missile by North Korea as it violated UN Security Council resolutions and threatened regional and international stability.<sup>1897</sup> Germany called upon North Korea to abide by its obligations under international law and enter negotiations with South Korea.

On 30 October 2021, Minister Annen travelled to Qatar, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Oman to discuss regional security issues in Afghanistan and Yemen.<sup>1898</sup> Minister Annen committed to deepening collaboration with the Gulf Cooperation Council and the UN to bring peace and stability to Yemen and Afghanistan and encourage Germany's Gulf partners to contribute to the Middle East peace process.

On 10 November 2021, Minister Maas issued a statement on German actions in combating the current instability on the EU-Belarus border.<sup>1899</sup> Minister Maas condemned Belarusian actions, affirmed Germany's commitment to EU sanctions against Belarus, and pledged to provide humanitarian aid, end the illegal smuggling of migrants and issue public messages in countries of origin to halt further migration through Belarus.

On 13 November 2021, the Federal Ministry of Defense deployed the frigate Bayern to help monitor UN Security Council sanctions against North Korea.<sup>1900</sup> The frigate will act as 'eyes and ears' for the UN cooperating with the Enforcement Coordination Cell, being an active German contribution to uphold the international order and support the UN Security Council Resolutions on North Korea.

On 15 November 2021, Minister Maas attended the monthly meeting of EU Foreign Ministers, the Foreign Affairs Council, discussing issues of regional security in relation to Belarus, the Western Balkans, and the Sahel.<sup>1901</sup> Minister Maas confirmed Germany's support for the EU in its deliberations and the drafting of a European Strategic Compass.

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<sup>1895</sup> Minister of State Annen travels to Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 5 October 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/annen-lbn-jor-tur/2487186>

<sup>1896</sup> Minister of State Annen in North Africa, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 16 October 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/annen-north-africa/2489696>

<sup>1897</sup> Federal Foreign Office on the recent testing of a ballistic missile by North Korea, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 20 October 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/missile-test-northkorea/2490554>

<sup>1898</sup> Minister of State Annen to visit the Arabian Peninsula, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 30 October 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2493378>

<sup>1899</sup> Foreign Minister Maas on the situation along the Belarus border, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-belarus-border-situation/2495264>

<sup>1900</sup> Federal Foreign Office and Federal Ministry of Defence on the deployment of the frigate Bayern to help monitor the UN Security Council sanctions against North Korea, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 12 November 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/frigate-bayern/2495726>

<sup>1901</sup> Foreign Minister Maas at the meeting of EU Foreign Ministers: Talks focusing on the situation at the border with Belarus, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 15 November 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/europe/maas-fac/2495850>

On 25 November 2021, Chancellor Merkel attended the Asia-Europe Meeting virtually, with the goal to “strengthen multilateralism for shared growth.”<sup>1902</sup> Chancellor Merkel committed to the strengthening of multilateral institutions, focusing on the World Trade Organization, for continued stability.

On 30 November 2021, Minister Maas attended the meeting of NATO Ministers of Foreign Affairs aimed to address issues of regional instability in Europe, Afghanistan and Russia.<sup>1903</sup> Minister Maas expressed support for the development of a new NATO strategic concept, supported a review of the organization’s role in Afghanistan and stated Germany’s readiness to engage in de-escalation talks with Russia.

On 30 November 2021, the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs allocated USD445,990 for the “Strengthening Ethiopia’s capability to address forced labour and human trafficking” project in association with the International Labour Organization.<sup>1904</sup> This project aims to support the Government of Ethiopia and other regional stakeholders with data collection on forced labour and human trafficking indicators and launching initiatives to combat such issues.

On 1 December 2021, Minister Maas attended the Ministerial Council of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), addressing issues of regional instability in Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Moldova, Georgia, and Central Asia.<sup>1905</sup> Minister Maas called for a more efficient use of the OSCE tools and mechanisms, while supporting the OSCE via the seconding of German staff to the organization’s missions in Central Asia.

On 10 December 2021, Federal Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock attended the G7 Foreign Ministers Meeting, addressing issues of regional instability in Ukraine and China.<sup>1906</sup> Minister Baerbock committed to German cooperation with G7 members in taking a strong stand against Russian and Chinese aggression.

On 12 December 2021, Germany released a joint statement together with the G7 Foreign Ministers regarding Russian aggression towards Ukraine.<sup>1907</sup> The statement condemned Russian military build-up along the border and its increasingly aggressive rhetoric. The statement further called upon Russia to initiate de-escalation and act within the bounds of international law.

On 13 December 2021, Minister Baerbock attended the EU Foreign Affairs Council, addressing issues of regional instability in Africa, Central Asia, Afghanistan, Venezuela, Turkey and Russia.<sup>1908</sup> Minister Baerbock reiterated Germany’s commitment to cooperation with the EU in strategizing a response to these issues.

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<sup>1902</sup> Solving Global Issues Together, The Federal Government (Berlin) 25 November 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/federal-chancellor-asem-summit-1985128>

<sup>1903</sup> Meeting of the NATO Foreign Ministers in Riga: en route to the NATO Summit in Madrid, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 29 November 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/internationale-organisationen/uebersicht-node-nato/nato-riga/2498278>

<sup>1904</sup> Strengthening Ethiopia’s capability to address forced labour and human trafficking, International Labour Organization (Geneva) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 8 March 2022. <https://www.ilo.org/DevelopmentCooperationDashboard/#a2gd2ve>

<sup>1905</sup> Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council in Stockholm: A dialogue platform between East and West, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 1 December 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/internationale-organisationen/osce-ministerial-council/2498736>

<sup>1906</sup> Statement by Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock at the start of her trip to Liverpool and Brussels, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 10 December 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/statement-liverpool/2501074>

<sup>1907</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers’ Statement on Russia and Ukraine, Government of Canada: Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 12 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-russia-and-ukraine.html>

<sup>1908</sup> Strengthening Europe! Foreign Minister Baerbock goes to Brussels for the second time in under a week, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 12 December 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/europe/baerbock-brussels/2501076>



On 14 December 2021, the Federal Ministry of Defense deployed the frigate “Bayern” in the Indo-Pacific and South China Sea to demonstrate its commitment to the rules-based international order.<sup>1909</sup> Germany hereby also affirmed its commitment to the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.

On 17 December 2021, Federal Chancellor Olaf Scholz attended the European Council meeting in Brussels, discussing issues of regional security in relation to Ukraine and Belarus as well as the EU strategic compass.<sup>1910</sup> Chancellor Scholz committed to close cooperation with the EU to protect Ukraine and secure the EU’s external borders, in part through the strategic compass.

On 17 December 2021, Minister of State at the Federal Foreign Office Tobias Lindner travelled to Kyiv to discuss issues of regional security in relation to Ukraine with Ukrainian officials and OSCE representatives.<sup>1911</sup> Minister Lindner affirmed Germany’s continued support for Ukraine and OSCE efforts in Ukraine.

On 20 December 2021, Germany published a joint statement with the G7 Foreign Ministers regarding the Hong Kong Legislative Council elections held on 19 December 2021.<sup>1912</sup> The statement condemned the rollback of Hong Kong’s political independence and democratic processes. It also called upon China to act within the bounds of the Sino-British Joint Declaration and other legal agreements to preserve Hong Kong’s freedoms.

On 23 December 2021, the Federal Foreign Office released a statement denouncing the deployment of the Wagner Group mercenary troops in Mali.<sup>1913</sup> The statement emphasised Germany’s commitment to the international Coalition on the Sahel and its full support to the Economic Community of West African States in their efforts to promote peace and stability in Mali.

On 24 December 2021, the Federal Foreign Office, together with France, Italy, the UK and the US, released a statement reiterating their commitment to the UN Support mission in Libya and to free democratic elections of the Libyan President.<sup>1914</sup> The statement emphasised Germany’s support for the UN, the UN Secretary-General’s Special Adviser on Libya and UN Security Council resolution 2571(2021) and 2570(2021) to achieve a Libyan-led peace.

On 1 January 2022, the Federal Foreign Office released a statement outlining Germany’s goals and commitments for this year when Germany acts as the G7 President.<sup>1915</sup> The Foreign Office emphasised Germany’s aim to promote closer cooperation on defense and security between the member states to combat issues of regional instability facing the G7.

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<sup>1909</sup> Strengthening Europe! Foreign Minister Baerbock goes to Brussels for the second time in under a week, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 12 December 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.auswaertigesamt.de/en/aussenpolitik/europe/baerbock-brussels/2501076>

<sup>1910</sup> Joint action on foreign policy and in the fight against the coronavirus, The Federal Government (Berlin) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/scholz-european-council-1992278>

<sup>1911</sup> Minister of State Lindner travelling to Kyiv, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/lindner-kyiv/2502354>

<sup>1912</sup> G7 foreign ministers’ statement on Hong Kong Legislative Council elections, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-hong-kong-legislative-council-elections.html>

<sup>1913</sup> Joint Statement on the deployment of the Wagner group in Mali, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 23 December 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2503704>

<sup>1914</sup> Joint Statement of France, Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America on Libya, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 24 December 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/joint-statement-on-libya/2503726>

<sup>1915</sup> Acting resolutely instead of merely reacting – Germany’s G7 Presidency in 2022, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 1 January 2022. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/internationale-organisationen/g8-g20/g7-presidency/2504680>

On 10 January 2021, Minister Baerbock travelled to Rome and met with Foreign Minister of the Italian Republic Luigi Di Maio to discuss regional instability in Ukraine and on the Ukraine-Russia border.<sup>1916</sup> Minister Baerbock reiterated German support for de-escalation efforts taken by the EU, NATO and the OSCE.

On 12 January 2021, Chancellor Scholz answered questions in Parliament on issues of regional instability in Ukraine and on the Ukraine-Russia border.<sup>1917</sup> Chancellor Scholz committed to German cooperation with the EU and NATO to de-escalate the growing crisis.

On 13 January 2021, Minister Baerbock travelled to Brest for the Informal Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the EU to discuss issues of regional security in relation to Ukraine, the EU's external borders, Russia and China.<sup>1918</sup> Minister Baerbock committed to German cooperation with the EU in its efforts to combat regional instability and develop its Strategic Compass for security policy.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to support global institutions in their efforts to address instability. Germany has issued several statements of support for multinational organizations, most prominently the G7, the EU and OSCE, in their efforts to combat instances of regional instability. Germany has further acted by deploying naval resources in support of UN Security Council resolutions on North Korea and by providing staff and funding to the OSCE and other international organizations.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Paul Meyer*

#### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to support global institutions in their efforts to address instability.

On 14 June 2021, Prime Minister Mario Draghi attended the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) summit in Brussels.<sup>1919</sup> The summit communique reiterated the NATO allies joint and continuing commitments to countering threats to regional security; namely Chinese cyber attacks, rapid changes in space security, climate change and the destabilization caused by COVID-19.<sup>1920</sup> The communique also reiterated allies' commitments to modernize the NATO Force Structure, foster technological cooperation, improve training in partner regions.

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<sup>1916</sup> Statement by Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock ahead of her trip to Rome, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 10 January 2022. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2505750>

<sup>1917</sup> Back in Berlin on Monday afternoon, Chancellor Merkel and Vice-Chancellor Gabriel will give the go-ahead for the citizens' dialogue "The Good Life in Germany", Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 12 January 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/government-question-time-scholz-199624>

<sup>1918</sup> Statement by Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock prior to her departure for Brest for the Informal Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the EU, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 13 January 2022. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2506240>

<sup>1919</sup> PM Draghi at Brussels NATO Summit, Italian Government: Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/prime-minister-draghi-brussels-nato-summit/17162>

<sup>1920</sup> Brussels Summit Communique, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Brussels) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. [https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news\\_185000.htm?selectedLocale=en](https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news_185000.htm?selectedLocale=en)

On 16 June 2021, Minister of the Interior Ettore Sequi and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations National Police Organization (ASEANAPOL) signed a Letter of Intent.<sup>1921</sup> The letter created a program that increases police cooperation between the Government of Italy and ASEANAPOL as they pursue terrorists and organized crime internationally.

On 22 June 2021, Prime Minister Draghi met with President of the Presidential Council of Libya Mohamed Al-Menfi.<sup>1922</sup> Their discussion came as part of Italy's ongoing support for the stabilization of Libya, in accordance with the UN directives.

On 7 July 2021, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Benedetto Della Vedova spoke in support of the integration of the Western Balkans into the EU as a step to stabilize and secure the region.<sup>1923</sup>

On 21 July 2021, Deputy Minister Della Vedova expressed concerns over the ongoing political and humanitarian crisis in Myanmar.<sup>1924</sup> Deputy Minister Della Vedova also recalled Italy's outspoken objection to the arrest of political opposition and pro-democracy advocates. He reiterated Italy's support for the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General.

On 23 July 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs released a joint statement with Special Representatives and Envoys from the US, the EU, France, Germany, NATO, Norway and the United Kingdom in response to the Afghanistan peace negotiations in Doha.<sup>1925</sup> The statement expressed the countries' commitment to the UN Security Council resolution 2513 to not recognize any Afghan government created through military force. The statement called on Afghanistan's neighbouring countries to contribute to regional and international stability.

On 18 August 2021, Minister of Foreign Affairs Luigi Di Maio attended the EU Foreign Affairs Council to discuss the crisis in Afghanistan.<sup>1926</sup> In his remarks to the Council, Minister Di Maio reiterated Italy's commitment to the EU and NATO missions to prevent Afghanistan from becoming a haven for international terrorism. He also called on Russia and China to join efforts to address issues threatening regional security.

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<sup>1921</sup> Sg Sequi attended the signing of the Letter of Intent between the Ministry of the Interior and ASEANAPOL, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 16 June 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/06/partecipazione-del-sg-sequi-alla-firma-della-lettera-di-intenti-tra-ministero-dell-intero-e-aseanapol-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/06/partecipazione-del-sg-sequi-alla-firma-della-lettera-di-intenti-tra-ministero-dell-intero-e-aseanapol-2/)

<sup>1922</sup> PM Draghi meets with the President of the Presidential Council of the State of Libya, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/pm-draghi-meets-president-presidential-council-state-libya/17292>

<sup>1923</sup> Della Vedova: integrating the Western Balkans into the EU for stabilizing the Region and ensuring safety in the Continent, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 7 July 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/07/della-vedova-l-integrazione-dei-balconi-occidentali-in-ue-per-la-stabilizzazione-della-regione-e-la-sicurezza-del-continente-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/07/della-vedova-l-integrazione-dei-balconi-occidentali-in-ue-per-la-stabilizzazione-della-regione-e-la-sicurezza-del-continente-2/)

<sup>1924</sup> Myanmar. Della Vedova: strengthened international commitment needed for democratic transition and an end to human rights violations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 21 July 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/07/myanmar-della-vedova-serve-maggior-impegno-internazionale-per-transizione-democratica-e-fine-violazione-diritti-umani-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/07/myanmar-della-vedova-serve-maggior-impegno-internazionale-per-transizione-democratica-e-fine-violazione-diritti-umani-2/)

<sup>1925</sup> US-Europe Communique on Afghanistan and Peace Efforts, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/07/us-europe-communiqué-on-afghanistan-and-peace-efforts/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/07/us-europe-communiqué-on-afghanistan-and-peace-efforts/)

<sup>1926</sup> Minister Di Maio participates in the EU Foreign Affairs Council on the situation in Afghanistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/08/il-ministro-di-maio-partecipa-al-consiglio-affari-esteri-ue-sulla-situazione-in-afghanistan-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/08/il-ministro-di-maio-partecipa-al-consiglio-affari-esteri-ue-sulla-situazione-in-afghanistan-2/)

On 20 August 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs released a joint statement with NATO's foreign ministers regarding Afghanistan.<sup>1927</sup> The statement reiterated the commitment of Italy and NATO to fighting terrorism. The statement also reaffirmed that Italy is committed to cooperative action with regional and international partners, including the EU and the UN.

On 2 September 2021, Minister Di Maio attended an informal meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the EU to address the deteriorating political and security situation in Afghanistan.<sup>1928</sup> Minister Di Maio discussed the EU's ongoing role in Afghanistan and the possibility of joint initiatives.

On 13 September 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced the launch of a grant program to private entities involved in peacekeeping, international security and humanitarian projects in the West Balkans.<sup>1929</sup>

On 17 September 2021, Prime Minister Draghi released a statement affirming support for the EU's role within the European defense mission.<sup>1930</sup> The statement also reiterated EU MED 9 participants' support to collaboratively pursue stability in North Africa, particularly Libya and Tunisia.

On 22 September 2021, Deputy Minister Della Vedova led the Italian delegation at the 65<sup>th</sup> General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency.<sup>1931</sup> Deputy Minister Della Vedova called on Iran to return to the conditions of the Plan of Action on the Iranian Nuclear Program and cease its uranium enrichment activities. Deputy Minister Della Vedova also called on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to end missile programs that undermine regional security. He also reiterated Italy's commitment to addressing transnational crime in accordance with the Palermo Convention.

On 22 September 2021, Minister Di Maio joined the Foreign Ministers of the Federal Republic of Germany and the French Republic in co-chairing a ministerial meeting on Libya.<sup>1932</sup> Participants called on the UN Security Council to extend their support for the UN Support Mission in Libya. They further emphasized their desire to extend the Fact Finding Mission by the UN Human Rights Council in Libya.

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<sup>1927</sup> Statement by NATO Foreign Ministers on Afghanistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 20 August 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021.

[https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/08/statement-by-nato-foreign-ministers-on-afghanistan/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/08/statement-by-nato-foreign-ministers-on-afghanistan/)  
<sup>1928</sup> Minister Di. Maio participates in the informal meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the European Union, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 2 September 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021.

[https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/09/partecipazione-del-ministro-di-maio-alla-riunione-informale-dei-ministri-degli-esteri-dell-unione-europea-gymnich-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/09/partecipazione-del-ministro-di-maio-alla-riunione-informale-dei-ministri-degli-esteri-dell-unione-europea-gymnich-2/)

<sup>1929</sup> Foreign Ministry Note – Notice for contributions to private entities for the purpose of peacekeeping, international security and humanitarian projects: webinar for information on the Balkans Call for Proposals, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 13 September 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021.

[https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/09/nota-farnesina-awiso-di-pubblicita-per-contributi-a-soggetti-privati-per-finalita-di-mantenimento-della-pace-sicurezza-internazionale-iniziativa-umanitarie-webinar-informativo-sul-bando-balciani-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/09/nota-farnesina-awiso-di-pubblicita-per-contributi-a-soggetti-privati-per-finalita-di-mantenimento-della-pace-sicurezza-internazionale-iniziativa-umanitarie-webinar-informativo-sul-bando-balciani-2/)

<sup>1930</sup> EU MED 9, Prime Minister Draghi's statement, Italian Government: Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 17 September 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/eu-med-9-prime-minister-draghi-s-statement/17965>

<sup>1931</sup> UN – D.M. Della Vedova in Vienna: Iran, Afghanistan and North Korea at the heart of the Agenda, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021.

[https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/09/onu-della-vedova-a-vienna-iran-afghanistan-e-corea-del-nord-al-centro-dell-agenda-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/09/onu-della-vedova-a-vienna-iran-afghanistan-e-corea-del-nord-al-centro-dell-agenda-2/)

<sup>1932</sup> GER/FRA/ITA co-chairs summary UN General Assembly side event on Libya, 22 September, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 23 September 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021 [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/09/ger-fra-ita-co-chairs-summary-un-general-assembly-side-event-on-libya-22-september/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/09/ger-fra-ita-co-chairs-summary-un-general-assembly-side-event-on-libya-22-september/)

On 22 September 2021, Minister Di Maio chaired a G20 ministerial meeting to discuss the group's potential contributions to resolving the Afghan crisis.<sup>1933</sup> The participants reiterated their belief in the central role of the UN in assisting the Afghan people and returning Kabul Airport to its full operational capacity to deliver aid. The participants also expressed their desire that Afghanistan not become a haven for terrorists.

On 24 September 2021, Prime Minister Draghi spoke at the 76<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly.<sup>1934</sup> In his address, the Prime Minister expressed concerns over the security issues in Afghanistan posed by Al-Qaeda and Daesh. He called on the international community to engage in increased information exchanges to prevent Afghanistan from becoming a threat to international security.

On 12 October 2021, the G20 leaders' meeting on Afghanistan took place in Rome.<sup>1935</sup> Prime Minister Draghi organized the meeting within the scope of Italy's Presidency of the G20. The meeting sought to address the humanitarian and security concerns associated with the new leadership of the Afghan state.

On 25 October 2021, the Foreign Ministry released a statement reiterating Italy's commitment to multilateralism and the UN.<sup>1936</sup> The statement also expressed Italy's desire for the UN Security Council to engage in practical reforms that would increase transparency and accountability.

On 28 October 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs released a joint statement with the foreign ministries of Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain and Sweden, calling on the Government of Israel to cease plans to settle additional parts of the West Bank.<sup>1937</sup> The statement further called upon Israel to comply with the UN Resolution 2334 to establish trust and lasting peace in the region.

On 12 November 2021, Prime Minister Draghi attended the International Conference on Libya in Paris.<sup>1938</sup> In a joint press conference with France, Germany and Libya, Prime Minister Draghi expressed Italy's desire for the convergence of international support behind a more stable Libya.

On 26 November 2021, Prime Minister Draghi released a press statement in celebration of the ratification of the Trattato di Cooperazione Rafforzata (Enhanced Cooperation Treaty).<sup>1939</sup> The statement also expressed Italy's intention to support the EU with the intelligence sharing mechanisms created by the treaty.

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<sup>1933</sup> Minister Di Maio chairs G20 Ministerial meeting on Afghanistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 23 September 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/09/il-ministro-di-maio-presiede-la-riunione-ministeriale-del-g20-sull-afghanistan-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/09/il-ministro-di-maio-presiede-la-riunione-ministeriale-del-g20-sull-afghanistan-2/)

<sup>1934</sup> Prime Minister Draghi's speech at the 76<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 24 September 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/general-debate-76th-session-un-general-assembly/17994>

<sup>1935</sup> G20 extraordinary leaders' meeting on Afghanistan, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 12 October 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/g20-extraordinary-leaders-meeting-afghanistan/18203>

<sup>1936</sup> Foreign Ministry Note – United Nations Day, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 25 October 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/nota-farnesina-giornata-mondiale-delle-nazioni-unite-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/nota-farnesina-giornata-mondiale-delle-nazioni-unite-2/)

<sup>1937</sup> Statement by Spokespersons of the Foreign Ministries of Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain and Sweden on Israeli Settlements, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 28 October 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021.

[https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/statement-by-spokespersons-of-the-foreign-ministries-of-belgium-denmark-finland-france-germany-ireland-italy-the-netherlands-norway-poland-spain-and-sweden-on-israeli-settlements-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/statement-by-spokespersons-of-the-foreign-ministries-of-belgium-denmark-finland-france-germany-ireland-italy-the-netherlands-norway-poland-spain-and-sweden-on-israeli-settlements-2/)

<sup>1938</sup> Prime Minister Draghi attends International Conference on Libya, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 12 November 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/prime-minister-draghi-attends-international-conference-libya/18519>

On 7 December 2021, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Marina Sereni spoke about counter-extremism in Sahel at an event organized by the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF), in partnership with the French government and G5 Sahel.<sup>1940</sup> In her remarks, the Deputy Minister highlighted the importance of investing in local communities, building up credible institutions and addressing social and economic causes of radicalization and violent extremism. Deputy Minister Sereni reiterated Italy's support for the GCERF and announced the allocation of EUR2 million to fund its projects.

On 12 December 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation released a joint statement with the G7 Foreign Ministers condemning recent actions and rhetoric of the Russian government towards Ukraine.<sup>1941</sup> The statement highlighted Russia's military build-up on its border with Ukraine and emphasized the prohibition of the use of force to change borders. The statement called upon Russia to de-escalate and engage in diplomatic negotiations with concerned parties.

On 20 December 2021, Italy published a joint statement with the G7 Foreign Ministers regarding the Hong Kong Legislative Council elections held on 19 December 2021.<sup>1942</sup> The statement condemned the rollback of Hong Kong's political independence and democratic processes. It also called upon China to act within the bounds of the Sino-British Joint Declaration and other legal agreements to preserve Hong Kong's freedoms.

On 21 December 2021, Minister Di Maio held talks with Somali Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Abdisaid Muse Ali.<sup>1943</sup> Minister Di Maio expressed Italy's commitment to Somalian security and to continued democratic process in the country. Minister Di Maio further reiterated Italy's support for Somalia's increased role in regional security.

On 21 December 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation released a joint statement with the G7 Foreign Ministers expressing concern over the Hong Kong elections held on 19 December 2021.<sup>1944</sup> The statement noted the restriction in choice of candidates and the undermining of Hong Kong's political autonomy. The statement further called on China to abide by its legal obligation to respect the freedoms of Hong Kong.

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<sup>1939</sup> Joint press statement by PM Draghi and President Macron, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 26 November 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/joint-press-statements-pm-draghi-and-president-macron/18669>

<sup>1940</sup> Sahel; Sereni, we need to prevent radicalization and violent extremism in the region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/12/sahel-sereni-prevenire-la-radicalizzazione-e-lestremismo-violento-nella-regione/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/12/sahel-sereni-prevenire-la-radicalizzazione-e-lestremismo-violento-nella-regione/)

<sup>1941</sup> G7 statement on Russia and Ukraine, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 12 December 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/12/g7-statement-on-russia-and-ukraine/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/12/g7-statement-on-russia-and-ukraine/)

<sup>1942</sup> G7 foreign ministers' statement on Hong Kong Legislative Council elections, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-hong-kong-legislative-council-elections.html>

<sup>1943</sup> Foreign Ministry Note — Minister Di Maio meets the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Somalia, Abdisaid Muse Ali, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 22 December 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/12/nota-farnesina-incontro-del-ministro-di-maio-con-il-ministro-degli-affari-esteri-e-della-cooperazione-internazionale-somalo-abdisaid-muse-ali/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/12/nota-farnesina-incontro-del-ministro-di-maio-con-il-ministro-degli-affari-esteri-e-della-cooperazione-internazionale-somalo-abdisaid-muse-ali/)

<sup>1944</sup> Hong Kong elections, December 2021: G7 foreign ministers' joint statement, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/12/hong-kong-elections-december-2021-g7-foreign-ministers-joint-statement/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/12/hong-kong-elections-december-2021-g7-foreign-ministers-joint-statement/)

On 6 January 2022, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation released a statement expressing concern over escalating violence in Kazakhstan.<sup>1945</sup> The note called for an immediate end to the use of force and highlighted the importance of implementing a framework for increased respect of rights and pluralism in accordance with the guidelines provided by various international bodies of which Kazakhstan is a member.

On 7 January 2022, Deputy Minister Sereni attended the extraordinary meeting of NATO Ministers of Foreign Affairs.<sup>1946</sup> The meeting centered on Russia-Ukraine border tensions and the upcoming NATO-Russia Council meeting. Deputy Minister Sereni spoke in support of a firm and diplomatic approach to de-escalation to engender the lasting security in the Euro-Atlantic region.

On 8 January 2022, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation released a note on the situation in Kazakhstan.<sup>1947</sup> The note reiterated Italy's concern over the situation in Kazakhstan and called for an end to the use of force in Kazakhstan.

On 13 January 2022, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation released a statement condemning the latest ballistic missile launches by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), which occurred on 5 and 11 January 2022.<sup>1948</sup> The statement condemned the missile launches as destabilizing regional and international peace and security. The statement called upon the DPRK to refrain from further provocation, pursue denuclearization and abide by relevant UN Security Council resolutions.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to support global institutions in their efforts to address instability. Through hosting and chairing several international conferences and committing to new international operations aimed at increasing interoperability in the fight against terrorism, organized crime and global insecurity, Italy has demonstrated its commitment to regional security.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Sophia Shum Gagnier*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to support global institutions in their efforts to address instability.

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<sup>1945</sup> Note of the Foreign Ministry — Kazakhstan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 6 January 2022. Access Date: 13 January 2022. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/01/nota-farnesina-kazakhstan/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/01/nota-farnesina-kazakhstan/)

<sup>1946</sup> Note of the Foreign Ministry — Minister Marina Sereni attended extraordinary meeting of NATO Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 7 January 2022. Access Date: 13 January 2022. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/01/la-vice-ministra-marina-sereni-partecipa-alla-riunione-straordinaria-dei-ministri-degli-esteri-della-nato/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/01/la-vice-ministra-marina-sereni-partecipa-alla-riunione-straordinaria-dei-ministri-degli-esteri-della-nato/)

<sup>1947</sup> Note of the Foreign Ministry — Italian Embassy in Kazakhstan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 8 January 2022. Access Date: 13 January 2022.

<sup>1948</sup> Italy condemns the latest ballistic missile launches by the DPRK, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 13 January 2022. Access Date: 15 January 2022.

[https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/01/litalia-condanna-i-recenti-lanci-missilistici-della-corea-del-nord/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/01/litalia-condanna-i-recenti-lanci-missilistici-della-corea-del-nord/)

On 25 June 2021, the Japanese mission to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) submitted Japan's instrument of acceptance of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, strengthening and further stabilizing the ASEAN countries.<sup>1949</sup>

On 6 July 2021, State Minister of Foreign Affairs Washio Eiichiro virtually attended the fourth Stockholm Ministerial Meeting on Nuclear Disarmament and the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) in preparation for the 10<sup>th</sup> NPT-Review Conference.<sup>1950</sup> State Minister Washio voiced Japan's concerns with regards to the development of nuclear weapons by North Korea and called for the full implementation of the relevant United Nations (UN) Security Council resolutions and a constructive outcome of the NPT conference.

On 12 July 2021, Minister of Foreign Affairs Motegi Toshimitsu released a statement on Japan's position with regards to the Arbitral Tribunal's ruling on disputes between the Philippines and Japan in the South China Sea.<sup>1951</sup> Minister Motegi reaffirmed Japan's support of the ruling, stating that Japan would continue to cooperate with ASEAN members and other countries to maintain a maritime order based on the rule of law as well as a free and open Indo-Pacific.

On 3 August 2021, Minister Motegi attended the 22<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers' Meeting, discussing issues of regional security in relation to Myanmar and North Korea and further cooperation between the ASEAN Plus Three Members.<sup>1952</sup> Minister Motegi urged all members to support the full implementation of UN Security Council resolutions against North Korea, expressed Japan's support for the Five-Point Consensus on Myanmar and pledged Japanese aid to the ASEAN Centre for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Management.

On 3 August 2021, Minister Motegi attended the Japan-ASEAN Ministerial Meeting, conversing on issues of regional security in the ASEAN region, especially Myanmar, North Korea and the East and South China Seas.<sup>1953</sup> Minister Motegi affirmed Japan's commitment to closer cooperation with ASEAN on finding a peaceful solution to situations in the South and East China Seas, implementing UN Security Council resolutions on North Korea, and supporting ASEAN on issues related to Myanmar.

On 4 August 2021, Minister Motegi attended the 11<sup>th</sup> East Asia Summit Foreign Ministers' Meeting, discussing issues of regional security in relation to Hong Kong, Myanmar, North Korea and the East and South China Seas.<sup>1954</sup> Minister Motegi affirmed Japan's commitment to finding a peaceful solution to situations in the South and East China Seas in line with the ruling of the Arbitral Tribunal, the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions on North Korea, the implementation of the Five-Point Consensus on Myanmar and the creation of a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific."

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<sup>1949</sup> Deposit of the Instrument of Acceptance of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 25 June 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e\\_000202.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000202.html)

<sup>1950</sup> 4th Ministerial Meeting of the Stockholm Initiative for Nuclear Disarmament and the Non-Proliferation Treaty, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e\\_000309.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000309.html)

<sup>1951</sup> Five years since the issuance of the Arbitral Tribunal's award as to the disputes between the Republic of the Philippines and the People's Republic of China regarding the South China Sea, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 12 July 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000209.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000209.html)

<sup>1952</sup> The 22<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 3 August 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_003029.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_003029.html)

<sup>1953</sup> ASEAN-Japan Ministerial Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 3 August 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_003030.htm](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_003030.htm)

<sup>1954</sup> The 11<sup>th</sup> East Asia Summit (EAS) Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 4 August 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e\\_000315.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000315.html)



On 5 August 2021, Minister Motegi attended the Friends of the Mekong Ministerial Meeting, discussing issues of regional security in relation to Myanmar.<sup>1955</sup> Minister Motegi reaffirmed Japan's commitment and support for the Five-Point Consensus on Myanmar developed by ASEAN.

On 7 August 2021, Minister Motegi attended the 28<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Regional Forum Ministerial Meeting, discussing issues of regional security in relation to Myanmar, North Korea, the East and South China Seas, and the Indo-Pacific.<sup>1956</sup> Minister Motegi affirmed Japan's commitment to the rule of law in the Indo-Pacific and the South and East China Seas in line with the ruling of the Arbitral Tribunal, the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions on North Korea and the implementation of the Five-Point Consensus on Myanmar. The Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs also encouraged China to cooperate with other nuclear states in light of the extension of the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty.

On 12 August 2021, Deputy Minister for Foreign Policy Okano Masataka attended a conference with officials from Australia, India and the US to discuss closer cooperation between these countries on issues of regional security.<sup>1957</sup> Deputy Minister Okano successfully promoted Japan's plan for a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" as a platform to build regional security and achieved international commitment to support Japan and ASEAN in its implementation.

On 31 August 2021, Minister Motegi held a conference with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel Yair Lapid, conversing on issues of regional security in the Middle East and Afghanistan.<sup>1958</sup> Minister Motegi affirmed Japan's commitment to cooperation with the international community on Afghanistan and with Israel on stability in the Middle East.

On 6 September 2021, Press Secretary Yoshida Tomoyuki issued a statement regarding the detainment of President Conde of the Republic of Guinea.<sup>1959</sup> Japan called for the release of President Conde and the restoration of constitutional order, expressing support for the African Union and the Economic Community of West African States on this matter.

On 22 October 2021, Deputy Director of Southeast and Southwest Asian Affairs Ishizuki Hideo led a Japanese delegation in the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Japan-Philippines Maritime Dialogue, discussing developments in the South and East China Seas.<sup>1960</sup> Japan reaffirmed its cooperation with the Philippines and ASEAN in implementing a free and open maritime order, in line with the "ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific."

On 26 October 2021, Press Secretary Yoshida issued a statement regarding the detainment of Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok of the Republic of Sudan.<sup>1961</sup> Japan called for the release of Prime Minister Hamdok and a transition to civilian rule based on the Constitutional Declaration while affirming its cooperation with the international community in this matter.

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<sup>1955</sup> Foreign Minister Motegi's Attendance at the Friends of the Mekong Ministerial Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 5 August 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e\\_000211.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000211.html)

<sup>1956</sup> The 28th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Ministerial Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 7 August 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_003033.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_003033.html)

<sup>1957</sup> Japan-Australia-India-U.S. Consultations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 12 August 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e\\_000318.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000318.html)

<sup>1958</sup> Japan-Israel Foreign Ministers' Telephone Talk, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000239.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000239.html)

<sup>1959</sup> The Situation in the Republic of Guinea (Statement by Press Secretary YOSHIDA Tomoyuki), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 6 September 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/danwa/press3e\\_000242.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/danwa/press3e_000242.html)

<sup>1960</sup> 4th Meeting of the Japan-Philippines Maritime Dialogue, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000259.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000259.html)

<sup>1961</sup> The Situation in the Republic of the Sudan (Statement by Press Secretary YOSHIDA Tomoyuki), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 26 October 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000261.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000261.html)

On 28 October 2021, Press Secretary Yoshida issued a statement regarding the announcement by Israel to construct new housing in settlements in East Jerusalem and the West Bank.<sup>1962</sup> Japan affirmed its cooperation with the international community in calling upon Israel to freeze its construction plans.

On 17 November 2021, Minister of Foreign Affairs Hayashi Yoshimasa held a conference with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Brunei Erywan Yusof, conversing on issues of regional security in relation to the Indo-Pacific, North Korea, and Myanmar.<sup>1963</sup> Minister Hayashi affirmed Japan's commitment towards a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" and the "ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific" and reiterated Japanese opposition against unilateral action by China in the South and East China Seas.

On 18 November 2021, Deputy Minister Okano attended the ninth Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum, discussing issues of regional security in the South China Sea.<sup>1964</sup> Japan expressed its concern regarding China's unilateral and forceful actions in the South China Sea and called upon the re-establishment of a rules-based maritime order.

On 18 November 2021, Minister Hayashi held a conference with the Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs of France Jean-Yves Le Drian, conversing on issues of regional security in relation to the Indo-Pacific, North Korea, and China.<sup>1965</sup> Minister Hayashi affirmed Japanese cooperation with France and the EU with regards to the Indo-Pacific region, particularly China and North Korea.

On 24 November 2021, Minister Hayashi met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Denmark Jeppe Kofod, discussing issues of regional security in relation to the Indo-Pacific, East Asia, North Korea and the Arctic.<sup>1966</sup> Minister Hayashi committed to strategic Japanese cooperation with the EU on matters in the Indo-Pacific, whilst calling on the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions on North Korea and a free and open order-based rule of law in the Arctic Ocean.

On 12 December 2021, Japan released a joint statement together with the G7 Foreign Ministers regarding Russian aggression towards Ukraine.<sup>1967</sup> The statement condemned Russian military build-up along the border and its increasingly aggressive rhetoric. The statement further called upon Russia to initiate de-escalation and act within the bounds of international law.

On 20 December 2021, Japan published a joint statement with the G7 Foreign Ministers regarding the Hong Kong Legislative Council elections held on 19 December 2021.<sup>1968</sup> The statement condemned the rollback of Hong Kong's political independence and democratic processes. It also called upon China to act within the bounds of the Sino-British Joint Declaration and other legal agreements to preserve Hong Kong's freedoms.

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<sup>1962</sup> Advancing of the plans of settlement construction by Israel (Statement by Press Secretary YOSHIDA Tomoyuki), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 28 October 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. ([https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000263.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000263.html))

<sup>1963</sup> Japan-Brunei Foreign Ministers' Telephone Talk, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 17 November 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000272.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000272.html)

<sup>1964</sup> The 9th Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000269.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000269.html)

<sup>1965</sup> Japan-France Foreign Ministers' Telephone Talk, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e\\_000232.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000232.html)

<sup>1966</sup> Japan-Denmark Foreign Ministers' Meeting and Working Lunch Talk, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000274.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000274.html)

<sup>1967</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement on Russia and Ukraine, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 12 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-russia-and-ukraine.html>

<sup>1968</sup> G7 foreign ministers' statement on Hong Kong Legislative Council elections, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-hong-kong-legislative-council-elections.html>

On 1 December 2021, Minister Hayashi held a conference with the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Singapore Vivian Balakrishnan, conversing on issues of security in the Indo-Pacific region as well as the South and East China Seas.<sup>1969</sup> Minister Hayashi committed to Japanese cooperation with ASEAN for the implementation of the “Free and Open Indo-Pacific” and the “ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific” as well as on matters regarding North Korea, while condemning unilateral action against the status quo in the South and East China Seas.

On 2 December 2021, Minister Hayashi held a conference with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia Saifuddin Abdullah, conversing on issues of regional security in the Indo-Pacific, Myanmar, and the South and East China Seas.<sup>1970</sup> Minister Hayashi committed to Japanese cooperation with ASEAN for the implementation of the “Free and Open Indo-Pacific” and the “ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific” in relation to Myanmar, while condemning unilateral action against the status quo in the South and East China Seas.

On 7 December 2021, Minister Hayashi held a conference with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federative Republic of Brazil Carlos Alberto Franco França, discussing issues of regional security in the Indo-Pacific, the Caribbean and Latin America.<sup>1971</sup> Minister Hayashi committed to Japanese cooperation with Brazil in the UN Security Council as well as in reforming the World Trade Organization to achieve a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific.”

On 8 December 2021, Minister Hayashi held a conference with the Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines Teodoro Locsin Jr., discussing issues of regional security in the Indo-Pacific, the South China Sea, Myanmar and North Korea.<sup>1972</sup> Minister Hayashi affirmed Japanese efforts to achieve a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific” and reiterated Japan’s support for ASEAN on Myanmar and the “ASEAN Outlook for the Indo-Pacific.” The Ministers further called on a resolution in the South China Sea based on the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.

On 11 December 2021, Minister Hayashi met with the US Secretary of State Antony Blinken to discuss issues of regional security in the Indo-Pacific.<sup>1973</sup> Minister Hayashi highlighted Japanese efforts to deepen cooperation with ASEAN to achieve a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific” and cooperation with the US and international partners in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum.

On 11 December 2021, Minister Hayashi met with the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development of the UK Elizabeth Truss to discuss issues of regional security in the Indo-Pacific as well as economic security.<sup>1974</sup> Minister Hayashi pledged to strengthen Japan’s cooperation with the UK in the G7 and ASEAN to implement the “ASEAN Outlook for the Indo-Pacific” and promote ASEAN’s centrality and unity.

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<sup>1969</sup> Japan-Singapore Foreign Ministers’ Telephone Talk, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 1 December 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e\\_000352.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000352.html)

<sup>1970</sup> Japan-Malaysia Foreign Ministers’ Telephone Talk, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e\\_000354.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000354.html)

<sup>1971</sup> Japan-Brazil Foreign Ministers’ Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000286.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000286.html)

<sup>1972</sup> Japan-Philippines Foreign Ministers’ Telephone Talk, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e\\_000239.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000239.html)

<sup>1973</sup> Japan-U.S. Foreign Ministers’ Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 11 December 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/na/na1/us/page6e\\_000266.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/na/na1/us/page6e_000266.html)

<sup>1974</sup> Japan-UK Foreign Ministers’ Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 11 December 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/we/gb/page6e\\_000265.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/we/gb/page6e_000265.html)

On 11 December 2021, Minister Hayashi met with the France's Minister Le Drian to discuss issues of regional security in the Indo-Pacific.<sup>1975</sup> Minister Hayashi committed to deeper Japanese cooperation with the EU on matters of defense and policy in the Indo-Pacific.

On 14 December 2021, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida held a conference with the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany Olaf Scholz, discussing issues of regional security in relation to China and North Korea.<sup>1976</sup> Prime Minister Kishida committed to close Japanese cooperation with the G7 in their efforts to combat regional instability under the German G7 Presidency in 2022.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to support global institutions in their efforts to address instability. Japan has issued statements in support of the efforts taken by international organizations and institutions, especially ASEAN, to combat instances of regional instability. Japan has also committed resources to the ASEAN Centre for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Management to address security issues.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Paul Meyer*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to support global institutions to address instability.

On 1 July 2021, the UK announced its support for clearing Sudan's USD1.4 billion in arrears owed to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) by contributing USD36 million from the UK reserves at the IMF.<sup>1977</sup> This action follows the UK's announcement of an ambitious financing package to enable the clearance of Sudan's IMF arrears with other G7 Finance Ministers and international partners at the IMF board in June 2021.

On 18 August 2021, Prime Minister Boris Johnson released the UK's ambition for the Afghan Citizens' Resettlement Scheme to resettle 5,000 Afghan nationals fleeing from Afghanistan in the context of rising terrorism.<sup>1978</sup> This resettlement scheme provides protection to thousands of people fleeing Afghanistan who are most at risk of the "human rights abuses and dehumanizing treatment by the Taliban" and will allow them to set up home in the UK permanently. Prime Minister Johnson also called on the international community to avert a humanitarian catastrophe in Afghanistan in the context of increased regional insecurity and terrorism due to the Taliban takeover.

On 19 August 2021, Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab announced the UK's commitment to double its humanitarian and development aid to Afghanistan to provide urgent life-saving aid to persons suffering from the regional insecurity and human rights abuses under the Taliban and from the drought.<sup>1979</sup> The Foreign

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<sup>1975</sup> Japan-France Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 11 December 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/we/fr/page6e\\_000268.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/we/fr/page6e_000268.html)

<sup>1976</sup> Japan-Germany Summit Telephone Talk, Office of the Prime Minister of Japan (Tokyo) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/c\\_see/de/page4e\\_001192.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/c_see/de/page4e_001192.html)

<sup>1977</sup> Press release: UK helps to clear Sudan's debt and support its economic recovery, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 1 July 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-helps-to-clear-sudans-debt-and-support-its-economic-recovery>

<sup>1978</sup> News story: bespoke resettlement route for Afghan refugees announced, Home Office (London) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ bespoke-resettlement-route-for-afghan-refugees-announced>

<sup>1979</sup> Press release: UK doubles aid to Afghanistan, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 19 August 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-doubles-aid-to-afghanistan>

Secretary called on other states to follow the UK's lead to ensure that vulnerable Afghans receive appropriate humanitarian assistance and to support a stable and peaceful future for the country.

On 23 September 2021, the UK Minister for the United Nations Tariq Ahmad called on global leaders at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to recognize that climate action is necessary for international peace and security.<sup>1980</sup> The statement voiced that global leadership through the UNSC is required to address global threats that climate change poses to resource security and environmental sustainability, especially in vulnerable states. The United Kingdom called on all states to use the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, Scotland, as a venue to secure finances to help vulnerable states adapt to the effects of climate change and to stop temperature increases beyond 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels by 2030.

On 31 October 2021, Prime Minister Johnson pledged GBP50 million to provide urgent protection to vulnerable people and to prevent a humanitarian disaster in Afghanistan and general regional instability.<sup>1981</sup> This funding is to be delivered through UN agencies and the International Committee of the Red Cross, who will work with several international and national non-governmental organizations. Further, the Prime Minister called on G20 leaders to support this funding commitment to prevent regional insecurity in Afghanistan.

On 2 November 2021, Foreign Secretary Liz Truss announced the UK's commitment to support new African-led projects to protect vulnerable communities in the face of climate shocks and accelerate resilience-building.<sup>1982</sup> Furthermore, Prime Minister Johnson announced the UK's offer of a new guaranteed mechanism "Room to Run" to the African Development Bank worth USD2 billion of new financing for projects across the African continent to adapt to the varied impacts of climate change.

On 16 November 2021, Ambassador Barbara Woodward of the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office affirmed the UK's commitment to create a system-wide approach to conflict prevention and peace maintenance at the UNSC.<sup>1983</sup> Moreover, Ambassador Woodward called for peace to be a core consideration of the wider institutional architecture of the UN through the embedding of the principle in more UN bodies concerned with international development, especially where they concern human rights and international humanitarian law.

On 24 November 2021, Foreign Secretary Truss announced the launch of a new British international development finance institution, British International Investment (BII), to invest billions in infrastructure and technology in low- and middle-income countries in Asia, Africa and the Caribbean.<sup>1984</sup> The BII will prioritize sustainable infrastructure investment as part of the aim to deepen economic and security ties between countries in the developing world and to create disaster-resilient infrastructure as a response to regional resource insecurity. The BII is a part of the UK's larger contribution to the G7 Build Back Better World initiative.

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<sup>1980</sup> Speech: Climate action is necessary for international peace and security, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 23 September 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/climate-action-is-necessary-for-international-peace-and-security>

<sup>1981</sup> Press release: PM pledges £50 million to UN Afghanistan appeal, Prime Minister's Office (London) 31 October 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-pledges-50-million-to-un-afghanistan-appeal>

<sup>1982</sup> Press release: UK commits new support to African-led projects to protect vulnerable communities at the frontline of climate change, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 10 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-commits-new-support-to-african-led-projects-to-protect-vulnerable-communities-at-the-frontline-of-climate-change>

<sup>1983</sup> Speech: A system-wide approach to conflict prevention and sustaining peace, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 16 November 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/overcoming-the-silos-of-un-system-for-un-conflict-prevention>

<sup>1984</sup> Press release: Truss revamps British development finance institution to deliver jobs and clean growth, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/truss-revamps-british-development-finance-institution-to-deliver-jobs-and-clean-growth>

On 7 December 2021, the UK's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva stated the UK's pledge of USD78.6 million at the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Pledging Conference 2021.<sup>1985</sup> This funding pledge is to be directed toward protecting marginalized, displaced civilians, especially women and girls, from violence and exploitation in contexts of political crises, military conflict or humanitarian crises. The UK committed to working with other UNHCR member states to identify sustainable solutions for displaced persons in situations of regional insecurity caused by climate change and COVID-19 who need immediate assistance and protection.

On 12 December 2021, the UK released a joint statement together with the G7 Foreign Ministers regarding Russian aggression towards Ukraine.<sup>1986</sup> The statement condemned Russian military build-up along the border and its increasingly aggressive rhetoric. The statement further called upon Russia to initiate de-escalation and act within the bounds of international law.

On 20 December 2021, the UK published a joint statement with the G7 Foreign Ministers regarding the Hong Kong Legislative Council elections held on 19 December 2021.<sup>1987</sup> The statement condemned the rollback of Hong Kong's political independence and democratic processes. It also called upon China to act within the bounds of the Sino-British Joint Declaration and other legal agreements to preserve Hong Kong's freedoms.

On 22 December 2021, the UK Political Coordinator at the United Nations Fergus Eckersley condemned Russian actions to distort history of Nazism in the Baltic and Black Sea regions, specifically relating to national minorities.<sup>1988</sup> Eckersley affirmed that the UK welcomes work with the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe and, along with the G7, NATO and the EU, supports Ukraine's internationally recognized borders extending to its territorial waters.

On 12 January 2022, Foreign Secretary Truss commented on the NATO-Russia Council, condemning the aggressive and destabilizing Russian military build-up along the border of Ukraine.<sup>1989</sup> Foreign Secretary Truss asserted that the United Kingdom would act, if necessary, with its allies to support Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity through NATO and the NATO-Russia Council.

On 12 January 2022, Ambassador Woodward urged UNSC members and UN General Assembly members to support a long-term solution to the conflict and humanitarian crisis in Yemen.<sup>1990</sup> Ambassador Woodward urged members to support de-escalation of the conflict to help reduce civilian casualties, drone attacks, and worsening food insecurity in the region through the UN mission to support the Hodeidah agreement.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to support global institutions to address instability. The UK has supported international institutions, such as the UN, through funding pledges to the

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<sup>1985</sup> Speech: UNHCR Pledging Conference 2021: UK statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/unhcr-pledging-conference-2021-uk-statement>

<sup>1986</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement on Russia and Ukraine, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 12 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-russia-and-ukraine.html>

<sup>1987</sup> G7 foreign ministers' statement on Hong Kong Legislative Council elections, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-hong-kong-legislative-council-elections.html>

<sup>1988</sup> Speech: A deliberate attempt to distort history for Russia's own political purposes, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 22 December 2021. Access Date: 10 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/a-deliberate-attempt-to-distort-history-for-russias-own-political-purposes>

<sup>1989</sup> Press release: NATO-Russia Council, 12 January 2022: Foreign Secretary's statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 12 January 2022. Access Date: 13 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretary-statement-nato-russia-council>

<sup>1990</sup> Speech: Supporting a long-term solution to the conflict in Yemen, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 12 January 2022. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/supporting-a-long-term-solution-to-the-conflict-in-yemen>

UNHRC and calls to action in the UNSC. The United Kingdom has contributed funding pledges and announced the creation of a new international development finance institution to support security in the developing world and create disaster-resilient infrastructure as a response to regional insecurity, specifically in the Middle East, Africa and the Caribbean.

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

*Analyst: Gwendolyn Culver*

### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to support global institutions to address instability.

On 16 July 2021, the Department of State announced the US-Afghanistan-Uzbekistan-Pakistan Quad Regional Support for Afghanistan-Peace Post Settlement.<sup>1991</sup> This partnership entails the establishment of a new diplomatic platform focused specifically on enhancing regional connectivity in the Middle East to promote the long-term peace and stability in and around Afghanistan while the United States withdraws troops.

On 23 July 2021, the Special Representative and Special Envoy of the United States affirmed the US commitment to partner countries, international organizations and Afghan institutions contributing to regional stability and international interconnectivity during the withdrawal of international troops from Afghanistan.<sup>1992</sup> The communiqué issued by the US, the EU, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and the UK urged the Taliban to reduce violence, protect civilians and cooperate on humanitarian assistance, and further called on the Taliban to allow and facilitate access for delivery of humanitarian aid consistent with international humanitarian law. The Special Representative also reaffirmed United Nations Security Council Resolution 2513 (2020) which does not support any government in Afghanistan imposed through military force.

On 12 August 2021, senior US officials attended virtual consultations with officials from Australia, India and Japan to discuss closer cooperation between these countries on issues of regional security.<sup>1993</sup> The US representatives expressed their concern over the increasing threat of instability in Burma and the Taiwan Strait, reaffirming the United States' support for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and its commitment to a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific."

On 30 August 2021, the United States Agency for International Development released its Regional Development Cooperation Strategy (RDCS) for Kenya and East Africa, promoting regional resilience, prosperity and stability.<sup>1994</sup> Specifically, the RDCS affirmed US partnership with three African Regional Economic Communities and international organizations to contribute to the development, sustainability and self-reliance capabilities of governance bodies in the region, including community organizations and civil society.

On 13 September 2021, Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken announced the contribution of USD64 million in new humanitarian assistance for the 18.4 million vulnerable people affected by the humanitarian crisis in

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<sup>1991</sup> Announcing the U.S. – Afghanistan – Uzbekistan – Pakistan Quad Regional Support for Afghanistan-Peace Process and Post Settlement, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.state.gov/announcing-the-u-s-afghanistan-uzbekistan-pakistan-quad-regional-support-for-afghanistan-peace-process-and-post-settlement/>

<sup>1992</sup> U.S.-Europe Communiqué on Afghanistan and Peace Efforts, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 23 July 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-europe-communiqué-on-afghanistan-and-peace-efforts/>

<sup>1993</sup> U.S.-Australia-India-Japan Consultations (the "Quad") Senior Officials Meeting, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 12 August 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-australia-india-japan-consultations-the-quad-senior-officials-meeting/>

<sup>1994</sup> Regional Development Cooperation Strategy (RDCS) – Kenya & East Africa, USAID (Washington D.C.) 30 August 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.usaid.gov/documents/regional-development-cooperation-strategy-rdcs-kenya-east-africa>

Afghanistan.<sup>1995</sup> This funding will flow exclusively through independent humanitarian organizations, specifically the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the World Health Organization (WHO). The Secretary of State affirmed that the US supports the creation and maintenance of a peaceful, stable region, which requires unhindered humanitarian access as well as freedom of movement and security for staff and all those who wish to leave the region due to safety and security concerns, especially women and girls.

On 12 December 2021, the US released a joint statement together with the G7 Foreign Ministers regarding Russian aggression towards Ukraine.<sup>1996</sup> The statement condemned Russian military build-up along the border and its increasingly aggressive rhetoric. The statement further called upon Russia to initiate de-escalation and act within the bounds of international law.

On 17 December 2021, the Office of the Spokesperson for the US Department of State affirmed that Russian action against the ceasefire would result in NATO and NATO allies acting in collective defence for its members.<sup>1997</sup> The US stated that Russia's use of violence against any of its neighbouring countries, such as Ukraine, would cause concern for all 57 members of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe and cause instability in the region. The US reaffirmed the statement made at the G7 on 12 December 2021 that, if there is any further Russian aggression in Ukraine, the consequences through NATO will "carry a high price."

On 20 December 2021, the US published a joint statement with the G7 Foreign Ministers regarding the Hong Kong Legislative Council elections held on 19 December 2021.<sup>1998</sup> The statement condemned the rollback of Hong Kong's political independence and democratic processes. It also called upon China to act within the bounds of the Sino-British Joint Declaration and other legal agreements to preserve Hong Kong's freedoms.

On 11 January 2022, Ambassador to NATO Julianne Smith affirmed the US condemnation of Russian aggression against Ukraine and outlined the US intent to offer unwavering support for Ukraine's sovereignty and independence.<sup>1999</sup> Smith outlined the US commitment to using diplomacy to de-escalate the unstable situation in tandem with NATO to promote a meaningful and reciprocal exchange with Russia. Smith stated that, should Russia instigate confrontation and use military action, the US will respond resolutely with a range of high-impact economic measures and through NATO's defense on the eastern flank.

On 12 January 2022, Deputy Secretary of State Wendy R. Sherman met with French, German, Italian and UK counterparts to pledge to deter Russian aggression against Ukraine and to prevent further political

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<sup>1995</sup> The United States Announces Additional Humanitarian Assistance for the People of Afghanistan, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 13 September 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.state.gov/the-united-states-announces-additional-humanitarian-assistance-for-the-people-of-afghanistan/>

<sup>1996</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement on Russia and Ukraine, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 12 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-russia-and-ukraine.html>

<sup>1997</sup> Special briefing: Senior Administration Official on U.S. Diplomatic Engagement Regarding Our Ongoing Commitment to Ukraine's Sovereignty, Territorial Integrity, and Independence, US Department of State (Washington D. C.) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 10 January 2022. <https://www.state.gov/senior-administration-official-on-u-s-diplomatic-engagement-regarding-our-ongoing-commitment-to-ukraines-sovereignty-territorial-integrity-and-independence/>

<sup>1998</sup> G7 foreign ministers' statement on Hong Kong Legislative Council elections, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-hong-kong-legislative-council-elections.html>

<sup>1999</sup> Special briefing: Online Press Briefing with Julianne Smith, U.S. Ambassador to NATO, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 11 January 2022. Access Date: 13 January 2022. <https://www.state.gov/online-press-briefing-with-julianne-smith-u-s-ambassador-to-nato/>



destabilization in the region.<sup>2000</sup> The US called for Russian de-escalation and affirmed that Russian invasion of Ukraine would result in harsh consequences, including coordinated, restrictive economic measures and a response from NATO allies.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to support global institutions to address instability. The US has supported international institutions, such as NATO, the WHO and the UNHRC, by delivering humanitarian aid and contributing funding to international organizations and programs in unstable or insecure regions. The US has also committed to international partnerships through institutions to address regional insecurity, especially in the Middle East.

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

*Analyst: Gwendolyn Culver*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to support global institutions in their efforts to address instability.

On 14 June 2021, the Council of the European Union committed EUR18 billion in funding for measures in the fields of asylum and migration, integrated border management and internal security.<sup>2001</sup> The fund will aid in the fight against terrorism and radicalisation, organised crime and cybercrime.

On 14 June 2021, the EU-Canada summit took place in Brussels.<sup>2002</sup> Canada and the EU affirmed the need for promoting shared democratic values and international peace and security.

On 15 June 2021, the EU-US summit took place in Brussels.<sup>2003</sup> The US and the EU committed to a renewed Transatlantic partnership and the need to protect the people and security of Europe and the US.

On 19 June 2021, the plenary meeting of the Conference on the Future of Europe was held in Strasbourg, France.<sup>2004</sup> The new EU Security Union Strategy was presented, including increased protections for Europeans against terrorism and a strong security ecosystem.

On 21 June 2021, the Council of the European Union renewed sanctions against the Russian Federation for their illegal occupation of Crimea and Sevastopol until 23 June 2022.<sup>2005</sup> The sanctions were first introduced in 2014 and include targeted economic sanctions and individual restrictive measures. Additionally, the EU reiterated its condemnation of the annexation of Crime and Sevastopol

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<sup>2000</sup> Readout: Deputy Secretary Sherman's Meeting with French, German, Italian, and UK Counterparts, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 12 January 2022. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.state.gov/deputy-secretary-shermans-meeting-with-french-german-italian-and-uk-counterparts/>

<sup>2001</sup> Home affairs funds: Council adopts €18 billion funds for 2021-2027, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/06/14/home-affairs-funds-council-adopts-18-billion-funds-for-2021-2027/>

<sup>2002</sup> European Union-Canada summit – Joint statement, European Council (Brussels) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/06/15/european-union-canada-summit-joint-statement/>

<sup>2003</sup> EU-US summit statement: "Towards a renewed Transatlantic partnership", European Council (Brussels) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/06/15/eu-us-summit-statement-towards-a-renewed-transatlantic-partnership/>

<sup>2004</sup> Values and rights, rule of law, security, Conference on the Future of Europe (Strasbourg) 19 June 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://futureu.europa.eu/processes/ValuesRights>

<sup>2005</sup> Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea and Sevastopol: Council renews sanctions for a further year, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/06/21/russia-s-illegal-annexation-of-crimea-and-sevastopol-council-renews-sanctions-for-a-further-year/>

On 21 June 2021, the Council of the European Union adopted a fourth sanctions package against Belarus following the forced landing of the Ryanair flight 4978.<sup>2006</sup> This sanctions package added another 78 Belarusian individuals and eight entities to the EU's sanctions list.

On 24 June 2021, the Council of the European Union imposed additional economic sanctions against Belarus due to the escalation of human rights violations in the country and widespread repression of civil society, democratic opposition and journalists by its government.<sup>2007</sup>

On 24-25 June 2021, EU leaders at the European Council met to discuss COVID-19 pandemic recovery and emphasized the need to improve relations with Turkey and Russia.<sup>2008</sup> EU leaders also discussed Russian interference in Belarus and Ukraine, among other topics.

On 28 June 2021, the Council of the European Union extended its Common Security and Defence Policy civilian missions, namely the European Union Border Assistance Mission for the Rafah Crossing Point and the European Union Police Mission for the Palestinian Territories.<sup>2009</sup>

On 29 June 2021, the European Parliament officially implemented an Asylum Agency in the EU.<sup>2010</sup> 500 experts from EU member states will be called to assist in crisis situations.

On 7 July 2021, the European Parliament adopted a fund of EUR9.88 billion to support asylum and migration policy and EUR6.24 billion for external border management.<sup>2011</sup>

On 8 July 2021, the European Parliament adopted a resolution in favor of the EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime.<sup>2012</sup> This resolution deemed corruption as a punishable offense.

On 12 July 2021, the Council of the European Union prolonged sanctions against Russia in response to its destabilizing actions in Ukraine.<sup>2013</sup> Sanctions limit Russian banks' access to EU capital markets, prohibit financial assistance towards Russian financial institutions, prohibit the exchange of all defence-related material and curtail Russian access to energy-sector technologies.

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<sup>2006</sup> Belarus: fourth package of EU sanctions over enduring repression and the forced landing of a Ryanair flight, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/06/21/belarus-fourth-package-of-eu-sanctions-over-enduring-repression-and-the-forced-landing-of-a-ryanair-flight/>

<sup>2007</sup> EU imposes sanctions on Belarusian economy, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/06/24/eu-imposes-sanctions-on-belarusian-economy/>

<sup>2008</sup> European Council conclusions, European Council (Brussels) 25 June 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/06/25/european-council-conclusions-24-25-june-2021/>

<sup>2009</sup> EU CSDP civilian missions: Council extends the mandates of EUBAM Rafah and EUPOL COPPS, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 28 June 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/06/28/eu-csdp-civilian-missions-council-extends-the-mandates-of-eubam-rafah-and-eupol-copps/>

<sup>2010</sup> A new, stronger Asylum Agency for a more consistent asylum policy across the EU, European Parliament (Brussels) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210628IPR07254/a-new-stronger-asylum-agency-for-a-more-consistent-asylum-policy-across-the-eu>

<sup>2011</sup> EU Parliament adopts two funds for asylum and border policies, European Parliament (Brussels) 7 July 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210701IPR07514/eu-parliament-adopts-two-funds-for-asylum-and-border-policies>

<sup>2012</sup> Human rights: MEPs want corruption punished under EU sanctions regime, European Parliament (Brussels) 8 July 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210701IPR07516/human-rights-meps-want-corruption-punished-under-eu-sanctions-regime>

<sup>2013</sup> Russia: EU prolongs economic sanctions over the destabilisation of Ukraine by six months, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 12 July 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/07/12/russia-eu-prolongs-economic-sanctions-over-the-destabilisation-of-ukraine-by-six-months/>

On 12 July 2021, the Council of the European Union adopted a decision to set up an EU military training mission in Mozambique.<sup>2014</sup> The mission will train and support the Mozambican armed forces to restore the safety and security of the Cabo Delgado province.

On 13 July 2021, the EU held the fourth meeting of the Stabilisation and Association (SA) Council with Bosnia and Herzegovina in Brussels, Belgium.<sup>2015</sup> The SA Council called for an increased alignment between the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) and Bosnia and Herzegovina's continued mission operations under the CSDP.

On 15 July 2021, Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) discussed the EU's approach to China, emphasizing the need to foster strategic autonomy and the preservation of European interests and values.<sup>2016</sup>

On 15 July 2021, the EU Foreign Affairs Committee advised that the EU must push back against increased Russian aggression in Europe and collaborate with allies to deter Russia.<sup>2017</sup>

On 16 July 2021, the European Parliament co-hosted the first ever Global State of Human Rights Conference where leaders committed to global human rights accountability.<sup>2018</sup> Three panels will explore how policymakers can make the private sector more responsive to human rights violations, how international justice can broker global accountability and the challenges of values-based foreign policy in addressing instability.

On 17 July 2021, President Michel met with Armenia's Acting Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan in Yerevan, Armenia, to affirm the bilateral commitments of both parties and pledge to foster security and stability in Armenia.<sup>2019</sup>

On 18 July 2021, President Michel met with Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev in Baku, Azerbaijan. President Michel affirmed that the EU would continue to promote the stability and security of Eastern Partnership countries.<sup>2020</sup>

On 19 July 2021, the Council of the European Union added another 14 persons and 21 groups and entities to the EU terrorist list.<sup>2021</sup> Those on the list are subject to asset freezes in the EU.

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<sup>2014</sup> Mozambique: EU sets up a military training mission to help address the crisis in Cabo Delgado, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 12 July 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/07/12/mozambique-eu-launches-a-military-training-mission-to-help-address-the-crisis-in-cabo-delgado/>

<sup>2015</sup> Press statement following the 4th meeting of the Stabilisation and Association Council between the EU and Bosnia and Herzegovina, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/07/13/4th-meeting-of-the-stabilisation-and-association-council-between-the-eu-and-bosnia-and-herzegovina/>

<sup>2016</sup> MEPs set out their vision for a new EU strategy for China, European Parliament (Brussels) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210708IPR08013/meps-set-out-their-vision-for-a-new-eu-strategy-for-china>

<sup>2017</sup> Kremlin politics: MEPs call for EU strategy to promote democracy in Russia, European Parliament (Brussels) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210708IPR08012/kremlin-politics-meps-call-for-eu-strategy-to-promote-democracy-in-russia>

<sup>2018</sup> High-Level Conference on the Global State of Human Rights, European Parliament (Brussels) 12 July 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210712IPR08208/high-level-conference-on-the-global-state-of-human-rights>

<sup>2019</sup> Speech by President Charles Michel after his meeting with Acting Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan in Yerevan, European Council (Brussels) 17 July 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/07/17/remarks-by-president-charles-michel-after-his-meeting-with-the-acting-prime-minister-nikol-pashinyan-in-yerevan/>

<sup>2020</sup> Remarks by President Charles Michel after his meeting in Baku with the President of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev, European Council (Brussels) 18 July 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/07/18/remarks-by-president-charles-michel-after-his-meeting-with-azerbaijan-president-ilham-aliyev-in-baku/>

On 30 July 2021, the Council of the European Union adopted a framework to sanction individuals and actors that undermine democracy and the rule of law in Lebanon.<sup>2022</sup> The sanctions include a travel ban and financial restrictions.

On 16 August 2021, MEPs released a statement calling for collaboration with allies and global partners to tackle the unfolding humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan.<sup>2023</sup> The statement stressed the importance of the EU's action to avoid Russian or Chinese intervention in Afghanistan's political vacuum.

On 23 August 2021, President Michel attended the International Crimea Platform Summit in Kyiv, Ukraine.<sup>2024</sup> President Michel affirmed the EU's stance to reject Russia's territorial claims over Crimea and Sevastopol and to stand with Ukraine amidst Russia's territorial aggression.

On 10 September 2021, the European Council prolonged sanctions against Russia following continued Russian aggression against Ukraine.<sup>2025</sup> Sanctions apply to 177 individuals and 48 entities, and include "travel restrictions, the freezing of assets, and a ban on making funds or other economic resources available to the listed persons and entities."

On 10 September 2021, European Parliament President David Sassoli affirmed that "EU Recovery Funds should not go to governments that do not respect core democratic values or uphold the Rule of Law."<sup>2026</sup>

On 15 September 2021, the EU pledged EUR14.2 billion to help Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey with their accession to the EU.<sup>2027</sup> The funding to any of these countries would be ceased if they are found to not respect the rule of law.

On 16 September 2021, the European Parliament released a new EU approach to China, indicating the need to allocate more resources to fight Chinese disinformation, reject companies who do not comply with technology security standards in light of the rise of 5G and 6G networks, and conclude an investment agreement with Taiwan.<sup>2028</sup>

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<sup>2021</sup> EU terrorist list: Council renews restrictive measures to combat terrorism for a further six months, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 19 July 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/07/19/eu-terrorist-list-council-renews-restrictive-measures-to-combat-terrorism-for-a-further-six-months/>

<sup>2022</sup> Lebanon: EU adopts a framework for targeted sanctions, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 30 July 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/07/30/lebanon-eu-adopts-a-framework-for-targeted-sanctions/>

<sup>2023</sup> Afghanistan: lead MEPs demand safe departure of EU nationals and Afghan partners and urgent tackling of humanitarian crisis, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 16 August 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210816IPR10101/afghanistan-statement-of-lead-meps>

<sup>2024</sup> Speech by President Charles Michel at the inaugural session of the International Crimea Platform Summit, European Council (Brussels) 23 August 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/08/23/speech-by-president-charles-michel-at-the-inaugural-session-of-the-international-crimea-platform-summit/>

<sup>2025</sup> Ukraine: EU sanctions over territorial integrity prolonged for a further six months, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 10 September 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/09/10/ukraine-eu-sanctions-over-territorial-integrity-prolonged-for-a-further-six-months/>

<sup>2026</sup> EP survey: EU recovery funds should only go to countries respecting Rule of Law, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 10 September 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210906IPR11435/ep-survey-eu-recovery-funds-should-only-go-to-countries-respecting-rule-of-law>

<sup>2027</sup> 14.2 billion euro to help accession countries implementing EU-related reforms, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 15 September 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210910IPR11914/14-2-billion-euro-to-help-accession-countries-implementing-eu-related-reforms>

<sup>2028</sup> Parliament sets out its vision for a new EU strategy on China, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 16 September 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210910IPR11917/parliament-sets-out-its-vision-for-a-new-eu-strategy-on-china>

On 16 September 2021, the European Parliament released a new EU approach to Russia, indicating the need to continue supporting the Eastern Partnership with Ukraine and Georgia and to reduce the EU's dependency on Russia, namely on Russian oil and gas.<sup>2029</sup>

On 16 September 2021, MEPs highlighted human rights breaches in Kenya, United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Cuba.<sup>2030</sup> MEPs addressed the need for the European External Action Service to target UAE officials under the EU global human rights sanctions regime and reviewed the EU-Cuba Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement.

On 7 October 2021, MEPs called for peace in the Arctic region, stating that the Russian military build-up is unjustifiable.<sup>2031</sup> MEPs further expressed concern over Chinese projects in the Arctic as part of the regime's initiative to integrate the Arctic's Northern Sea Route into its Belt and Road Initiative.

On 7 October 2021, MEPs called for a Joint Cyber Unit to improve inter-EU information sharing in order to deter Russian and Chinese cyberattacks.<sup>2032</sup>

On 11 October 2021, the EU further prolonged sanctions against 14 individuals in Nicaragua in the face of threats to democracy and security in the country.<sup>2033</sup> The sanctions follow the EU's verbal condemnation of the Nicaraguan government on 10 June 2021. The EU reiterated its commitment to support the Nicaraguan people in strengthening the rule of law and protecting its most vulnerable citizens.

On 11 October 2021, the EU further prolonged sanctions against 15 persons and two entities involved in the proliferation and use of chemical weapons in a measure to ensure regional security.<sup>2034</sup>

On 11 October 2021, the EU sanctioned another eight individuals in light of the continued illegal annexation of Crimea.<sup>2035</sup>

On 12 October 2021, President Michel met with Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky at the 23rd EU-Ukraine Summit in Kyiv, Ukraine.<sup>2036</sup> The EU affirmed its commitment to Ukraine through the Association Agreement and its Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area, expressing a shared respect for human rights and international law.

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<sup>2029</sup> MEPs call for new EU strategy to promote democracy in Russia, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 16 September 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210910IPR11925/meps-call-for-new-eu-strategy-to-promote-democracy-in-russia>

<sup>2030</sup> Human rights breaches in Kenya, United Arab Emirates and Cuba, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 16 September 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210910IPR12048/human-rights-breaches-in-kenya-united-arab-emirates-and-cuba>

<sup>2031</sup> Arctic: MEPs call for peace and reduced tension in the region, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210930IPR13931/arctic-meps-call-for-peace-and-reduced-tension-in-the-region>

<sup>2032</sup> MEPs demand common EU cyber defensive capabilities, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210930IPR13930/meps-demand-common-eu-cyber-defensive-capabilities>

<sup>2033</sup> Nicaragua: EU sanctions prolonged for one year, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 11 October 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/10/11/nicaragua-eu-sanctions-prolonged-for-one-year/>

<sup>2034</sup> EU sanctions against chemical weapons renewed for one year, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 11 October 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/10/11/eu-sanctions-against-chemical-weapons-renewed-for-one-year/>

<sup>2035</sup> Ukraine: EU sanctions eight more people over territorial integrity, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 11 October 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/10/11/ukraine-eu-sanctions-eight-more-people-over-territorial-integrity/>

<sup>2036</sup> Joint statement following the 23rd EU-Ukraine Summit, European Council (Brussels) 12 October 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/10/12/joint-statement-following-the-23rd-eu-ukraine-summit-12-october-2021/>

On 18 October 2021, the EU prolonged sanctions against ISIL/Da'esh and Al-Qaeda for their continued involvement in terrorist activity.<sup>2037</sup> The sanctions currently apply to six individuals, and will be extended until 31 October 2022.

On 21 October 2021, MEPs called for a stronger EU-Taiwan partnership to protect Taiwanese democracy in the face of Chinese aggression and listed the Bilateral Investment Agreement as a key for future cooperation.<sup>2038</sup>

On 28 October 2021, the Council of the European Union participated in the sixth Association Council meeting with the Republic of Moldova.<sup>2039</sup> Both parties affirmed the EU-Moldova Association Agreement, highlighting continued cooperation in the field of foreign and security policy.

On 31 October 2021, the EU prolonged sanctions against ISIL/Da'esh and Al-Qaeda for their continued involvement in terrorist activity.<sup>2040</sup>

On 16 November 2021, the Council of the European Union launched the 4th wave of Permanent Structured Cooperation projects as part of the security and defense policy of the EU.<sup>2041</sup>

On 24 November 2021, the 2022 EU Budget was approved, allocating an additional EUR190 million to the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument to improve the EU's flexibility to respond rapidly to new crises and challenges.<sup>2042</sup>

On 2 December 2021, the European Peace Facility adopted assistance measures to relieve the deteriorating human rights situation in Mali, Moldova, Georgia and Ukraine.<sup>2043</sup> The EU aims to strengthen the CSDP military missions in these countries.

On 2 December 2021, the EU sanctioned an additional 17 individuals and 11 entities over continued human rights violations occurring in the context of the Belarusian-Polish border crisis.<sup>2044</sup> The sanctions target

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<sup>2037</sup> ISIL/Da'esh and Al-Qaeda: sanctions regime prolonged until 31 October 2022, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 18 October 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/10/18/isil-da-esh-and-al-qaeda-sanctions-regime-prolonged-until-31-october-2022/>

<sup>2038</sup> EU-Taiwan relations: MEPs push for stronger partnership, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 21 October 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20211014IPR14926/eu-taiwan-relations-meps-push-for-stronger-partnership>

<sup>2039</sup> Joint press statement following the sixth Association Council meeting between the European Union and the Republic of Moldova, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 28 October 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/10/28/joint-press-statement-following-the-sixth-association-council-meeting-between-the-european-union-and-the-republic-of-moldova/>

<sup>2040</sup> ISIL/Da'esh and Al-Qaeda: sanctions regime prolonged until 31 October 2022, European Council (Brussels) 31 October 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/10/18/isil-da-esh-and-al-qaeda-sanctions-regime-prolonged-until-31-october-2022/>

<sup>2041</sup> EU defence cooperation: Council launches the 4th wave of new PESCO projects, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 16 November 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/11/16/eu-defence-cooperation-council-launches-the-4th-wave-of-new-pesco-projects/>

<sup>2042</sup> EU Budget 2022 approved: investing more for a strong recovery, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20211118IPR17624/eu-budget-2022-approved-investing-more-for-a-strong-recovery>

<sup>2043</sup> European Peace Facility: Council adopts assistance measures for Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and the Republic of Mali, European Council (Brussels) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/12/02/european-peace-facility-council-adopts-assistance-measures-for-georgia-the-republic-of-moldova-ukraine-and-the-republic-of-mali/>

propaganda outlets, high-ranking political officials, members of the Supreme Court and companies that have incited illegal border crossings from Belarus to the EU.

On 2 December 2021, President Michel spoke at the annual European Defence Agency conference, where he committed to fighting against security threats in Europe and other parts of the world.<sup>2045</sup>

On 12 December 2021, the EU released a joint statement together with the G7 Foreign Ministers regarding Russian aggression towards Ukraine.<sup>2046</sup> The statement condemned Russian military build-up along the border and its increasingly aggressive rhetoric. The statement further called upon Russia to initiate de-escalation and act within the bounds of international law.

On 13 December 2021, the EU imposed restrictive measures against the Wagner Group.<sup>2047</sup> The measures targeted the Wagner Group itself, in addition to eight individuals and three entities associated with the group.

On 16 December 2021, the European Parliament adopted three resolutions on the deteriorating human rights situation in Russia, Serbia and Cuba.<sup>2048</sup>

On 20 December 2021, the EU published a joint statement with the G7 Foreign Ministers regarding the Hong Kong Legislative Council elections held on 19 December 2021.<sup>2049</sup> The statement condemned the rollback of Hong Kong's political independence and democratic processes. It also called upon China to act within the bounds of the Sino-British Joint Declaration and other legal agreements to preserve Hong Kong's freedoms.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to support global institutions in their efforts to address instability. The EU has adopted various measures in the European Parliament and European Council to target issues of regional security. It has expressed support for international institutions by adopting economic sanctions and affirming its defence agreements and frameworks, in addition to allocating resources for EU-led military missions.

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

*Analyst: Elizabeth Franceschini*

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<sup>2044</sup> Belarus: EU adopts 5th package of sanctions over continued human rights abuses and the instrumentalisation of migrants, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022.

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/12/02/belarus-eu-adopts-5th-package-of-sanctions-over-continued-human-rights-abuses-and-the-instrumentalisation-of-migrants/>

<sup>2045</sup> Address by President Charles Michel to the European Defence Agency annual conference, European Council (Brussels) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/12/07/address-by-president-charles-michel-to-the-european-defence-agency-annual-conference/>

<sup>2046</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement on Russia and Ukraine, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 12 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-russia-and-ukraine.html>

<sup>2047</sup> EU imposes restrictive measures against the Wagner Group, European Council (Brussels) 13 December 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/12/13/eu-imposes-restrictive-measures-against-the-wagner-group/>

<sup>2048</sup> Human rights breaches in Russia, Cuba and Serbia, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20211210IPR19224/human-rights-breaches-in-russia-cuba-and-serbia>

<sup>2049</sup> G7 foreign ministers' statement on Hong Kong Legislative Council elections, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-hong-kong-legislative-council-elections.html>

## 16. Development: Sustainable Growth in Africa

“A central focus of our new strategic approach will be supporting sustainable growth in Africa.”

*Carbis Bay G7 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 (100%)	

### Background

The G7 leaders have long preached the importance of sustainable growth at their Summits and have especially focused on the need to encourage sustainable growth in developing countries and, more recently, in Africa. In 2015, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly adopted the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).<sup>2050</sup> The SDG's lay the ground for a new approach to tackling pressing global challenges in Africa and across the world. The G7 Leaders' emphasis on promoting sustainable growth falls in line with meeting SDG target 8.<sup>2051</sup> SDG 8 urges the promotion of “sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.”

The notion of promoting sustainable growth in G6 economies to better develop countries' economies was first brought up at the 1975 Rambouillet G6 Summit.<sup>2052</sup> Leaders stated that sustained growth in their economies was necessary to growth in developing countries which contributed to growth in the global economy. At the 1977 London Summit, the G7 leaders echoed this sentiment by stating that they would commit their governments to economic growth targets that would bring sustained non-inflationary growth worldwide.<sup>2053</sup>

At the 1984 London Summit, the G7 leaders recognized the importance of promoting sustainable growth in developing countries.<sup>2054</sup> At the Summit, leaders stated that G7 economies needed to re-enforce economic growth and jobs and that this would also support “poorer nations” in their attempts to achieve sustained growth.

At the 1988 Toronto Summit and the 1989 Paris Summit, G7 leaders stated that an increase in resource flows and improving the investment climate was necessary to help the poorest countries maintain sustainable

<sup>2050</sup> Background on the Goals, United Nations Development Programme (New York) n.d. Access Date: 1 November 2021. <https://www.africa.undp.org/content/rba/en/home/sustainable-development-goals/background.html>

<sup>2051</sup> Sustainable Development Goals, United Nations Development Programme (New York) n.d. Access Date: 1 November 2021. <https://www.africa.undp.org/content/rba/en/home/sustainable-development-goals.html>

<sup>2052</sup> Declaration of Rambouillet, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 November 1975. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1975rambouillet/communique.html>

<sup>2053</sup> Declaration: Downing Street Summit Conference, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 May 1977. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1977london/communique.html>

<sup>2054</sup> The London Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 1984. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1984london/communique.html>



growth.<sup>2055</sup> Africa is not mentioned in either Summit; however, it is important to recognize that leaders were beginning to promote sustainability in economies outside their own.

At the 1991 London Summit, G7 leaders recognized for the first time that development in Africa was explicitly addressed. They stated that the Special Programme of Assistance for Africa, led by the World Bank (WB), which provides support for economic reforms, showed its worth.<sup>2056</sup>

The 1993 Tokyo G7 Summit marked the first time G7 leaders stated their encouragement for sustainable growth in developing countries.<sup>2057</sup> Leaders expressed their encouragement for developing countries to follow “sound and open economic policies” to create a base for sustainable growth.<sup>2058</sup>

The promotion of sustainable growth in developing countries or Africa was not brought up again until the 1998 Birmingham Summit. At the Summit, G8 leaders declared the importance of building sustainable growth in all countries due to the interdependency of the world economy.<sup>2059</sup> They also committed to supporting African countries’ efforts to reform their financial systems to be able to meet economic and social development goals set out in the Organisation for Economic and Co-operation and Development’s 21st Century Strategy.

At the 1999 Köln Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to achieving both economic and social development in Africa and overall balanced world growth.<sup>2060</sup> The importance of sustainable growth in the world economy was again mentioned at the 2000 Okinawa Summit; however, there was no direct mention of supporting sustainable growth in Africa.<sup>2061</sup>

This changed in the 2001 Genoa Summit as more focus was put on supporting African countries specifically.<sup>2062</sup> G8 leaders declared that they would support African countries by promoting various financial policy tools to encourage sustainable development and growth, such as accountability and transparency in the public sector as well as legal frameworks and corporate governance regimes to fight corruption. They also reaffirmed the importance of promoting sustainable growth for the world economy.

At the 2004 Sea Island Summit, G8 leaders again recognized the need to support African countries’ push for sustainable growth.<sup>2063</sup> At the Summit, leaders declared their support for adopting a G-8 Plan on Applying the Power of Entrepreneurship to the Eradication of Poverty in Africa.

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<sup>2055</sup> Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 June 1989. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1989paris/communique/index.html>; Toronto Economic Summit Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 June 1988. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1988toronto/communique.html>

<sup>2056</sup> Economic Declaration: Building World Partnership, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 July 1991. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1991london/communique/index.html>

<sup>2057</sup> Economic Declaration: Building World Partnership, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 July 1991. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1991london/communique/index.html>

<sup>2058</sup> Economic Declaration: A Strengthened Commitment to Jobs and Growth, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 6-9 July 1993. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1993tokyo/communique/index.html>

<sup>2059</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>

<sup>2060</sup> G8 Communiqué Köln 1999 Final, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 June 1999. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1999koln/finalcom.htm>

<sup>2061</sup> G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 June 2000. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>

<sup>2062</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2001. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommunique.html>

<sup>2063</sup> Chair’s Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 2004. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2004seaisland/summary.html>

At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, G8 members recognized the work that African leaders had been taking to combat poverty and promote economic growth in their countries.<sup>2064</sup> G8 leaders decided to support this progress by agreeing to a comprehensive plan that included stimulating growth, improving the investment climate and improving Africa's capacity to trade. The importance of working in partnership with Africa for sustained growth was reaffirmed by G8 leaders at the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit.<sup>2065</sup> In addition, more concrete commitments towards promoting sustainable growth in Africa were made in the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit.<sup>2066</sup> Specifically, a variety of measures were welcomed, such as establishing a partnership to make finance work for Africa, promoting market integration and more coherent and coordinated support for capacity building for regional economic communities.

At the 2008 Hokkaido-Toyako Summit, G8 leaders reiterated their support for “good governance and self-sustained, private-sector led growth in developing countries,” such as Africa, and global growth.<sup>2067</sup> As a global economic crisis began to hit economies, the 2009 L'Aquila Summit recognized the importance of assisting developing countries in dealing with the crisis.<sup>2068</sup> In addition, G8 leaders encouraged developing countries to continue implementing economic strategies that provide supportive and inclusive growth.

At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their support for the work that African leaders have been doing towards sustainable development.<sup>2069</sup> They also stated that they would continue to support African-led efforts to advance social and economic development.

The 2011 Deauville Summit and the 2012 Camp David Summit recognized the progress that had been made with African leaders towards strong growth in Africa and emphasized the importance of ensuring a strong, sustainable and balanced growth in the global economy.<sup>2070</sup> The focus on Africa and sustainable growth remained strong at the 2013 Lough Erne Summit. G8 leaders stated the importance of working with African partners to promote inclusive and resilient growth in the countries through policy tools such as increased transparency, greater infrastructure, better management of natural resources, better trade and the elimination of trade barriers.<sup>2071</sup> At the 2014 Brussels Summit, the same policy priorities were reaffirmed with a specific focus on working with governments and citizens to enhance these governance mechanisms.<sup>2072</sup>

At the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit, there were fewer conversations surrounding supporting growth in Africa. However, G7 leaders stated that they welcomed growing economic opportunities across Africa and committed to continuing efforts to achieve global growth for all.<sup>2073</sup>

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<sup>2064</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/summary.html>

<sup>2065</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 July 2006. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/summary.html>

<sup>2066</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2007. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heilgendamm/g8-2007-summary.pdf>

<sup>2067</sup> G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

<sup>2068</sup> Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8-10 July 2009. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.pdf>

<sup>2069</sup> Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2010. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>

<sup>2070</sup> Official Documents/Documents officiels, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26-27 May 2011. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/index.html>

<sup>2071</sup> 8 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communique.html>

<sup>2072</sup> G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>

<sup>2073</sup> Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Summit Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders stated that they would continue to support African ownership of African challenges, such as promoting sustainable development and job growth.<sup>2074</sup> They also pledged to tackle current economic challenges to lay the foundation for stronger global growth.

At the 2017 Taormina Summit and the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders did not specifically commit to promoting sustainable growth in Africa but did commit to promoting growth globally and in developing economies.<sup>2075</sup> In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic hit, which shocked the global economy. In response, at the 2020 US Virtual Summit, G7 leaders stated that they were determined to restore the level of world growth that was occurring before the pandemic and setting the bedrocks for stronger future growth.<sup>2076</sup>

It is evident that although the promotion of sustainable growth in Africa was a key priority from the 1990s to the early 2000s, the topic has recently been placed on the backburner by leaders. The commitment made at Cornwall will bring a renewed focus to the issue.

### **Commitment Features**

The G7 Commitment states that: “A central focus of our new strategic approach will be supporting sustainable growth in Africa.” In this commitment there is one target: the central focus of a G7 member’s new strategic approach to Africa must be sustainable growth.

“Central” is understood as of primary importance and “focus” is understood as a point of concentration of an activity.<sup>2077</sup> In this context “central focus” would mean that G7 members’ policies towards Africa would consider sustainable growth as an imperative.

“New” is understood as having recently come into existence, “strategic” is understood as necessary in the completion of a plan and “approach” is understood as to make advances for a specific result.<sup>2078</sup> In this context, “new strategic approach” would refer to the G7 members’ method of constructing a relationship with African countries and influencing their policies. For example, this could mean that a G7 member prioritizes sustainable growth as a means to advance their interests, or global interests in Africa.

“Supporting” is understood as promoting the interests or the cause of an individual or group.<sup>2079</sup> In this context, a strong action is understood as giving financial support to sustainable growth as stated in the African Union Agenda 2063. The Agenda 2063 is the strategic framework in which the African Union aims to achieve sustainable economic development and growth in Africa.<sup>2080</sup>

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<sup>2074</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Summit Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

<sup>2075</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Summit Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

<sup>2076</sup> G7 Leaders’ Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html>

<sup>2077</sup> Central, Merriam Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 1 November 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/central>; Focus, Merriam Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 1 November 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/focus>

<sup>2078</sup> Approach, Merriam Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 1 November 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/approach>; New, Merriam Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 1 November 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/new>; Strategic, Merriam Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 1 November 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/strategic>

<sup>2079</sup> Support, Merriam Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 1 November 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/support>

<sup>2080</sup> Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, African Union Commission (Addis Ababa) n.d. Access Date: 1 November 2021. <https://au.int/en/agenda2063/overview>

“Sustainable growth” is understood as growth that is repeatable, ethical and responsible to and for current communities.<sup>2081</sup> It is interpreted as economic growth for the purpose of this commitment, as G7 members have repeatedly referenced “growth” in relation to the economy in past communiqués. Examples of sustainable growth include investing in green spaces, renewable energy sources, transitioning away from fossil fuels, ensuring transparency in financial transactions, fighting against crime and corruption, among others.

“Africa” is understood as any country that is within the African continent or the African Union as a body.<sup>2082</sup> Examples include but are not limited to Mali, Zimbabwe, and Ethiopia.

Full compliance, or a score of +1, with this commitment occurs if a G7 member takes strong action towards supporting sustainable growth as a central component of their policies towards Africa in at least three of the five African Union Agenda 2063 areas: 1) Well educated citizens and skills revolution underpinned by science, technology and innovation; 2) Modern agriculture for increased productivity and production; 3) Environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities ; 4) Preservation of peace, security and stability; 5) Full gender equality in all spheres of life.

A strong action is understood as a financial contribution, either through aid, assistance or backing up an initiative, tied to a policy that is centered around one of the five areas of the African Agenda 2063. This can occur in two different ways. Firstly, a G7 member can adopt a policy towards Africa, an African country, or multiple African countries that includes financial support to achieve sustainable growth in one or more of the five areas. Alternatively, a G7 member can adopt a policy and provide financing within a global initiative to support sustainable growth in Africa in one or more of the 5 areas. In both scenarios, the key component is that a G7 member state is taking strong action by creating a policy centred around financially supporting sustainable growth in Africa.

Examples of strong actions for 1) Well educated citizens and skills revolution underpinned by science, technology and innovation, include but are not limited to, financing sustainable infrastructure that will create job growth, the retraining of workers, the building of post-secondary institutions.

Examples of strong actions for 2) Modern agriculture for increased productivity and production, include but are not limited to, financing the protection of water quality, vertical farming and automated farming.

Examples of strong actions for 3) Environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities, include but are not limited to: providing financing for a renewable energy project, infrastructure project, or climate preparedness.

Examples of strong actions for 4) Preservation of peace, security and stability, include but are not limited to, providing financing for increased transparency, governance monitoring, or anti-corruption initiatives within countries.

Examples of strong actions for 5) Full gender equality in all spheres of life, include but are not limited to, providing financial assistance for the creation of a girl’s school, adding a gender dimension to development projects, financing initiatives that target women or LGBTQ+ members who have been victims of gender-based violence.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, with this commitment occurs if a G7 member takes strong action in two or three of the African Union Agenda 2063 areas: 1) Well educated citizens and skills revolution underpinned by science, technology and innovation; 2) Modern agriculture for increased productivity and production; 3)

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<sup>2081</sup> What Does Sustainable Growth Really Mean? Forbes (Jersey City) 16 August 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/rickmiller/2018/08/16/what-does-sustainable-growth-really-mean/?sh=31cda2e97a98>

<sup>2082</sup> Africa, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 1 November 2021. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/africa>

Environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities ; 4) Preservation of peace, security and stability; 5) Full gender equality in all spheres of life. This is because taking strong action in only two of five areas means that the member is either taking weak actions or no action in the majority of the Agenda 2063 target areas.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, occurs if a G7 member takes strong action in one or none of the African Union Agenda 2063 areas: 1) Well educated citizens and skills revolution underpinned by science, technology and innovation; 2) Modern agriculture for increased productivity and production; 3) Environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities; 4) Preservation of peace, security and stability; 5) Full gender equality in all spheres of life.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member takes strong action towards supporting sustainable growth as a central component of their policies towards Africa in 1 or none of the 5 African Union Agenda 2063 areas: 1) Well educated citizens and skills revolution underpinned by science, technology and innovation; 2) Modern agriculture for increased productivity and production; 3) Environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities; 4) Preservation of peace, security and stability; 5) Full gender equality in all spheres of life.
0	The G7 member takes strong action towards supporting sustainable growth as a central component of their policies towards Africa in 2 of the 5 African Union Agenda 2063 areas: 1) Well educated citizens and skills revolution underpinned by science, technology and innovation; 2) Modern agriculture for increased productivity and production; 3) Environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities; 4) Preservation of peace, security and stability; 5) Full gender equality in all spheres of life.
+1	The G7 member takes strong action towards supporting sustainable growth as a central component of their policies towards Africa in at least 3 of the 5 African Union Agenda 2063 areas: 1) Well educated citizens and skills revolution underpinned by science, technology and innovation; 2) Modern agriculture for increased productivity and production; 3) Environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities; 4) Preservation of peace, security and stability; 5) Full gender equality in all spheres of life.

*Compliance Director: Isabel Davis  
Lead Analyst: Paul Huang*

### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to promote sustainable growth in Africa.

On 2 November 2021, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Steven Guilbeault, attended the African Adaptation Acceleration Summit, where he announced that Canada would contribute CAD37.5 million to the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), up to CAD10 million to the Adaptation Fund that will support vulnerable countries against the devastating impacts of climate change and up to CAD10 million for the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Global Network which advances gender-responsive capacity building.<sup>2083</sup> With the additional support to the LDCF, the Fund will continue to address the adaptation needs of the poorest and most vulnerable countries through critical, on-the-ground projects related to water, agriculture and food security, disaster risk management and prevention and fragile ecosystems.

On 24 November 2021, the Minister of International Development and Minister responsible for the Pacific Economic Development Agency of Canada Development, Harjit S. Sajjan, participated in the 27<sup>th</sup> Canadian

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<sup>2083</sup> Canada's climate finance commitments are helping developing countries adapt to climate change, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Glasgow) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 19 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/11/canadas-climate-finance-commitments-are-helping-developing-countries-adapt-to-climate-change.html>

Conference on Global Health where he announced CAD325 million in funding for eleven projects with Canadian health partners.<sup>2084</sup> The investment, spread over five to seven years, will help key partners increase access to essential services, as well as promote gender equality and transform decision-making structures that reinforce and perpetuate inequality, with a focus on Sub-Saharan Africa.

On 3 December 2021, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, initiated a country-led partnership approach working within the G20 to operationalize country platforms, including enhancing support for the existing framework and principles and their implementation, and building on existing initiatives such as the G20 Compact with Africa and Global Infrastructure Facility to strengthen and coordinate partnerships, planning and programming.<sup>2085</sup>

On 9 December 2021, Minister Sajjan announced that Canada will renew its support for its Volunteer Cooperation Program through a financial contribution of almost CAD418 million over seven years, from 2020 to 2027.<sup>2086</sup> Through this commitment, Canada will fund 13 volunteer development projects in partnership with 15 Canadian organizations and mobilize around 10,000 volunteers to work in solidarity with over 700 organizations in approximately 47 countries. Sub-Saharan African countries will receive more than 50 per cent of the allocated funding.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to promote sustainable growth in Africa. Canada has taken full action to support sustainable growth by assisting in initiatives that assure expansion of environmental ethics, better livelihood for women and technology skills education. These actions support the African Union Agenda 2063 in the areas of environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient economies and communities, well-educated citizens and skills revolution and full gender equality in all spheres of life.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Ieuan Edwards*

#### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to support sustainable growth in Africa.

On 8 July 2021, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs inaugurated the International Counter-Terrorism Academy in Jacqueline, Ivory Coast.<sup>2087</sup> The facility will contribute to the cooperation between French, Ivorian, and other ministries in the area of global anti-terrorism to foster peace and stability.

On 1 August 2021, the French Development Agency (AFD) began a project to support rural electrification in the Ivory Coast.<sup>2088</sup> With the support of the European Union, this project will contribute to infrastructure development and improved living conditions in underdeveloped Ivorian communities.

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<sup>2084</sup> Canada announces support aimed at improving the health and rights of women and girls, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 18 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/11/canada-announces-support-aimed-at-improving-the-health-and-rights-of-women-and-girls.html>

<sup>2085</sup> G7 Leaders Statement Partnership for Infrastructure and Investment, Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau (Ottawa) 3 December 2021. Access Date: 18 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/statements/2021/12/03/g7-leaders-statement-partnership-infrastructure-and-investment>

<sup>2086</sup> Canada renews support for its Volunteer Cooperation Program, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 9 December 2021. Access Date: 19 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/canada-renews-support-for-its-volunteer-cooperation-program.html>

<sup>2087</sup> Security and defense cooperation in Africa, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris). Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 4 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/dossiers-pays/afrique/securite-et-lutte-contre-le-terrorisme/cooperation-de-securite-et-de-defense-en-afrique/>

On 2 November 2021, the government of France, alongside the governments of the European Union, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States, announced the Just Energy Transition Partnership to support decarbonisation efforts in South Africa.<sup>2089</sup> The Partnership will mobilise USD8.5 billion to accelerate decarbonisation in South Africa's economy, with particular attention to the electricity system, to help it achieve its national emissions reduction goals. This will help South Africa achieve their climate change targets.

In November 2021, End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism France began a project to improve the protections for at-risk children victimised by sexual abuse seeking paths to safety.<sup>2090</sup> The project places emphasis on increasing regional cooperation for assisting trafficked boys and girls, and a particular focus on strengthening respect for the rights of girls.

On 25 November 2021, as part of the Choiseul Africa Business Forum, Minister Delegate to the French Minister of Foreign Affairs Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne, and his Gabonese counterpart Yolande Nyonda, officially launched a business forum for sustainable value chains in Africa.<sup>2091</sup> This forum aims to develop sustainable practices in agricultural and forestry industries in Africa.

On 7 December 2021, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian partook in the Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit organized by Japan.<sup>2092</sup> The minister outlined France's commitments on nutrition for 2024. France committed to dedicating 25 per cent of the funds allocated by the French Muskoka Fund towards nutrition. The French Muskoka Fund currently works in "Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo." France also committed to allocating 15 per cent of French Development Agency (AFD) funding to agriculture, health and water, hygiene and sanitation for nutrition in eight "priority countries." These countries include: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Laos, Madagascar, Mali and Niger."

On 14 December 2021, AFD approved the allocation of funds for implementing 34 projects.<sup>2093</sup> The projects in Africa include support for the guinea fowl industry, environmental management amongst women and young people in Togo, civil status registration of infants in the Democratic Republic of Congo and improving the employability of young people from marginalized urban areas through development, empowerment and social inclusion.

France has fully complied with its commitment to support sustainable growth in Africa. France has made contributions to the improvement of African agriculture and infrastructure, supporting gender equality and combating economic marginalization. These actions support the African Union Agenda 2063 in the areas of

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<sup>2088</sup> Support Maximizing the Impact of Rural Electrification, French Development Agency (Paris) 1 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 23 December 2021. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/carte-des-projets/appuyer-maximisation-impact-electrification-rurale-cote-ivoire>

<sup>2089</sup> France, Germany, UK, US and EU launch ground-breaking International Just Energy Transition Partnership with South Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_5768](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5768)

<sup>2090</sup> Protected Mobility: Fighting Child Trafficking in West Africa, French Development Agency (Paris) 1 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Dates: 11 December 2021. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/carte-des-projets/mobilite-protgeee-lutter-contre-traite-enfants-afrique-ouest>

<sup>2091</sup> France and Gabon: a business forum for sustainable value chains, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 1 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/economic-diplomacy-foreign-trade/news/article/france-and-gabon-a-business-forum-for-sustainable-value-chains-1-december-2021>

<sup>2092</sup> France combatting malnutrition at the "Nutrition for Growth" Summit, Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2021/article/france-combatting-malnutrition-at-the-nutrition-for-growth-summit-7-december>

<sup>2093</sup> December 2021: AFD Supports 34 New French CSO Projects, French Development Agency (Paris). Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/decembre-2021-afd-soutient-34-nouveaux-projets-osc-francaises>

well-educated citizens and skills revolution underpinned by science, technology and innovation, modern agriculture for increased productivity and production, environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities, preservation of peace, security and stability, and full gender equality in all spheres of life.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Daniel Yiban Mao*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to promoting sustainable growth within Africa.

On 14 June 2021, during a visit to West Africa, Minister of Development Gerd Müller signed an agreement with Togo's Foreign Minister, Robert Dussey, over a reform partnership.<sup>2094</sup> This laid the groundwork for a new training center in Togo to promote sustainability through education and encourage economic growth.

On 27 August 2021, Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel spoke at the G20 Investment Summit, announcing the beginning of 22 local business projects within Africa.<sup>2095</sup> The projects will be conducted alongside AfricaConnect in support of economic growth.

On 8 September 2021, at the Tropical Forest Symposium, Minister Müller signed an agreement to increase protection in the Congo Basin.<sup>2096</sup> It is predicted that the rainforest will be gone by 2100 unless strong measures are taken. Germany looks to protect this area and provide economic alternatives to the rainforest for locals.

On 30 September 2021, the Federal German government committed EUR100 million to the African Development Bank's Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa.<sup>2097</sup> The funding will go towards encouraging private sector investment in green projects, supporting assistance and investment in power generation and increasing the penetration of renewable power in African grids.

On 16 October 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs declared that it would contribute EUR6.6 million from 2021-2023 to Veterinarians Without Borders as they work in Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia and Kenya to promote food security.<sup>2098</sup> These projects will include teaching sustainable, environmentally conscious farming techniques, flood protection and renovating water points in support of sustainable agriculture.

On 2 November 2021, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development declared a new partnership with South Africa to support their energy transition from coal to renewable, environmentally

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<sup>2094</sup> Minister Müller signs a reform partnership agreement with Togo, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 22 December 2021. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/archive-press-releases/minister-mueller-signs-reform-partnership-agreement-with-togo-83646>

<sup>2095</sup> Speech by Federal Chancellor Dr Angela Merkel at the G20 Investment Summit – German Business and the Compact with African Countries on 27 August 2021, The Federal Government (Berlin) 27 August 2021. Access Date: 22 December 2021. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/speech-by-federal-chancellor-dr-angela-merkel-at-the-g20-investment-summit-german-business-and-the-compact-with-african-countries-on-27-august-2021-1956784>

<sup>2096</sup> Development Minister Müller calls for 'Fair Deal' for forest protection, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 8 September 2021. Access Date: 22 December 2021. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/archive-press-releases/minister-mueller-calls-for-new-deal-for-forest-protection-92650>

<sup>2097</sup> Germany commits €100 million to SEFA to unlock private investment in renewable energy, African Development Bank Group (Abdijan) 30 September 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2021. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/germany-commits-eu100-million-sefa-unlock-private-investment-renewable-energy-45902>

<sup>2098</sup> World Food Day: Commitment to global food security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Berlin) 16 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 22 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/aussenpolitik/themen/humanitaere-hilfe/welternaehrungstag/2489682>



conscious energy.<sup>2099</sup> Through Climate Investment Funds, Germany looks to provide roughly EUR7.47 billion to the project over the next five years, as South Africa phases out coal for green hydrogen and electric vehicles. The new industries aim to promote both green energy and job growth.

On 8 November 2021, at the Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development committed EUR100 million to the Global Environment Facility Fund.<sup>2100</sup> The Federal Environment Ministry contributed another EUR50 million to the Adaptation Fund. These projects will center around projects such as weather warning systems, efficient irrigation systems and water management among others. All projects are in support of Germany's commitment to sustainable agriculture and climate in Africa.

On 1 December 2021, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action put into effect 'Africa Advice Vouchers' which allow small and medium-sized companies to enter African markets.<sup>2101</sup> Funding covers 15 days and 75 per cent of the cost for consulting with the aim of increasing economic growth and stability within Africa.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to promote sustainable growth in Africa. Germany has taken action to support sustainable growth in Africa by financing initiatives which increase economic growth, education, new agriculture techniques and renewable energy. These actions support the African Union Agenda 2063 in the areas of environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities, modern agriculture for increased productivity and production and well-educated citizens and skills revolution underpinned by science, technology and innovation.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Maere Kelly*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to promote sustainable growth in Africa.

On 14 June 2021, G7 members, along with multilateral partners, announced an USD80 billion commitment to invest in the private sector across Africa.<sup>2102</sup> These investments will collectively provide clean, reliable power to millions of people, give underserved markets better access to finance and help create jobs and reduce poverty.<sup>2103</sup> Italy, along with the other G7 members, have supported this initiative.<sup>2104</sup>

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<sup>2099</sup> Germany supports South Africa in coal phase-out, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 22 December 2021. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/archive-press-releases/mueller-germany-supports-south-africa-in-coal-phase-out-98432>

<sup>2100</sup> Germany commits 150 million euros for climate change adaptation in developing countries, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 8 November 2021. Access Date: 22 December 2021. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/archive-press-releases/support-for-climate-change-adaptation-in-developing-countries-98628>

<sup>2101</sup> 'Africa advice vouchers': Economic Affairs Ministry launches new service for SMEs to promote economic activity in African markets, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 1 December 2021. Access Date: 22 December 2021. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2021/12/20211201-africa-advice-vouchers-economic-affairs-ministry-launches-new-service-for-smes-to-promote-economic-activity-in-african-markets.html>

<sup>2102</sup> G7 partners to invest over \$80 billion in Africa's private sector, United Kingdom Government (London) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/g7-partners-to-invest-over-80-billion-in-africas-private-sector>

<sup>2103</sup> G7 partners to invest over \$80 billion in Africa's private sector, United Kingdom Government (London) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/g7-partners-to-invest-over-80-billion-in-africas-private-sector>

<sup>2104</sup> G7 partners to invest over \$80 billion in Africa's private sector, United Kingdom Government (London) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/g7-partners-to-invest-over-80-billion-in-africas-private-sector>

On 24 September 2021, Prime Minister Mario Draghi allocated USD33 billion to help African countries overcome the effects of the pandemic.<sup>2105</sup> The funding facilitates comprehensive and sustainable debt restructuring for countries with an excessive level of debt.

On 5 October 2021, the closing workshop of the Pilot Initiative in Egypt took place.<sup>2106</sup> The opening session emphasized the continued support provided by the Italian Cooperation to Egypt towards building a more inclusive and gender-responsive society and promoting gender equality and women's economic and social empowerment, a commitment it will strengthen in the coming years.

On 11 October 2021, the Embassy of Italy in Dakar announced the selection of young people from West Africa who will have the opportunity to continue their higher education in Italy in the 2021/2022 academic year.<sup>2107</sup> This is within the framework of the bilateral cultural and scientific cooperation initiative stemming from the commitment of the Italian diplomatic system to further relations with Senegal and Mali.

On 11 November 2021, the Italian Embassy in Kampala supported the "Start-up Africa Road Trip" training project, aimed at 20 local start-ups, mainly in Uganda, but also open to participants from other East African Countries.<sup>2108</sup> The undertakings presented aimed to tackle the most felt problems in the country, from alternative uses of urban waste to sustainable mobility and integration of the more vulnerable segments of the production fabric to extending access to basic medical care.

On 19 November 2021, the Italian Federal Government ratified and executed an agreement between the government of the Italian Republic and the government of Tunisia to develop infrastructure for electricity transmission aimed at maximizing energy exchanges between Europe and North Africa.<sup>2109</sup> The agreement was first put forward in Tunis on 30 April 2019.

On 30 November 2021, two events took place in Bamako, Mali with the goal of strengthening Italy-Mali relations.<sup>2110</sup> Italian entrepreneurs inaugurated the headquarters of a new Italian-Malian Business Association. Later that evening, 50 Italian and Malian entrepreneurs got together to promote economic cooperation between the two countries. These events reiterated Italy's commitment to developing multi-sectoral relations with Mali, in particular the development of bilateral trade and the special attention to supporting female entrepreneurs.

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<sup>2105</sup> Prime Minister Draghi's speech at the 76<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 24 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/general-debate-76th-session-un-general-assembly/17994>

<sup>2106</sup> Closing Workshop Pilot Initiative in Egypt Gemaisa 2 Project, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 5 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://www.gemaisa.net/closing-workshop-pilot-initiative-in-egypt-gemaisa-2-project/>

<sup>2107</sup> Senegal: training programmes in Italy for African Students, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 11 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 14 December 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2021/10/senegal-formazione-in-italia-per-studenti-africani-2/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2021/10/senegal-formazione-in-italia-per-studenti-africani-2/)

<sup>2108</sup> "Start-up Africa Road Trip" in Kampala- training for 20 start-ups, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 11 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 14 December 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2021/11/a-kampala-startup-africa-roadtrip-formazione-per-20-start-up/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2021/11/a-kampala-startup-africa-roadtrip-formazione-per-20-start-up/)

<sup>2109</sup> Law 11/19/2021, N.218, Presidency of the Republic (Rome) 19 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://www.quirinale.it/elementi/61152>

<sup>2110</sup> Bamako: inauguration of the new Italy-Mali Business Association, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 30 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 14 December 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2021/12/bamako-inaugurazione-della-nuova-associazione-italo-maliana-daffari/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2021/12/bamako-inaugurazione-della-nuova-associazione-italo-maliana-daffari/)

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to promote sustainable growth in Africa. Italy has financed initiatives that aim to create educational opportunities, stimulate job growth, support female entrepreneurship and green energy projects in Africa. These actions support the African Union Agenda 2063 in the areas of environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities, well-educated citizens and skills revolution and full gender equality in all spheres of life.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Baber Hussein*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to promoting sustainable growth within Africa.

From 29 June to 8 July 2021, the Asia External Representation Office of the African Development Bank hosted the third Japan-Africa Business Forum, in coordination with the African Diplomatic Corps in Tokyo, the Japan External Trade Organization, the Japan International Cooperation Agency, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and United Nations Industrial Development Organization.<sup>2111</sup> The conference featured topics on how to support Africa through business and yielded 59 follow up business to business meetings. The goal was to increase investment and trade, promoting economic growth within Africa.

On 30 June 2021, the Government of Japan and the UNDP launched two cooperation projects with the Cairo International Center For Conflict, Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding. Build on “Enhancing Peace, Security and Stability in Africa.”<sup>2112</sup> Japan contributed approximately USD1.15 million towards Africa’s resilience and stability.

In August 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs reached an agreement with Djibouti to provide grant aid toward education with a maximum of JPN2.1 billion.<sup>2113</sup> This contribution strives to increase access to basic education and improve the school environment which will contribute to the country’s future development.

On 3 August 2021, the Government of Japan contributed over USD4 million to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action, with the aim to reduce explosive hazard management in Somalia.<sup>2114</sup> The financial contribution aims to reinforce their goal of peace building and stability within Somalia.

On 21 October 2021, the Government of Japan, allied with the World Food Programme, provided USD4.5 million to Ghana health service in order to increase education on nutrition specifically to women and girls.<sup>2115</sup> This funding supports Japan’s initiatives of stability through health, education and equality.

On 25 October 2021, Mr. Masaki Amadera of the Embassy of Japan to Libya committed USD1.8 million to the UNDP’s ‘Promoting Elections for the People of Libya’ project.<sup>2116</sup> This action will support technical

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<sup>2111</sup> Hundreds gather for Third Japan-Africa Business Forum, prelude to TICAD 8, African Development Bank Group (Abidjan) 23 July 2021. Access Date: 22 December 2021. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/hundreds-gather-third-japan-africa-business-forum-prelude-ticad-8-44771>

<sup>2112</sup> CCCPA, Government of Japan and UNDP Launch Two Cooperation Projects, Cairo International Center For Conflict, Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding (Cairo) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2021. <https://www.cccpa-eg.org/news-details/914>

<sup>2113</sup> Diplomatic Bluebook 2021, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) August 2021. Access Date: 22 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/other/bluebook/2021/en\\_html/chapter2/c020802.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/other/bluebook/2021/en_html/chapter2/c020802.html)

<sup>2114</sup> Japan Contributes to Explosive Hazard Management in Somalia, UNMAS (New York) 3 August 2021. Access Date: 22 December 2021. <https://www.unmas.org/en/japan-contributes-to-explosive-hazard-management-somalia-1>

<sup>2115</sup> Japan and WFP support public-private partnership for improved health and nutrition in Ghana, World Food Programme (Rome) 21 October 2021. Access Date: 22 December 2021. <https://www.wfp.org/news/japan-and-wfp-support-public-private-partnership-improved-health-and-nutrition-ghana>

assistance, planning, fairness and transparency. This contribution serves Japan's commitment to increase transparency and anti-corruption within African countries.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to promote sustainable growth in Africa. Japan has taken action to support sustainable growth in Africa by financing initiatives which increase economic growth, education, gender equality and election transparency. These actions support the African Union Agenda 2063 in the areas of environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities, modern agriculture for increased productivity and production and the preservation of peace, security and stability.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Maeve Kelly*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to support sustainable growth in Africa.

On 12 October 2021, CDC Group plc, the United Kingdom's development finance institution and impact investor, and DP World entered a long-term partnership that aims to accelerate Africa's trade and economic potential.<sup>2117</sup> The partnership's initial focus is the expansion and modernization of three ports in Sokhna (Egypt), Dakar (Senegal) and Berbera (Somaliland). With the United Kingdom's investment of GBP1.7 billion, the Minister for Africa, Vicky Ford, notes that the three ports will "create 5 million new jobs and increase trade for 35 million people."<sup>2118</sup>

On 1 November 2021, CDC Group committed to investing over GBP3 billion over the next five years to aid emerging African and Asian economies to combat the climate emergency.<sup>2119</sup> The commitment, made at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, follows Prime Minister Boris Johnson's announcement of the new "Clean Green Initiative" which helps developing countries procure green technology and sustainable economic growth.

On 2 November 2021, the government of the United Kingdom, alongside the governments of France, Germany, the European Union and the United States, announced the Just Energy Transition Partnership to support decarbonisation efforts in South Africa.<sup>2120</sup> The Partnership will mobilise USD8.5 billion to accelerate decarbonisation in South Africa's economy, with particular attention to the electricity system, to help it achieve its national emissions reduction goals.

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<sup>2116</sup> Japan Contribution Japanese YEN 198 Million to support national elections in Libya, UNDP (New York) 25 October 2021. Access Date: 22 December 2021. <https://www.arabstates.undp.org/content/rbas/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2021/japan-contribution-japanese-yen-198-million-to-support-national-.html>

<sup>2117</sup> We're partnering with DP World to chart a stronger course for African trade around the world, CDC Group Plc (London) 12 October 2021. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://www.cdcgroup.com/en/news-insight/news/were-partnering-with-dp-world-to-chart-a-stronger-course-for-african-trade-around-the-world/>

<sup>2118</sup> Africa and the UK: Priorities for engagement in 2022 - Minister for Africa speech at Chatham House, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/africa-and-the-uk-priorities-for-engagement-in-2022-minister-for-africa-speech-at-chatham-house>

<sup>2119</sup> CDC Group to invest over £3 billion over the next five years to combat the climate emergency, CDC Group Plc (London) 1 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. <https://www.cdcgroup.com/en/news-insight/news/cdc-group-to-invest-over-3-billion-over-the-next-five-years-to-combat-the-climate-emergency/>

<sup>2120</sup> France, Germany, UK, US and EU launch ground-breaking International Just Energy Transition Partnership with South Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_5768](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5768)

On 3 November 2021, the United Kingdom government announced a GBP200 million “Climate Innovation Facility.”<sup>2121</sup> The facility will pioneer modern, sustainable innovations, such as the untested “pay-at-harvest” system created by Kenyan agritech business Pula, which aims to boost agriculture in multiple African nations.

On 4 November 2021, the United Kingdom government called for an immediate de-escalation of the civil war in Ethiopia after Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed declared a state of emergency in Tigray.<sup>2122</sup>

On 10 November, the Foreign Secretary, Dominic Raab, spoke with Prime Minister Abiy on a phone call to address the need for access to humanitarian aid and increased civilian security in Ethiopia.<sup>2123</sup>

On 6 December 2021, the United Kingdom’s Ambassador to the United Nations, James Roscoe, attended the United Nations Security Council briefing on the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) and stated the United Kingdom’s support for a “gradual, sustainable withdrawal” of MONUSCO.<sup>2124</sup> He emphasized that the United Kingdom will fully support MONUSCO in collaboration with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in achieving the withdrawal as well as ensuring a more stable, peaceful and prosperous DRC.

On 14 December 2021, the United Kingdom’s Minister for Africa, Vicky Ford, gave a speech regarding the United Kingdom’s priorities as she takes on her new role.<sup>2125</sup> She emphasized that the United Kingdom needed to invest in building long-term partnerships in Africa and listed five main priorities for 2022: 1) strengthen freedom and democracy for more peaceful nations; 2) Strengthening economic partnerships to stimulate job growth; 3) Encourage clean, green and sustainable growth; 4) Help African countries become safer and 5) Empowering women and girls.

On 15 December 2021, the United Kingdom’s Ambassador to the United Nations, James Roscoe, stated that the United Kingdom remained concerned regarding the human rights violations in the North-West and South-West regions of Cameroon and condemns the terrorist attacks that have occurred.<sup>2126</sup> He stated that the United Kingdom government will continue to support the regional stabilisation facility. In addition, it was highlighted that the United Kingdom remains concerned with the violence in the Central African Republic and commended President Touadera for his call for a ceasefire, stating the importance of an “inclusive peace-building process.”

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to support sustainable growth in Africa. The United Kingdom has taken full action to support sustainable growth by assisting in initiatives that bolster African nations’ economic potential, environmental sustainability and resilience, modernization of agriculture and promotion of civil peace. These actions support the African Union Agenda 2063 in the areas of

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<sup>2121</sup> Collaborating to accelerate investment in climate adaptation and resilience, CDC Group Plc (London) 8 November 2021. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://www.cdcgroup.com/en/news-insight/news/collaborating-to-accelerate-investment-in-climate-adaptation-and-resilience/>

<sup>2122</sup> Ethiopia: Warnings of “full-scale humanitarian crisis” in Tigray region, UK Parliament House of Commons Library (London) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/ethiopia-fears-of-civil-war-in-tigray-region/>

<sup>2123</sup> Ethiopia: Warnings of “full-scale humanitarian crisis” in Tigray region, UK Parliament House of Commons Library (London) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/ethiopia-fears-of-civil-war-in-tigray-region/>

<sup>2124</sup> Progressing the transition towards a more peaceful and stable DRC, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 6 December 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/progressing-the-transition-towards-a-more-peaceful-and-stable-drc>

<sup>2125</sup> Africa and the UK: Priorities for engagement in 2022- Minister for Africa Speech at Chatham House, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/africa-and-the-uk-priorities-for-engagement-in-2022-minister-for-africa-speech-at-chatham-house>

<sup>2126</sup> Continued efforts to support and promote peace, stability, and security in Central Africa, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/continued-efforts-to-support-and-promote-peace-stability-and-security-in-central-africa>

environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities, modern agriculture for increased productivity and production and preservation of peace, security and stability.

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

*Analyst: Nouran El Atreby*

### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to support sustainable growth in Africa.

On 17 June 2021, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) announced over USD91 million in funding for addressing humanitarian concerns resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic in over a dozen African countries.<sup>2127</sup> Responding to gender-related violence is a stated goal for the funding directed towards countries including but not limited to Burkina Faso, Somalia and Sudan.

On 19 October 2021, at the Financial Times Africa Summit, USAID confirmed that it would provide technical assistance and that the United States International Development Finance Corporation will provide a credit guarantee to the Caisse Régionale de Refinancement Hypothécaire in support of an effort to raise over USD200 million in private capital from the United States to increase access to affordable housing in West Africa.<sup>2128</sup>

On 21 October 2021, at the African Growth and Opportunity Act Ministerial, USAID announced the launch of the Africa Trade and Investment programme.<sup>2129</sup> Objectives of the initiative include 1) Encourage investment in shared value-chains, increase sourcing and grow exports 2) “Support African exports under the African Growth and Opportunity Act and help African firms in eligible countries export to the United States tariff free” 3) “Support implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area to increase intra-regional trade in Africa and attract increased U.S. business interest” 4) “Provide direct technical and legal assistance, in collaboration with the U.S. government, to help firms, government, and industries propose and implement regulatory reforms that will remove restrictions, advance specific deals, and open sectors for more investment.”<sup>2130</sup>

On 2 November 2021, at the United Nations Climate Change Conference, the President of the United States, Joe Biden, recognized USAID’s commitment to the Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate (AIM for Climate) and pledged to mobilize USD1 billion over five years.<sup>2131</sup> AIM for Climate includes the commitment to raise agricultural productivity in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa by 25 per cent.

On 2 November 2021, the United States government, alongside the governments of France, Germany, the United Kingdom and the European Union, announced the Just Energy Transition Partnership to support

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<sup>2127</sup> USAID Provides \$91 Million In Urgently Needed Food, Water, And Health Care For Covid-19 Response Across Africa, US Agency for International Development (Washington D.C) 17 June 2021. Access Date: 19 December 2021. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jun-17-2021-usaid-provides-91-million-urgently-needed-food-water-and-health-care>

<sup>2128</sup> Through Prosper Africa, USAID Drives Investment In Affordable Housing Across West Africa, US Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 19 October 2021. Access Date: 11 December 2021: <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/oct-19-2021-through-prosper-africa-usaid-drives-investment-affordable-housing-west-africa>

<sup>2129</sup> USAID Delivers On Prosper Africa Goals With Africa Trade And Investment Program, US Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 21 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/oct-21-2021-usaid-delivers-prosper-africa-goals-africa-trade-and-investment>

<sup>2130</sup> Africa Trade And Investment Fact Sheet, US Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 19 November 2021. Access Date: 22 December 2021. <https://www.usaid.gov/prosperafrica/fact-sheets/africa-trade-and-investment-fact-sheet>

<sup>2131</sup> USAID Highlights Commitment To Climate-Smart Agriculture Research And Innovation, US Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 24 December 2021. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/nov-2-2021-usaid-highlights-commitment-climate-smart-agriculture-research-innovation>

decarbonisation efforts in South Africa.<sup>2132</sup> The Partnership will mobilise USD8.5 billion to accelerate decarbonisation in South Africa's economy, with particular attention to the electricity system, to help it achieve its national emissions reduction goals.

On 11 November 2021, the United States African Development Foundation announced the first 25 enterprises to receive technological assistance and financial grants under the African Resilience Initiative for Entrepreneurs.<sup>2133</sup> This grant will contribute to the development of African economies by assisting in the growth of small and medium sized enterprises.

On 25 October 2021, the US decided to withhold the delivery of USD700 million in Economic Support Funds to Sudan, which was originally intended to aid in Sudan's democratic transition, so as to avoid the misappropriation of these funds due to a military takeover in the country.<sup>2134</sup> However, on 2 February 2022, the USAID announced that they will continue providing some of the USD700 million by bypassing the military, such as by allocating USD108 million to support "the growth of civil society organizations in the country" and providing education to help citizens prepare for an eventual democratic transition.<sup>2135</sup>

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to sustainable growth in Africa. It has contributed to the development of more productive agriculture, environmentally sustainable economies, supported the growth of sustainable infrastructure, advanced stability and security and fostered gender equality. These actions support the African Union Agenda 2063 in the areas of well-educated citizens and skills revolution underpinned by science, technology and innovation, modern agriculture for increased productivity and production, environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities, preservation of peace, security and stability and full gender equality in all spheres of life.

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

*Analyst: Daniel Yiban Mao*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to support sustainable growth in Africa.

On 16 June 2021, the European Commission announced the provision of an additional EUR20 million to finance a new power plant in Rwaguba, Democratic Republic of Congo to support electricity loss due to a recent volcanic eruption.<sup>2136</sup> The power plant will be hydroelectric and aims to provide more households and schools with electricity while promoting opportunities for sustainable growth.

On 18 June 2021, the European Union provided EUR20 million in humanitarian aid to Algeria, Egypt and Libya.<sup>2137</sup> The aim of the aid was to support vulnerable communities in the region and focused on aiding

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<sup>2132</sup> France, Germany, UK, US and EU launch ground-breaking International Just Energy Transition Partnership with South Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2021.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_5768](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5768)

<sup>2133</sup> USADF Announces the Inaugural Grantees of the African Resilience Initiative for Entrepreneurs (ARIE), US African Development Foundation (Washington D.C.) 12 November 2021. Access Date: 19 November 2021. <https://www.usadf.gov/press-release/815>

<sup>2134</sup> Statement by Administrator Samantha Power on Military Takeover in Sudan, US Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 25 October 2021. Access Date: 7 February 2022. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/oct-25-2021-statement-administrator-power-military-takeover-sudan>

<sup>2135</sup> US will resume aid funding for Sudan but bypass military government, Devex (Washington D.C.) 2 February 2022. Access Date: 7 February 2022. <https://www.devex.com/news/us-will-resume-aid-funding-for-sudan-but-bypass-military-government-102585>

<sup>2136</sup> EU boosts access to electricity in the Virunga area in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, European Commission (Brussels) 16 June 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_2992](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_2992)

<sup>2137</sup> North Africa: EU mobilises €20 million in humanitarian aid for vulnerable populations, European Commission (Brussels) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 3 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_2874](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_2874)

those affected by political and protracted crises, including the Sahrawi refugee crisis in Algeria, the Libyan crisis and refugee seekers in Egypt. The aid will go towards the provision of basic needs in all three countries such as food, clean water, education access, healthcare, shelters and protection services.

On 22 June 2021, the European Commission launched a Strategic Dialogue between the European Union and the Republic of Kenya, agreed to on 21 June 2021.<sup>2138</sup> The aim of the dialogue is to strengthen the EU and Kenya's multilateral cooperation on the topics of "democracy, governance and human rights, including gender equality, peace, security and stability, trade and investment, social development, climate change and green transition, the digital agenda" among others.

On 16 August 2021, the European Union released EUR700,000 from its Epidemic Tool to help Tunisia respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>2139</sup> The funding will help address the country's immediate needs related to COVID-19 cases and management. Similarly, the European Union anticipates its usage in coordinating and supporting Tunisia's vaccination campaign, which will aid the country in recovering from the long-term societal impact of COVID-19.

On 22 September 2021, the European Commission announced the provision of an additional EUR119 million in humanitarian and development aid to Yemen.<sup>2140</sup> The funds will go towards helping local authorities deliver and sustain basic services such as, education, health, water and energy supply from sustainable sources. The funding also aims to generate income for vulnerable households through the provision of livelihood opportunities in cultural heritage preservation and entrepreneurship, focusing on the Yemeni women and youth as the target population in this approach.

On 2 November 2021, the European Union government, alongside the governments of France, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States, announced the Just Energy Transition Partnership to support decarbonisation efforts in South Africa.<sup>2141</sup> The Partnership will mobilise USD8.5 billion to accelerate decarbonisation in South Africa's economy, with particular attention to the electricity system, to help it achieve its national emissions reduction goals.

On 3 November 2021, the European Commission allocated EUR2 million for those affected by recent floods in South Sudan.<sup>2142</sup> The funding will be channeled through the International Organization for Migration and will provide life-saving water and sanitation, shelter and other essential non-food items to vulnerable populations in the region.

On 13 December 2021, The European Union and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation in Dakar reported that they signed 1400 internship contracts in 2021 to promote job creation and stable

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<sup>2138</sup> The European Union and the Republic of Kenya launch strategic dialogue and engage towards implementing the East African Community Economic Partnership Agreement, European Commission (Brussels) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3151](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3151)

<sup>2139</sup> Coronavirus: 13 European countries provide urgent assistance to Tunisia, European Commission (Brussels) 16 August 2021. Access date: 3 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_4243](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_4243)

<sup>2140</sup> Yemen: EU allocates €119 additional million for humanitarian crisis, European Commission (Brussels) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 3 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_4807](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_4807)

<sup>2141</sup> France, Germany, UK, US and EU launch ground-breaking International Just Energy Transition Partnership with South Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_5768](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5768)

<sup>2142</sup> South Sudan: EU provides €2 million in emergency humanitarian funding for victims of floods, European Commission (Brussels) 3 November 2021. Access Date: 3 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_5783](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_5783)



employment.<sup>2143</sup> The project aims to support the private sector and job creation in Senegal in the regions of Dakar, Diourbel, Thiès, Kaolack, Louga and Saint-Louis.

On 17 December 2021, the European Commission allocated EUR21.5 million of additional humanitarian funding to the Horn of Africa.<sup>2144</sup> The funding will support life-saving operations that address the urgent needs of vulnerable populations in the affected areas of Somalia and Kenya. The European Commission will allocate EUR18.5 million to Somalia, offering access to emergency cash and food assistance, basic health and nutrition services, clear water, protection, shelter and education. In addition, it will allocate EUR3 million to Kenya with the aim of ensuring food assistance and access to healthcare, undernutrition treatment and education.

On 22 December 2021, the European Union allocated EUR15 million of additional monetary assistance to the Sahel region.<sup>2145</sup> This policy will top the EUR54 million in food and nutrition that had been given to four Sahel countries (Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania and Niger), which aims to assist vulnerable groups that have been affected by conflict, insecurity and forced displacement. The European Unions expects that this funding will further address the most intense needs in food and nutrition while reducing the impacts of a humanitarian crisis in 2022.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to support sustainable growth in Africa. The European Union has provided financial assistance to African nations that support education and employment opportunities, women's empowerment, climate preparedness and also aims to respond to political crises. These actions support the African Union Agenda 2063 in the areas of well-educated citizens and skills revolution underpinned by science, technology and innovation, environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities, preservation of peace, security and stability and full gender equality in all spheres of life.

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

*Analyst: Manuela Mora Castillo*

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<sup>2143</sup> PASPED: 1400 internship contracts signed in 2021 to promote job creation and stable employment, Italian Development Agency (Dakar) 13 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://dakar.aics.gov.it/2021/9447/>

<sup>2144</sup> Horn of Africa drought: EU allocates €21.5 million in additional humanitarian funding, European Commission (Brussels) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 3 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_6904](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_6904)

<sup>2145</sup> Sahel food crisis: EU allocates €15 million in additional humanitarian funding, European Commission (Brussels) 22 December 2021. Access Date: 22 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_7048](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_7048)

## 17. Infrastructure: Build Back Better

“We will develop a new partnership to build back better for the world, through a step change in our approach to investment for infrastructure, including through an initiative for clean and green growth.”

*Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.88 (94%)	

### Background

Among the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) devised by the United Nations (UN) in 2015, the importance of infrastructure is given significant weight – the UN notes that the development of proper infrastructure, partnered with continued and responsible industrialization and innovation, can “unleash dynamic and competitive economic forces that generate employment and income... [these phenomena] play a key role in introducing and promoting new technologies, facilitating international trade and enabling the efficient use of resources.”<sup>2146</sup>

As the decade went on, the UN stressed the importance of infrastructure in tackling all of the SDGs – in March 2019, seven different UN entities released a joint statement emphasising that “quality, resilient, and sustainable infrastructure is also essential for achieving inclusive growth and sustainable development, eradicating poverty, enhancing resilience to climate hazards, promoting societal well-being, and realizing all human rights.”<sup>2147</sup>

The COVID-19 pandemic has only aggravated current inequalities and has also “revealed the urgent need for resilient infrastructure.”<sup>2148</sup> In June 2021, prior to the G7 Summit in Cornwall, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) announced the creation of the Blue Dot Network’s Executive Consultation Group, which acknowledged that “quality infrastructure investment has a central role to play in driving a green and job-rich recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and supporting sustainable, resilient and inclusive economic growth... [and that] achieving global net-zero emissions globally will depend on the comprehensive roll-out of increasingly interconnected infrastructure systems ranging from solar power

<sup>2146</sup> Goal 9: Industries, Innovation, and Infrastructure, United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/infrastructure-industrialization/>

<sup>2147</sup> Interagency Statement On Sustainable Infrastructure: How can integrated approaches help deliver the 2030 Agenda?, Green Growth Knowledge Platform (Geneva) March 2019. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <https://www.greengrowthknowledge.org/research/interagency-statement-sustainable-infrastructure-how-can-integrated-approaches-help-deliver>

<sup>2148</sup> Goal 9: Industries, Innovation, and Infrastructure, United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/infrastructure-industrialization/>

plants and offshore wind turbines, to electric vehicle charging stations, electricity grids and green hydrogen networks.”<sup>2149</sup>

The actions of the OECD were complemented by G7 members later that month, as the political forum announced the establishment of the Build Back Better World (B3W) Partnership as a key outcome of the 2021 G7 Summit in Cornwall.<sup>2150</sup> As described by the United States, the B3W Partnership is “a values-driven, high-standard, and transparent infrastructure partnership led by major democracies to help narrow the [over USD40 trillion] infrastructure need in the developing world, which has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.” This partnership forms the basis upon which the G7 Research Group will analyze the compliance of G7 members.

While the introduction of the B3W Partnership may be relatively recent, the G7/G8 summit have identified infrastructure as an area of interest in prior communiqués. At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, the G8 committed to support African development and investment in infrastructure for local African businesses.<sup>2151</sup> This was part of the G8’s cooperation with the UN and African leaders on the Africa Action Plan and the forum’s focus on addressing “issues such as escalating poverty levels, underdevelopment, and the continued marginalization of Africa.”

At the 2008 Hokkaido-Toyako Summit, G8 members reaffirmed their commitments made at the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, and also placed additional emphasis on the Aid for Trade initiative, which aimed to “help developing countries build supply-side capacity and trade-related infrastructure in order to implement and benefit from WTO agreements, as well as increase overall trade.”<sup>2152</sup>

At the 2013 Lough Erne Summit, G8 members committed to partnering with other organizations to “invest in trade-related infrastructure projects in developing countries, with a focus on Africa.”<sup>2153</sup> This commitment emboldened G8 members to “explore and identify measures to facilitate institutional investments into bankable trade-related infrastructure projects in developing countries.”

At the 2014 Brussels Summit, G7 members, continuing their focus on African infrastructure, agreed to collaborate with African governments to “identify potential partnerships between the private sector, international financial institutions, and domestic polity, and to invest in energy-related infrastructure projects... [which included] working towards the establishment or upgrading of infrastructure for energy transport and storage; promotion of energy production, supply, use, transmission, and transit services; and investment in energy transportation routes and means of transport.”<sup>2154</sup>

At the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit, the new emphasis placed on infrastructure as a result of the aforementioned SDGs caused the G7 to place “similar emphasis on the importance of sustainable infrastructure development, acknowledging the role of innovative infrastructure financing and development

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<sup>2149</sup> Inaugural Meeting of the Blue Dot Network’s Executive Consultation Group, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 7 June 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/about/secretary-general/oecd-sg-remarks-at-blue-dot-network-meeting-7-june-2021.htm>

<sup>2150</sup> FACT SHEET: President Biden and G7 Leaders Launch Build Back Better World (B3W) Partnership, The White House (Washington, D.C.) 12 June 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/06/12/fact-sheet-president-biden-and-g7-leaders-launch-build-back-better-world-b3w-partnership/>

<sup>2151</sup> 2005 Gleneagles Final Compliance Report, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 June 2006. Access Date: 22 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2005compliance\\_final/index.html](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2005compliance_final/index.html)

<sup>2152</sup> 2008 Hokkaido Final Compliance Report, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 30 June 2009. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2008compliance-final/index.html>

<sup>2153</sup> 2013 Lough Erne Final Compliance Report, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 4 June 2014. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2013compliance-final/index.html>

<sup>2154</sup> 2014 Brussels Final Compliance Report, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 July 2015. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2014compliance/index.html>

in the long-term prosperity of developed and developing countries.”<sup>2155</sup> This new focus pushed members “to mobilize state resources to renew unfulfilled infrastructure projects or commission new programs and projects, which aim to improve the previous condition of infrastructure.”

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, G7 members placed emphasis on digital infrastructure in Africa, with digital infrastructure being defined “as the basic physical and organizational structures and facilities needed for the operation of the internet.”<sup>2156</sup> As such, G7 members focused on investment to enable digital infrastructure in African and traditionally underserved regions and countries.

### **Commitment Features**

The G7 commitment states that “we will develop a new partnership to build back better for the world, through a step change in our approach to investment for infrastructure, including through an initiative for clean and green growth.”<sup>2157</sup> This commitment has three interrelated pillars: first in developing a new partnership, second in taking a new approach to infrastructure investment and third in participating in clean and green growth.

In the first pillar, “we” refers to the G7 members. “Develop” is understood to mean to expand by a process of growth.<sup>2158</sup> “A new partnership” refers to the Build Back Better World (B3W) Partnership. B3W is focused on meeting the needs of low- and middle-income countries via infrastructure investment and is a point of strategic competition with China.<sup>2159</sup> The guiding principles of B3W are: values-driven, good governance and strong standards, climate-friendly, strong strategic partnerships, mobilize private capital through development finance, and enhancing the impact of multilateral public finance. For full compliance, a G7 member should express support for B3W and have contributed to its creation and development or continued development. This support can be through verbal affirmations from leaders in support of the strategic competition with China or guiding principles of B3W. Partial compliance will be assigned to members that only express support of B3W or contribute to its creation and development. Members that express doubt or criticism of B3W will fail to comply with this aspect of the commitment.

In the second pillar, “step change in approach” refers to the above guiding principles of B3W. “Investment” is understood to mean allocating funds or resources to achieve a result.<sup>2160</sup> “Infrastructure” within this commitment refers to the basic physical and organizational structures that a country needs to operate effectively.<sup>2161</sup> Actions that provide new investment towards programmes and initiatives that support one of the guiding principles of B3W will be counted towards compliance. Existing investments or investments that were previously promised or announced will not be counted towards compliance. For full compliance, definitive policy action or a verbal affirmation of a specific monetary amount can suffice. Verbal affirmations without a commitment of a monetary amount will count towards partial compliance. Additionally, some actions must be to support the needs of low- and middle-income countries for full compliance. Members do

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<sup>2155</sup> 2015 Schloss Elmau Final Compliance Report, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 May 2016. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2015compliance-final/index.html>

<sup>2156</sup> 2019 Biarritz Summit Final Compliance Report, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 December 2020. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2019compliance-final/index.html>

<sup>2157</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communique, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

<sup>2158</sup> Develop, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 29 December 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/develop>

<sup>2159</sup> FACT SHEET: President Biden and G7 Leaders Launch Build Back Better World (B3W) Partnership, The White House (Washington D.C.) 12 June 2021. Access Date: 26 October 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/06/12/fact-sheet-president-biden-and-g7-leaders-launch-build-back-better-world-b3w-partnership/>

<sup>2160</sup> Investment, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 29 September 2021. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/investment>

<sup>2161</sup> Infrastructure, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 29 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/infrastructure>

not need to take actions multilaterally for full compliance. Domestic actions will not be counted towards compliance.

In the third pillar, “clean” refers to a “low-pollution, low-emission world in which cleaner air, water, and oceans enable people to lead healthy, productive lives.”<sup>2162</sup> “Green” refers to a “world in which natural resources, including oceans, land, and forests, are sustainably managed and conserved to improve livelihoods.” For full compliance, members must take strong actions in initiatives for clean and green growth, such as financial contributions or policy action. Members must also contribute to any G7 clean and green initiatives with relation to infrastructure. Some examples include financial contributions towards existing or new initiatives that support renewable energy, water-management systems, or other green infrastructure initiatives. Verbal affirmations or attendance of meetings will count towards partial compliance. Both domestic and multilateral actions may be considered. If a member does not take action to address both clean and green initiatives, they will receive partial compliance.

For full compliance, or +1, G7 members must take action in all three pillars and be fully compliant in at least two of the pillars. A member that fully or partially complies with one or two out of the three pillars or partially complies with all three pillars will be given a score of partial compliance, or 0. Members will be given a score of non-compliance, or -1, if they fail to comply on all three pillars.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has NOT taken action in ANY of the three pillars in developing a new partnership, taking a new approach to infrastructure investment, and participating in clean and green infrastructure growth.
0	The G7 member has taken strong action on ONE OR TWO pillars in developing a new partnership, taking a new approach to infrastructure investment, and participating in clean and green infrastructure growth OR has partially complied with all three pillars.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong action in ALL three pillars in developing a new partnership, taking a new approach to infrastructure investment, and participating in clean and green infrastructure growth, OR the G7 member has taken strong action in TWO pillars and weak action in the other pillar.

*Compliance Director: Joy Fan  
Lead Analyst: Jai Singh*

### Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to develop a new partnership to build back better for the world, through a step change in our approach to investment for infrastructure, including through an initiative for clean and green growth.

On 6 July 2021, Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade Mary Ng met with US Trade Representative Katherine Tai. Both committed to cooperate to address shared goals of building back better.<sup>2163</sup>

On 31 October 2021, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Jonathan Wilkinson attended and co-hosted the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) with UK COP26 President Alok

<sup>2162</sup> Toward a Clean, Green, Resilient World for All, The World Bank Group (Washington D.C.) n.d. Access Date: 29 September 2021. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/environment/publication/environment-strategy-toward-clean-green-resilient-world>

<sup>2163</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai’s Meeting with Canada’s Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade Mary Ng, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 7 February 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/july/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-canadas-minister-small-business-export-promotion-and>

Sharma, to increase trust between developed and developing countries.<sup>2164</sup> The Minister gave verbal affirmation that Canada alongside its allies would take “urgent climate action” both domestically and internationally to make sure that developing countries have the tools to adapt to climate change. As a part of this affirmation, Canada had reiterated its intention to double its climate finance pledge from CAD2.65 billion in 2015 to CAD5.3 billion in 2021.

On 10 November 2021, Minister of Transport Omar Alghabra attended COP26 to build partnerships that would encourage the transition to electric vehicles.<sup>2165</sup> Additionally, Canada signed onto the Clydebank Declaration which works with the United Kingdom, the United States, and other G7 members to establish “green shipping corridors” or “zero-emissions maritime routes” between a minimum of two ports.<sup>2166</sup>

On 10 November 2021, Canada became a signatory to the International Aviation Climate Ambition Coalition, a partnership including the US and the UK, among others, to promote infrastructure needed to reduce carbon emissions for air travel between countries.<sup>2167</sup> The partnership includes designing infrastructure to achieve limited competition between land use and water supply.

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to develop a new partnership to build back better for the world through a step change in our approach to investment for infrastructure, including through an initiative for clean and green growth. Canada has taken preliminary action in supporting B3W and taking a new approach to infrastructure investment by cooperating with other G7 members and reiterating its commitment to building back better. Additionally, Canada has participated in clean and green infrastructure growth by signing on to new partnerships. However, Canada has failed to take strong enough action in each of the three pillars to warrant full compliance.

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Christopher X. Henry*

#### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to develop a new partnership to build back better for the world, through a step change in our approach to investment for infrastructure, including through an initiative for clean and green growth.

On 23 June 2021, the French Development Agency (AFD) signed a letter of intent with the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality promising a loan of EUR93 million to assist with the construction of the final phase of Istanbul’s tramway line located within the Golden Horn.<sup>2168</sup> This funding will support the

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<sup>2164</sup> Canada selected to co-lead work to build an international climate finance action plan ahead of COP26, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 05 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/07/canada-selected-to-co-lead-work-to-build-an-international-climate-finance-action-plan-ahead-of-cop26.html>

<sup>2165</sup> Minister of Transport advances Canada’s efforts to fight climate change at COP26, Transport Canada (Glasgow) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/transport-canada/news/2021/11/minister-of-transport-advances-canadas-efforts-to-fight-climate-change-at-cop26.html>

<sup>2166</sup> COP 26: Clydebank Declaration for green shipping corridors, UK Department for Transport (Glasgow) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cop-26-clydebank-declaration-for-green-shipping-corridors/cop-26-clydebank-declaration-for-green-shipping-corridors>

<sup>2167</sup> COP26 declaration: International Aviation Climate Ambition Coalition, UK Department for Transport (Glasgow) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cop-26-declaration-international-aviation-climate-ambition-coalition/cop-26-declaration-international-aviation-climate-ambition-coalition>

<sup>2168</sup> Final Phase of Istanbul’s Golden Horn Tramway On track with AFD Support, French Development Agency (Paris) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 10 November 2021. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/final-phase-istanbuls-golden-horn-tramway-track-afd-support>

construction of two stations and 1.1 kilometers of tracks. Additionally, it will help reduce 115,000 tons of carbon dioxide emissions each year over a 30-year period.

On 6 July 2021, the AFD signed an agreement with the EU and the World Bank to renovate water, sanitation and waste management systems in Turkey's municipalities located in the south of the country.<sup>2169</sup> Through its contribution to the joint fund, totaling EUR277 million, the AFD will support 19 out of 40 renovation projects.

On 19 July 2021, France issued a joint declaration following the Fifth France-Oceania Summit alongside "Heads of State, Government and Territories or representatives" from Pacific nations affirming their commitment to support infrastructure projects that are financially and environmentally sustainable.<sup>2170</sup> In this declaration, France also announces its intent to uphold the UN's 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement.

On 2 November 2021, France – together with the UK, the US, Germany and the EU – announced a partnership with South Africa to help transition their economy to a clean energy economy.<sup>2171</sup> The partnership aims to help South Africa close coal plants by investing in clean energy infrastructure and providing aid to coal-reliant communities.

On 10 November 2021, France signed a call to action promising to achieve "zero-emission road transport" by deploying infrastructure to charge electric vehicles.<sup>2172</sup> Additionally, France joined the International Aviation Climate Ambition Coalition, in which signatories pledge to reduce emissions in the aviation sector.

On 17 December 2021, the AFD and European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) announced that they had signed an agreement with Serbia to finance the expansion and creation of eight landfills in total.<sup>2173</sup> To honour this agreement, the AFD will commit EUR75 million through a sovereign loan to Serbia while the EBRD invests an identical amount also as a sovereign loan. Through this initiative, the AFD will help reduce 178,000 tonnes of emissions and increase recycling capacity "by more than 19,000 tonnes" annually. Lastly, this agreement complies with the EU's standards for "biodegradable waste treatment and recovery" in addition to advancing the "circular economy of recyclable waste," making it a green and clean infrastructure initiative.

France has fully complied with its commitment to develop a new partnership to build back better for the world, through a step change in our approach to investment for infrastructure, including through an initiative for clean and green growth. Although France has taken weak action towards supporting the development of B3W, France has taken strong action to support initiatives that align with the values of the Build Back Better Partnership and promoted green infrastructure.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Dael Sebastian Vasquez-Hernandez*

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<sup>2169</sup> An Ambitious Project to Improve Water and Sanitation Infrastructure in Southern Turkey, French Development Agency (Paris) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 8 November 2021. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/ambitious-project-improve-water-sanitation-infrastructures-cities-southern-turkey>

<sup>2170</sup> Fifth France-Oceania Summit, Embassy of France in the United States (Washington) 19 July 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022 <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article10382>

<sup>2171</sup> Remarks by President Biden in Meeting on the Build Back Better World Initiative, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 16 November 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2021/11/02/remarks-by-president-biden-in-meeting-on-the-build-back-better-world-initiative/>

<sup>2172</sup> Adoption of the Glasgow Climate Pact at COP26: building on the momentum, Embassy of France in the United States (Washington D.C.) 15 November 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article10569>

<sup>2173</sup> EBRD and AFD Finance Serbia's Regional Landfills, French Development Agency (Paris) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 10 January 2022. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/communique-de-presse/ebrd-and-afd-finance-serbia-regional-landfills?origin=/en/actualites/communique-de-presse>

## Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to develop a new partnership to build back better for the world, through a step change in our approach to investment for infrastructure, including through an initiative for clean and green growth.

On 8 November 2021, during the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26), Germany pledged an additional EUR150 million towards adaptation finance for infrastructure addressing climate change.<sup>2174</sup>

On 12 November 2021, during the COP26 summit, Germany pledged EUR10 million to address losses and damage in developing countries that arises from climate change.<sup>2175</sup> Minister of Environment Svenja Schulze stated Germany's intention of supporting developing nations and sending a message that "developed countries are taking the matter seriously."

On 22 June 2021, the European Commission endorsed Germany's plan for using EUR25.6 billion in grants from the Recovery and Resilience Facility to address the needs of the German and European economy during the financial recovery.<sup>2176</sup> The plan highlights that the funds will be used to transition old infrastructure towards digital and environmentally sustainable systems, which Germany believes will enhance the resilience of the European Single Economy. The Commission noted that Germany's plan will feature a 42 per cent allotment of funds to green infrastructure and 52 per cent towards digital transitions.

On 29 July 2021, Minister of State Dorothee Bär signed a joint declaration with Spain to "[build] an ecosystem of digital identities across borders."<sup>2177</sup> This system of digital identities, Germany believes, will be the first step towards successful digitisation and protection of individual data sovereignty.

On 27 August 2021, in a speech to the G20 Investment Summit, Chancellor Angela Merkel reaffirmed Germany's commitment to the Compact for Africa program. She highlighted three pillars of "development investment funds" that were guiding Germany's engagement with the African Market.<sup>2178</sup> These pillars (AfricaConnect, AfricaGrow and Africa Business Network) are backed by a EUR500 million investment by Germany. Through these networks, Germany has also promoted the expansion of German businesses into developing infrastructure for African members of Compact.

On 2 November 2021, Germany – together with the UK, France, the US and the EU – announced a partnership with South Africa to help transition their economy to a clean energy economy.<sup>2179</sup> The

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<sup>2174</sup> Germany commits 150 million euros for climate change adaptation in developing countries, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Glasgow) 8 November 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.bmuv.de/en/pressrelease/germany-commits-150-million-euros-for-climate-change-adaptation-in-developing-countries>

<sup>2175</sup> 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference: End of the fossil fuel era, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Glasgow) 13 November 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.bmuv.de/en/pressrelease/26th-united-nations-climate-change-conference-end-of-the-fossil-fuel-era>

<sup>2176</sup> NextGenerationEU: European Commission endorses Germany's recovery and resilience plan, European Commission (Brussels) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3133](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3133)

<sup>2177</sup> Germany and Spain push digital identity agenda forward, The Federal Government (Berlin) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/digital-identity-ecosystem-1947474>

<sup>2178</sup> Speech by Federal Chancellor Dr Angela Merkel at the G20 Investment Summit – German Business and the Compact with African Countries on 27 August 2021, The Federal Government (Berlin) 27 August 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/speech-by-federal-chancellor-dr-angela-merkel-at-the-g20-investment-summit-german-business-and-the-compact-with-african-countries-on-27-august-2021-1956784>

<sup>2179</sup> Remarks by President Biden in Meeting on the Build Back Better World Initiative, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 16 November 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2021/11/02/remarks-by-president-biden-in-meeting-on-the-build-back-better-world-initiative/>



partnership aims to help South Africa close coal plants by investing in clean energy infrastructure and providing aid to coal-reliant communities.

On 25 November 2021, the KfW Development Bank, a subsidiary of the state-owned KfW bank, awarded a contract to GOPA Intec, an independent energy consulting company, to support the construction of an electricity project in Côte d'Ivoire.<sup>2180</sup>

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to develop a new partnership to build back better for the world, through a step change in our approach to investment for infrastructure, including through an initiative for clean and green growth. Germany has taken action by creating and supporting several programs with the purpose of strategic partnerships in the developing world, along with mobilizing private finance for climate-friendly projects.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Aviral Dhamija*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to develop a new partnership to build back better for the world, through a step change in our approach to investment for infrastructure, including through an initiative for clean and green growth.

On 22 June 2021, Undersecretary of State for Foreign Affairs Manlio Di Stefano hosted the Economic and Technical Commission between Italy and Mongolia. The consultations expanded collaborations between the two countries on infrastructure and energy. The undersecretary stated that Italy will “contribute to the responsible use of resources and the transition to sustainable energy sources” in Mongolia.<sup>2181</sup>

On 28 July 2021, Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Marina Sereni hosted the Secretary General of the Union for the Mediterranean Nasser Kamel. The meeting underlined “the excellent level of mutual collaboration in the context of initiatives in priority sectors, such as, among other things, those of the blue economy, the energy transition and the fight against climate change.”<sup>2182</sup>

On 20 September 2021, Prime Minister Mario Draghi addressed the UN General Assembly’s ‘Climate Moment’ Round Table, speaking on the importance of encouraging the green transition on an international scale, particularly in emerging markets and developing economies.<sup>2183</sup> Prime Minister Draghi announced Italy’s intent to invest in renewed clean and green infrastructure, stating that in this international effort, “public investments aimed at research and development need to become priorities for critical areas such as electrification, hydrogen, bioenergy and carbon capture.”

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<sup>2180</sup> Energy Consulting for electricity project in Côte D'Ivoire, Africa Business Guide (Berlin) 25 November 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.africa-business-guide.de/abg-de/meldungen/energieberatung-fuer-stromprojekt-in-cote-d-ivoire-761806>

<sup>2181</sup> Undersecretary Di Stefano chairs the Economic and Technical Commission and the Italy-Mongolia Political Consultations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 22 June 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 November 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/06/sottosegretario-di-stefano-presiede-la-commissione-economica-e-tecnica-e-le-consultazioni-politiche-italia-mongolia/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/06/sottosegretario-di-stefano-presiede-la-commissione-economica-e-tecnica-e-le-consultazioni-politiche-italia-mongolia/)

<sup>2182</sup> Meeting of the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Marina Sereni, with the Secretary General of the Union for the Mediterranean, Nasser Kamel, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 29 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 November 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/07/incontro-della-vice-ministra-degli-esteri-e-della-cooperazione-internazionale-marina-sereni-con-il-segretario-generale-dell-unione-per-il-mediterraneo-nasser-kamel/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/07/incontro-della-vice-ministra-degli-esteri-e-della-cooperazione-internazionale-marina-sereni-con-il-segretario-generale-dell-unione-per-il-mediterraneo-nasser-kamel/)

<sup>2183</sup> Prime Minister Draghi’s remarks to UN climate roundtable, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 20 September 2021. Access Date: 19 November 2021. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/onu-intervento-del-presidente-draghi-alla-tavola-rotonda-sul-clima/17938>

On 28 September 2021, Foreign Minister Luigi Di Maio hosted the first Italian-Korean Strategic Meetings on Industry, Energy and Commerce, in which the two countries coordinated new intergovernmental cooperation, particularly concerning decarbonization and renewable energy initiatives on the global level.<sup>2184</sup>

On 1 October 2021, Minister Di Maio attended the Global Forum on Steel Excess Capacity and encouraged new solutions for the global steel sector to transition to a green economy and innovative technologies to aid in the reduction of steel overcapacity in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>2185</sup>

On 7 October 2021, Undersecretary Di Stefano met with the Deputy Minister for Asia of the United Kingdom at the Ministerial Council of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. The undersecretary announced that Italy is “doing everything possible so that the negotiations [at the 26 Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change] bring tangible results...and multilateral economic support for the ecological transition by countries in progress of development.”<sup>2186</sup>

On 9 October 2021, the government commenced its third session of “Encounters with Africa,” uniting public and private actors from across the African continent and the Italian peninsula.<sup>2187</sup> The conference aligns with G7 commitments to build back better, featuring panels intended to stimulate discussion on African infrastructure innovation in renewable energy, green finance, sustainable environment and the blue economy.

On 9 October 2021, the government hosted the first day of the G20 Innovation League, for which Italy united 100 G20 startups to generate solutions to several current global challenges, such as Cleantech.<sup>2188</sup> Minister Di Maio stated that this framework “is a valuable model to be exploited: cooperation, innovative ideas, massive investments and courageous policies are the ingredients to guarantee future generations a sustainable, inclusive and resilient future.”

On 25 October 2021, Minister Di Maio attended the Middle East Green Initiative Summit and expressed Italy’s interest in aiding developing countries in green infrastructure innovation.<sup>2189</sup> The minister iterated that

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<sup>2184</sup> Undersecretary Di Stefano chairs the 1<sup>st</sup> session of the South Korean-Italian Strategic Meetings on Industry, Energy and Commerce, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 28 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 November 2021.

[https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/09/sottosegretario-di-stefano-presiede-la-1-sessione-degli-incontri-strategici-italo-sudcoreani-in-materia-di-industria-energia-e-commercio/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/09/sottosegretario-di-stefano-presiede-la-1-sessione-degli-incontri-strategici-italo-sudcoreani-in-materia-di-industria-energia-e-commercio/)

<sup>2185</sup> Ministerial Conference of the “Global Forum on Steel Excess Capacity” (GFSEC) – Press release by the President, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 1 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 November 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/conferenza-ministeriale-del-global-forum-on-steel-excess-capacity-comunicato-stampa-del-presidente-ita/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/conferenza-ministeriale-del-global-forum-on-steel-excess-capacity-comunicato-stampa-del-presidente-ita/)

<sup>2186</sup> Undersecretary Di Stefano in conversation with UK Deputy Minister for Asia, Amanda Milling, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 7 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 November 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/il-sottosegretario-di-stefano-a-colloquio-con-la-vice-ministra-per-l-asia-del-regno-unito-amanda-milling/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/il-sottosegretario-di-stefano-a-colloquio-con-la-vice-ministra-per-l-asia-del-regno-unito-amanda-milling/)

<sup>2187</sup> “Encounters with Africa” kicks off – Rome, 7-8 October, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 7 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 November 2021.

[https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/nota-farnesina-al-via-incontri-con-l-africa-roma-7-8-ottobre/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/nota-farnesina-al-via-incontri-con-l-africa-roma-7-8-ottobre/)  
<sup>2188</sup> G20 Innovation League (Sorrento, 9-10 October 2021), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 6 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 22 November 2021.

[https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/g20-innovation-league-sorrento-9-10-ottobre-2021/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/g20-innovation-league-sorrento-9-10-ottobre-2021/)  
<sup>2189</sup> Undersecretary Di Stefano speaks at the Middle East Green Initiative Summit in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 25 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 22 November 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/sottosegretario-di-stefano-interviene-al-summit-middle-east-green-initiative-a-riad-arabia-saudita/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/sottosegretario-di-stefano-interviene-al-summit-middle-east-green-initiative-a-riad-arabia-saudita/)

“it will be essential in this sense that developed countries concretely help developing countries to ‘skip’ the fossil era and industrialize directly on sustainable logics.”

On 29 October 2021, Prime Minister Draghi spoke with UN Secretary General Guterres at the G20 Summit and reaffirmed Italy’s interests in “combating climate change, economic and social recovery with special attention to the most vulnerable countries.”<sup>2190</sup>

On 31 October 2021, Prime Minister Draghi closed the G20 Summit by delivering host country Italy’s final remarks. He announced that Italy will uphold a five-year commitment of EUR1.4 billion per annum within a greater G20 collaborative fund to finance clean and green initiatives in the poorest developing countries.<sup>2191</sup>

On 17 December 2021, Deputy Minister Sereni concluded the 2021 Joint Committee for Development Committee and approved a EUR86.3 million development aid package to countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.<sup>2192</sup> The package started new initiatives to support emerging sectors in agriculture security, health and education infrastructure.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to develop a new partnership to build back better for the world, through a step change in our approach to investment for infrastructure, including through an initiative for clean and green growth. Italy has taken strong action in upholding its commitments to B3W pledges, demonstrating global leadership and developing new partnerships through its organization of both the G20 and COP26 Summits. Additionally, Italy has specifically engaged in cooperative projects that specifically target clean and green growth in developing countries.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Timothy Tennant*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to develop a new partnership to build back better for the world, through a step change in our approach to investment for infrastructure, including through an initiative for clean and green growth.

On 18 June 2021, the government endorsed the Growth Strategy Action Plan. The plan will establish a JPY2 trillion fund to support the research and development of decarbonization technologies.<sup>2193</sup> The purpose of the Growth Strategy Action Plan is to maximize the introduction of renewable energy. The Investment Promotion Tax System and regulations will be geared towards promoting investment in products with high decarbonization potential. If necessary, the government will consider measures to encourage further investment to meet the 2030 emission reduction target.

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<sup>2190</sup> G20, President Draghi meets UN Secretary General Guterres, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 29 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 22 November 2021. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/g20-il-presidente-draghi-riceve-il-segretario-generale-delle-nazioni-unite-antonio-guterres>

<sup>2191</sup> G20 Rome Summit, the final press conference by President Draghi, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 31 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 26 November 2021. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/g20-rome-summit-la-conferenza-stampa-conclusiva-del-presidente-draghi/18429>

<sup>2192</sup> Nota Farnesina – Development Cooperation, Deputy Minister Sereni chairs the Joint Committee (Rome) 17 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 14 January 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/12/nota-farnesina-cooperazione-allo-sviluppo-vice-ministra-sereni-presiede-comitato-congiunto-2/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/12/nota-farnesina-cooperazione-allo-sviluppo-vice-ministra-sereni-presiede-comitato-congiunto-2/)

<sup>2193</sup> Green Growth Strategy Through Achieving Carbon Neutrality in 2050, Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (Tokyo) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/policy/energy\\_environment/global\\_warming/ggs2050/pdf/ggs\\_full\\_en1013.pdf](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/policy/energy_environment/global_warming/ggs2050/pdf/ggs_full_en1013.pdf)

On 2 July 2021, Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga attended the Ninth Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM9).<sup>2194</sup> At PALM9, Prime Minister Suga affirmed Japan's commitment to promoting infrastructure projects throughout Pacific Island states. These infrastructure projects include the development of roads, communication networks, ports and more.

On 2 July 2021, Prime Minister Suga reaffirmed Japan's commitment to becoming carbon neutral by 2050 and to reduce Green House Gas Emissions (GHGE) by 46 per cent in 2030, relative to fiscal year 2013.<sup>2195</sup>

On 19 July 2021, Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi announced Japan's support for the construction of infrastructure in Panama.<sup>2196</sup> Minister Motegi and Panama's Minister of Foreign Affairs Erika Mouynes mutually expressed the importance of increasing infrastructure cooperation to ensure the prosperity of both nations.

On 21 July 2021, Japan announced its intention to increase its share of non-fossil fuel energy sources, including both renewables and nuclear resources, to 60 per cent by fiscal year 2030.<sup>2197</sup> This announcement marks a 2.5 times increase of 2021 non-fossil fuel energy source levels.

On 1 September 2021, Japan and the US reaffirmed their commitment to limiting global warming to under 1.5 degrees Celsius.<sup>2198</sup> Japan and the US agreed to enhance their cooperation on renewable energy projects and end government support for coal-fired power producers by the end of 2021. Both countries also emphasized the need to utilize the private and public sector to achieve their USD100 billion joint mobilization goal intended to help achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

On 16 September 2021, the Government of Japan updated their current trajectories in achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.<sup>2199</sup> Japan announced that their initiative to assist cities in their goal to become zero-carbon cities has resulted in 444 local governments signing on to the initiative as of August 2021, which constitutes 88 per cent of Japan's population.

On 28 October 2021, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Ishii Masahiro encouraged the International Renewable Energy Agency to continue to work collaboratively to reach decarbonization targets, suggesting that as an international goal, decarbonization requires international cooperation.<sup>2200</sup> Minister Masahiro once again reaffirmed Japan's commitment to carbon neutrality by 2050.

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<sup>2194</sup> The Ninth Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM9) (Overview of Results), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 2 July 2021. Access Date: 30 November 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/a\\_o/ocn/page3e\\_001123.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/a_o/ocn/page3e_001123.html)

<sup>2195</sup> The Ninth Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM9) (Overview of Results), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 2 July 2021. Access Date: 30 November 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/a\\_o/ocn/page3e\\_001123.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/a_o/ocn/page3e_001123.html)

<sup>2196</sup> Japan vows support for Panama in quality infrastructure development, The Japan Times (Kyoto) 19 July 2021. Access Date: 30 November 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2021/07/19/national/japan-panama-cooperation/>

<sup>2197</sup> Japan sets 60% target for nonfossil fuel energy sources by fiscal 2030, The Japan Times (Kyoto) 21 July 2021. Access Date: 30 November 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2021/07/21/business/japan-basic-energy-plan-2030/>

<sup>2198</sup> Japan-U.S. Joint Media Statement on the occasion of Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry's visit to Japan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 1 September 2021. Access Date: 30 November 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e\\_000323.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000323.html)

<sup>2199</sup> Zero-Carbon Cities Herald Carbon Neutrality, Kizuna (Tokyo) 16 September 2021. Access Date: 30 November 2021. [https://www.japan.go.jp/kizuna/2021/09/zero-carbon\\_cities.html](https://www.japan.go.jp/kizuna/2021/09/zero-carbon_cities.html)

<sup>2200</sup> State Minister Ishii Attends the 22nd Council of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 28 October 2021. Access Date: 30 November 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1028\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1028_001.html)

On 8 November 2021, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida outlined a proposal of a new form of capitalism focused on “sustainability and people to generate new investment and growth.”<sup>2201</sup> The proposal describes a growth strategy including provisions to establish domestic storage battery production; implement electric vehicle recharging facilities and hydrogen stations; improve the energy efficiency of houses and buildings; promote the research and development of nuclear energy and develop a clean energy strategy.

On 30 November 2021, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization launched the Green Innovation Fund.<sup>2202</sup> JPY2 trillion will be invested over 10 years in companies who support the goals of the Green Innovation Fund. The Green Innovation Fund aims to accelerate ongoing initiatives in order to achieve the goal of carbon neutrality by 2050.

On 7 December 2021, Japan launched the second Japan-Africa Public-Private Economic Forum and held a discussion on green and digital infrastructure.<sup>2203</sup> Representatives from Japan and Africa acknowledged the efficacy of off-grid and mini-grid systems in Africa and the challenges associated with human resource development in electrical engineering.

On 8 December 2021, Prime Minister Kishida reiterated Japan’s commitment to developing green infrastructure.<sup>2204</sup> Prime Minister Kishida reaffirmed Japan’s commitment to transitioning towards thermal power, adding that Japan will enhance its infrastructure and support the decarbonization of other countries, especially in Asia.

On 21 December 2021, Prime Minister Kishida reaffirmed Japan’s commitment to a 46 per cent reduction in GHGE by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2050.<sup>2205</sup> Additionally, Prime Minister Kishida stated that he intends to further develop the new form of capitalism he is advancing and deepen his cooperation with US President Biden and the Build Back Better initiative. In his remarks, Prime Minister Kishida expressed support for Build Back Better World, achieving carbon neutrality and moving forward on discussions on climate change.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to develop a new partnership to build back better for the world, through a step change in our approach to investment for infrastructure, including through an initiative for clean and green growth. Japan has demonstrated support for the Build Back Better Partnership, made strong verbal commitments through numerous international summits for infrastructure investments abroad and committed funds towards clean and green initiatives.

Thus, Japan received a score of +1.

*Analyst: Julia Rychlik*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to develop a new partnership to build back better for the world, through a step change in our approach to investment for infrastructure, including through an initiative for clean and green growth.

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<sup>2201</sup> Outline of Emergency Proposal Toward the Launch of a "New Form of Capitalism" that Carves Out the Future, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 8 November 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2021.

[https://japan.kantei.go.jp/ongoingtopics/\\_00001.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/ongoingtopics/_00001.html)

<sup>2202</sup> Siemens Energy K.K. selected for Green Innovation Fund project, Japan External Trade Organization (Tokyo) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2021. <https://www.jetro.go.jp/en/invest/newsroom/2021/c169f05dbdb8de4d.html>

<sup>2203</sup> Japan-Africa Public-Private Economic Forum (Online), Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (Tokyo) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/pdf/1209\\_Summary\\_of\\_the\\_2nd\\_JAFEF.pdf](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/pdf/1209_Summary_of_the_2nd_JAFEF.pdf)

<sup>2204</sup> Opening Speech by Prime Minister KISHIDA Fumio at the GZERO Summit 2021, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2021. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101\\_kishida/statement/202112/\\_00006.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101_kishida/statement/202112/_00006.html)

<sup>2205</sup> Press Conference by Prime Minister KISHIDA Fumio, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2021. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101\\_kishida/statement/202112/\\_00014.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101_kishida/statement/202112/_00014.html)

On 15 July 2021, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced a strategic partnership between the UK and Saudi Arabia.<sup>2206</sup> Among the four clusters of collaborative elements was energy, industry and environment.

On 27 July 2021, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office announced KES5.2 billion in aid to finance the construction of 10,000 “green affordable homes” in Kenya.<sup>2207</sup> This investment was designed to benefit low and middle-income families and help the Kenyan government in achieving its “Big Four” commitment of building 500,000 affordable homes by 2022. In addition, KES550 million in aid was announced in order to support and expedite Kenya’s green transition, including “projects supporting renewable energy, clean cooling, and forest restoration - including Kaptagat Forest.” In keeping with the UK Government’s approach to fulfilling its B3W commitments, wherein public funding is used to supplement private investment, the KES5.2 billion in UK government funding for affordable housing in Kenya was accompanied by KES3.5 billion in UK corporate investment.

On 11 August 2021, the UK announced GBP1.4 million in funding for five climate projects in Malaysia through the Malaysia-UK PACT programme.<sup>2208</sup> These five projects include improving access to “green finance,” and accelerating Malaysia’s energy transition through the development of “community renewable energy access and generation” initiatives.

On 17 August 2021, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced a GBP105 million funding package to be offered through the government’s Net Zero Innovation Portfolio, with the intention that it be used to finance the development of the UK’s low carbon hydrogen economy.<sup>2209</sup>

On 25 August 2021, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced GBP4 million in funding to accelerate the development of 24 domestic biomass production projects.<sup>2210</sup>

On 1 September 2021, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs announced GBP146 million in funding for 150 “flood coastal erosion schemes” in Yorkshire and the Humber.<sup>2211</sup>

On 2 September 2021, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and India released a joint statement announcing the establishment of the Climate Finance Leadership Initiative India partnership.<sup>2212</sup>

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<sup>2206</sup> United Kingdom and Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Strategic Partnership: joint statement (Economic and Social Pillar), Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/united-kingdom-and-kingdom-of-saudi-arabia-strategic-partnership-joint-statement-economic-and-social-pillar>

<sup>2207</sup> UK mobilises KES 20 billion investment into Kenya’s Big Four projects, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 27 July 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-mobilises-kes-20-billion-investment-into-kenyas-big-four-projects>

<sup>2208</sup> UK PACT backs low-carbon transition in Malaysia with £1.4 million in support, British High Commission Kuala Lumpur (Kuala Lumpur) 11 August 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-pact-backs-low-carbon-transition-in-malaysia-with-14-million-in-support>

<sup>2209</sup> UK government launches plan for a world-leading hydrogen economy, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 17 August 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-launches-plan-for-a-world-leading-hydrogen-economy>

<sup>2210</sup> £4 million funding to boost UK biomass production, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 25 August 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/4-million-funding-to-boost-uk-biomass-production>

<sup>2211</sup> Floods Minister chairs roundtable to address flood risk along the Aire & Calder, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs and Environment Agency (London) 1 September 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/floods-minister-chairs-roundtable-to-address-flood-risk-along-the-aire-calder>

<sup>2212</sup> Joint statement by Government of India, UK government and the CFLI on mobilising climate finance in India, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 2 September 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-by-government-of-india-uk-government-and-the-cfli-on-mobilising-climate-finance-in-india>

This partnership will manage USD6.2 trillion in funding for “sustainable infrastructure projects in specific low-carbon sectors.”

On 7 September 2021, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced GBP270 million in support for the establishment and funding of a “Green Heat Network Fund,” to be used to expand the use of “low-carbon technologies like heat pumps, solar and geothermal energy in the roll out of the next generation of heat networks.”<sup>2213</sup>

On 13 September 2021, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced GBP200 million in support for offshore wind projects, in addition to GBP55 million for the development of emerging renewable technologies.<sup>2214</sup> Of the GBP55 million, GBP24 million is designated for floating offshore projects. This round of investment is expected to result in renewable capacity increases sufficient to power at least eight million homes.

On 28 September 2021, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced GBP130 million of combined government and private investment in offshore wind production in the North-East of England.<sup>2215</sup> This investment will be used to construct facilities to develop and build components for new iterations of wind turbines.

On 8 October 2021, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, in a joint statement with the Government of India, announced the intention to form “a joint programme on smart power, renewable energy and storage.”<sup>2216</sup> Specific areas of interest for development within India’s renewable energy market include offshore wind, “digital solutions for power distribution companies,” “improving industrial energy efficiency,” and “boosting electric mobility in ways that maximise business opportunities and investments.”

On 26 October 2021, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced the creation of a new funding model for nuclear power projects called the Regulated Asset Base, which will save consumers more than GBP30 billion on each new large-scale station constructed.<sup>2217</sup>

On 1 November 2021, Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced a GBP3 billion investment in the establishment and funding of the UK’s new Clean Green Initiative, designed to increase both public and private investment in “quality, sustainable infrastructure globally.”<sup>2218</sup> The GBP3 billion is intended to fund initiatives in developing countries for the next five years, including GBP200 million allotted specifically for a “Climate Innovation Facility.”

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<sup>2213</sup> Next generation of heat networks to power UK’s green revolution, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 7 September 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/next-generation-of-heat-networks-to-power-uks-green-revolution>

<sup>2214</sup> Biggest ever renewable energy support scheme backed by additional £265 million, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 13 September 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/biggest-ever-renewable-energy-support-scheme-backed-by-additional-265-million>

<sup>2215</sup> Offshore wind powers North-East jobs in a boost for UK supply chain, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 28 September 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/offshore-wind-powers-north-east-jobs-in-a-boost-for-uk-supply-chain>

<sup>2216</sup> UK and India agree ambitious collaboration on clean energy, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 8 October 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-india-agree-ambitious-collaboration-on-clean-energy>

<sup>2217</sup> New finance model to cut cost of new nuclear power stations, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 26 October 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-finance-model-to-cut-cost-of-new-nuclear-power-stations>

<sup>2218</sup> PM launches new initiative to take Green Industrial Revolution global, Prime Minister’s Office (Glasgow) 1 November 2021. Access Date 16 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-launches-new-initiative-to-take-green-industrial-revolution-global>

On 1 November 2021, Prime Minister Johnson announced the Room to Run guarantee of the African Development Bank, which is expected to free a maximum of GBP1.45 billion in financing for projects in Africa, including those designed to mitigate the effects of the climate crisis.<sup>2219</sup>

On 1 November 2021, Prime Minister Johnson announced the creation of an India Green Guarantee of the World Bank, with the intention to free GBP750 million for “green projects” throughout India, including those for “clean and resilient infrastructure in sectors such as clean energy, transport and urban development.”<sup>2220</sup>

On 2 November 2021, Prime Minister Johnson attended a meeting hosted by US President Joe Biden and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen at United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow to discuss the B3W initiative, among other topics.<sup>2221</sup> While in attendance, Prime Minister Johnson endorsed “five key principles for infrastructure development,” which were as follows: “infrastructure should be climate resilient and developed through a climate lens,” “strong and inclusive partnerships between host countries, developed country support, and the private sector are critical to developing sustainable infrastructure,” “infrastructure should be financed, constructed, developed, operated, and maintained in accordance with high standards,” “a new paradigm of climate finance—spanning both public and private sources—is required to mobilise the trillions needed to meet net-zero by 2050 and keep 1.5 degrees within reach,” and “climate-smart infrastructure development should play an important role in boosting economic recovery and sustainable job creation.”

On 2 November 2021, the UK – together with the US, France, Germany and the EU – announced a partnership with South Africa to help transition their economy to a clean energy economy.<sup>2222</sup> The partnership aims to help South Africa close coal plants by investing in clean energy infrastructure and providing aid to coal-reliant communities.

On 2 November 2021, the Prime Minister’s Office announced a new joint initiative with India named the “Green Grids Initiative – One Sun One World One Grid.”<sup>2223</sup> The initiative is aimed at accelerating the pace of development and deployment of interconnected electricity infrastructure across the globe and improving access through mini-grid and off-grid solutions.

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<sup>2219</sup> PM launches new initiative to take Green Industrial Revolution global, Prime Minister’s Office (Glasgow) 1 November 2021. Access Date 16 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-launches-new-initiative-to-take-green-industrial-revolution-global>

<sup>2220</sup> PM launches new initiative to take Green Industrial Revolution global, Prime Minister’s Office (Glasgow) 1 November 2021. Access Date 16 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-launches-new-initiative-to-take-green-industrial-revolution-global>

<sup>2221</sup> U.S. President Biden, European Commission President Von Der Leyen, And UK Prime Minister Johnson Announce Commitment To Addressing Climate Crisis Through Infrastructure Development, The White House (Washington D.C.) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/11/02/u-s-president-biden-european-commission-president-von-der-leyen-and-uk-prime-minister-johnson-announce-commitment-to-addressing-climate-crisis-through-infrastructure-development/>

<sup>2222</sup> Remarks by President Biden in Meeting on the Build Back Better World Initiative, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 16 November 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2021/11/02/remarks-by-president-biden-in-meeting-on-the-build-back-better-world-initiative/>

<sup>2223</sup> UK and India launch new grids initiative to deliver clean power to the world, Prime Minister’s Office (London) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-india-launch-new-grids-initiative-to-deliver-clean-power-to-the-world>



On 2 November 2021, Minister for the Middle East and North Africa James Cleverly announced GBP50 million in funding for the High Impact Partnership on Climate Action, to be used in the mobilisation of private funding for green infrastructure and the energy transition in the Middle East and North Africa.<sup>2224</sup>

On 2 November 2021, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office announced GBP110 million in financing for clean infrastructure development in South East Asia.<sup>2225</sup>

On 3 November 2021, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office announced GBP66 million in financing for “Mobilising Institutional Capital Through Listed Product Structures,” the UK’s “flagship programme to mobilise large scale investment through publicly listed markets,” specifically for projects pertaining to green infrastructure, technology and business.<sup>2226</sup>

On 4 November 2021, the UK announced more than GBP55 million in funding to assist Pakistan in the country’s transition towards a green economy.<sup>2227</sup> The three key features of this funding package are GBP38 million for a five-year “climate resilience programme,” GBP15 million for a five-year “water governance programme,” and GBP2.5 million “to support new ways of attracting much needed climate investment to Pakistan.”

On 5 November 2021, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office announced the signing of a Green Growth Compact agreement between the UK and Zambia in order to drive sustainable growth and continue the work of COP26.<sup>2228</sup> This agreement sets targets for increased levels of trade and new investments including a GBP100 million investment in small and medium sized enterprises.

On 8 November 2021, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office announced GBP290 million in new funding to address the impacts of climate change, including GBP274 million for countries in Asia and the Pacific to “plan and invest in climate action, improve conservation and deliver low carbon investment,” GBP15 million for an “Adaptation Fund” to support developing countries in taking leadership in their own projects, and GBP1 million for humanitarian aid.<sup>2229</sup>

On 8 November 2021, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office announced GBP274 million in funding for the improvement of climate resilience in the Indo-Pacific region.<sup>2230</sup> This investment is

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<sup>2224</sup> UK announces funding for climate and the environment in the Middle East and North Africa, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (Glasgow) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-funding-for-climate-and-the-environment-in-the-middle-east-and-north-africa>

<sup>2225</sup> Truss announces major investment in clean infrastructure in Asia, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 3 November 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/truss-announces-major-investment-in-clean-infrastructure-in-asia>

<sup>2226</sup> UK’s flagship green investment programme receives £66 million funding increase, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 3 November 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uks-flagship-green-investment-programme-receives-66-million-funding-increase>

<sup>2227</sup> COP 26: UK pledges over £55m to partner with Pakistan to fight climate change, manage water more sustainably and unlock climate investment, British High Commission Islamabad (Islamabad) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cop-26-uk-pledges-over-55m-to-partner-with-pakistan-to-fight-climate-change-manage-water-more-sustainably-and-unlock-climate-investment>

<sup>2228</sup> Green Growth Compact agreement between the UK and Zambia, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 5 November 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/green-growth-compact-agreement-between-the-uk-and-zambia>

<sup>2229</sup> UK calls for world to be ‘climate resilient’ by 2030 as COP26 delivers billions for most vulnerable, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 8 November 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-calls-for-world-to-be-climate-resilient-by-2030-as-cop26-delivers-billions-for-most-vulnerable>

<sup>2230</sup> UK announces £274m boost to climate resilience across Indo-Pacific, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 8 November 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-274m-boost-to-climate-resilience-across-indo-pacific>

specifically designed to be used in partnership with “governments, regional institutions, cities, local communities, and the private sector,” and is intended to improve “climate change policy and planning, enhance weather and climate forecasting services, and support urban resilience.” It is estimated that the funding will support up to 14.4 million people.

On 11 November 2021, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced GBP27.5 million in funding for the Urban Climate Action programme to “support cities across Africa, Asia and Latin America to tackle climate change.”<sup>2231</sup> Key features of this investment include a desire to see major cities “become carbon neutral by 2050,” and “prepare low-carbon infrastructure projects.” The funding will assist “cities like Nairobi, Kuala Lumpur, and Bogotá develop low-emission public transport systems, renewable energy generation, sustainable waste management, new climate-smart buildings codes and climate risk planning.”

On 15 November 2021, the International Trade Secretary Anne-Marie Trevelyan announced an agreement with GE Energy Financial Services to partially finance the construction of the largest solar facility in Turkey.<sup>2232</sup> This investment amounts to GBP217 million. Once completed, the facility will power two million households.

On 16 November 2021, the Rural Payments Agency launched the Farming Transformation Fund Water Management grant program, which supplies farmers growing irrigated food crops with anywhere from GBP35,000 to GBP500,000 to cover up to 40 per cent of the eligible costs of a water resource management project.<sup>2233</sup>

On 22 November 2021, the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy announced a GBP9.4 million investment in the Whitelee green hydrogen project.<sup>2234</sup> This project will use wind-generated power from the adjacent ScottishPower WhiteLee Windfarm to convert water into hydrogen gas to be used as a zero-carbon fuel alternative and a method of power storage.

On 24 November 2021, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced its investment of GBP20 million per year in tidal stream electricity infrastructure.<sup>2235</sup>

On 24 November 2021, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced GBP11.3 million in funding to help distilleries halt their use of fossil fuels and develop low carbon heating systems.<sup>2236</sup>

On 25 November 2021, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office announced a restructuring of the UK’s development finance institution.<sup>2237</sup> British International Investment was given a new mandate of

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<sup>2231</sup> UK funding to support developing cities and regions transition to net zero by 2050, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 11 November 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-funding-to-support-developing-cities-and-regions-transition-to-net-zero-by-2050>

<sup>2232</sup> UK to provide £217 million for Turkish solar project, UK Export Finance (London) 15 November 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-provide-217-million-for-turkish-solar-project>

<sup>2233</sup> Farming Transformation Fund Water Management grant manual, Rural Payments Agency (Reading) 16 November 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/farming-transformation-fund-water-management-grant-manual/how-the-farming-transformation-fund-grants-work>

<sup>2234</sup> Glasgow to be home to first-of-a-kind hydrogen storage project, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 22 November 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/glasgow-to-be-home-to-first-of-a-kind-hydrogen-storage-project>

<sup>2235</sup> UK government announces biggest investment into Britain’s tidal power, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-announces-biggest-investment-into-britains-tidal-power>

<sup>2236</sup> Funding helps UK distilleries fuel a greener future, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/funding-helps-uk-distilleries-fuel-a-greener-future>

helping the government to invest up to GBP8 billion a year by 2025 in infrastructure and technology for low- and middle-income countries in Asia, Africa and the Caribbean.

On 20 December 2021, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced GBP26 million in funding for domestic biomass projects.<sup>2238</sup>

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to develop a new partnership to build back better for the world, through a step change in our approach to investment for infrastructure, including through an initiative for clean and green growth. Although the UK has taken weak action in regards to voicing and demonstrating their support for the B3W initiative, strong action has been taken towards clean and green infrastructure and the values of build back better through numerous investments.

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

*Analyst: Aidan Thompson*

### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to to develop a new partnership to build back better for the world, through a step change in our approach to investment for infrastructure, including through an initiative for clean and green growth.

On 16 September 2021, Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin hosted the 31st Australia-United States Ministerial Consultations.<sup>2239</sup> During the consultation, the US and Australia committed to increasing climate financing by strengthening climate-resilient infrastructure in the Indo-Pacific through the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure.

On 5 October 2021, Secretary Blinken announced a new partnership with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to improve their infrastructure development through the Blue Dot Network, an existing trilateral partnership with Australia and Japan.<sup>2240</sup> “Connecting the Dots: Building Trusted Systems to Address Corruption in Infrastructure” aims to improve the program by combating corruption in infrastructure projects tied to the Blue Dot Network.

On 7 October 2021, Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo and Singapore Minister for Trade and Industry signed a Memorandum of Understanding to implement the US-Singapore Partnership for Growth and Innovation.<sup>2241</sup> The partnership aims to deepen economic integration between the US and Southeast Asia with one of four key pillars being clean energy and environmental technology. Under this pillar they aim to

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<sup>2237</sup> Truss revamps British development finance institution to deliver jobs and clean growth, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/truss-revamps-british-development-finance-institution-to-deliver-jobs-and-clean-growth>

<sup>2238</sup> £26 million government funding to boost biomass in UK, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/26-million-government-funding-to-boost-biomass-in-uk>

<sup>2239</sup> Joint Statement on Australia-U.S. Ministerial Consultations (AUSMIN) 2021, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 16 September 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. <https://www.state.gov/joint-statement-on-australia-u-s-ministerial-consultations-ausmin-2021/>

<sup>2240</sup> U.S. and OECD Co-Host Panel on Quality Infrastructure and the Blue Dot Network, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 5 October 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-and-oecd-co-host-panel-on-quality-infrastructure-and-the-blue-dot-network/>

<sup>2241</sup> U.S.-Singapore Partnership for Growth and Innovation: A Joint Statement by U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo and Singapore Minister for Trade and Industry Gan Kim Yong, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 28 December 2021. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/10/us-singapore-partnership-growth-and-innovation-joint-statement-us>

create “a regional roundtable for businesses to network across the region and explore room for collaboration in areas such as clean energy deployment, carbon capture, and utilization.”

On 2 November 2021, President Joe Biden, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and the UK's Prime Minister Boris Johnson hosted a discussion on addressing the climate crisis through infrastructure development.<sup>2242</sup> Other G7 members participated in the discussion including Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida. Through the event, the US committed to building low- and zero-carbon infrastructure systems through strong, inclusive partnerships between host countries, developed countries and the private sector by mobilizing trillions of dollars in capital by 2050.

On 2 November 2021, the US – together with the UK, France, Germany and the EU – announced a partnership with South Africa to help transition their economy to a clean energy economy.<sup>2243</sup> The partnership aims to help South Africa close coal plants by investing in clean energy infrastructure and providing aid to coal-reliant communities.

On 3 November 2021, the US launched a Net-Zero World initiative, a series of partnerships with Argentina, Chile, Egypt, Indonesia, Nigeria and Ukraine, which seeks to accelerate transitions to net-zero energy systems.<sup>2244</sup> The US Department of Energy will work to create and implement technology roadmaps and investment strategies that make net-zero emissions achievable. As part of the initiative, partners commit to mobilizing at least USD10 billion in clean energy infrastructure investment by 2024.

On 3 December 2021, National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan made a statement discussing the government's continued support of the B3W infrastructure partnership.<sup>2245</sup> Sullivan notes that the government recognizes “that robust, meaningful partnerships, long-term focus, and sustained investment will be critical to ensure that Build Back Better World.” He further mentions how President Biden believes that the B3W “can offer a better alternative through transparent, sustainable financing that responds to low- and middle-income countries' needs and upholds high labor and environmental standards.”

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to develop a new partnership to build back better for the world, through a step change in our approach to investment for infrastructure, including through an initiative for clean and green growth. The US has taken strong action towards supporting B3W through verbal reaffirmations and infrastructure development in accordance with the guiding principles of B3W. Additionally, the US has initiated new partnerships to promote investment in clean and green infrastructure in developing countries.

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

*Analyst: Donell Rodrigues*

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<sup>2242</sup> U.S. President Biden, European Commission President Von Der Leyen, And UK Prime Minister Johnson Announce Commitment To Addressing Climate Crisis Through Infrastructure Development, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/11/02/u-s-president-biden-european-commission-president-von-der-leyen-and-uk-prime-minister-johnson-announce-commitment-to-addressing-climate-crisis-through-infrastructure-development/>

<sup>2243</sup> Remarks by President Biden in Meeting on the Build Back Better World Initiative, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 16 November 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2021/11/02/remarks-by-president-biden-in-meeting-on-the-build-back-better-world-initiative/>

<sup>2244</sup> U.S. Launches Net-Zero World Initiative to Accelerate Global Energy System Decarbonization, US Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 3 November 2021. Access Date: 16 November 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/us-launches-net-zero-world-initiative-accelerate-global-energy-system-decarbonization>

<sup>2245</sup> Statement by National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan on G7 Collaboration and Build Back Better World, the White House (Washington D.C.) 3 December 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/12/03/statement-by-national-security-advisor-jake-sullivan-on-g7-collaboration-and-build-back-better-world/>

## European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to develop a new partnership to build back better for the world, through a step change in our approach to investment for infrastructure, including through an initiative for clean and green growth.

On 7 July 2021, the European Parliament implemented a revised version of the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) programme.<sup>2246</sup> This version of the programme commits EUR30 billion between 2021 and 2027 to facilitate the construction of Trans-European projects scheduled for completion by 2030. Through the CEF, the European Parliament aims to finance “cross-border renewable energy projects.” Moreover, 60 percent of the fund is targeted towards accomplishing zero pollution and climate neutrality objectives by 2050.

On 12 July 2021, the European Council accepted conclusions on the “Globally Connected Europe” investment strategy.<sup>2247</sup> This strategy exhorts the formation of new partnerships between the European Union, the United States and the Association of Southeast Asia. Additionally, it highlights the significance of expanding investment in the physical infrastructure of these partners.

On 14 July 2021, the European Commission published a report concerning the EU’s transportation, infrastructure and fuel policies.<sup>2248</sup> Most pressing to the commitment on infrastructure was the European Commission’s revision to the Directive on Alternative Fuels and Infrastructure.<sup>2249</sup> In addition to amending the title to the “Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Regulation” (AFIR), the revisions consolidate new environmental policies affecting European infrastructure. These policies include expanding charging and refueling infrastructure to comply with zero-emission car sales quotas - this includes deploying new hydrogen refueling stations for light and “heavy duty vehicles.”<sup>2250,2251</sup> Additionally, the AFIR calls on EU members to ensure clean electricity access for aircraft and ships at major air and seaports.<sup>2252</sup>

On 18 July 2021, President of the European Council Charles Michel delivered remarks on his meeting with the president of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev.<sup>2253</sup> During their meeting, President Michel reaffirmed the importance of the EU’s partnership with Azerbaijan. President Michel also discussed the role that the EU could play in “encourag[ing] regional cooperation” regarding the construction of transport corridors in Azerbaijan.

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<sup>2246</sup> €30 Billion for Infrastructure Projects Connecting EU Regions, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 7 July 2021. Access Date: 11 November 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210701IPR07504/EU30-billion-for-infrastructure-projects-connecting-eu-regions>

<sup>2247</sup> A globally connected Europe: Council approves conclusions, European Council (Brussels) 12 July 2021. Access Date: 12 November 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/07/12/a-globally-connected-europe-council-approves-conclusions/>

<sup>2248</sup> Questions and Answers – Sustainable transport, infrastructure and fuels, European Commission (Brussels) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 15 November 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda\\_21\\_3525](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda_21_3525)

<sup>2249</sup> Deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure: Fit for 55 package [EU Legislation in Progress], European Parliament Research Service (Strasbourg) 22 November 2021. Access Date: 15 November 2021. <https://epthinktank.eu/2021/11/22/deployment-of-alternative-fuels-infrastructure-fit-for-55-package-eu-legislation-in-progress/>

<sup>2250</sup> European Green Deal: Commission proposes transformation of EU economy and society to meet climate ambitions, European Commission (Brussels) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 17 November 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_3541](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_3541)

<sup>2251</sup> Questions and Answers – Sustainable transport, infrastructure and fuels, European Commission (Brussels) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 15 November 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda\\_21\\_3525](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda_21_3525)

<sup>2252</sup> European Green Deal: Commission proposes transformation of EU economy and society to meet climate ambitions, European Commission (Brussels) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 17 November 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_3541](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_3541)

<sup>2253</sup> Remarks by President Charles Michel after his meeting in Baku with the President of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev, European Council (Brussels) 18 July 2021. Access Date: 12 November 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/07/18/remarks-by-president-charles-michel-after-his-meeting-with-azerbaijan-president-ilham-aliyev-in-baku/>

On 19 August 2021, the European Commission released 13 per cent of the funds allocated to France under the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), totalling EUR5.1 billion.<sup>2254</sup> Through the RRF, the European Commission aims to support France’s energy efficiency and renovate its medical infrastructure. The funds include EUR1.9 billion towards developing France’s decarbonized hydrogen production capacity and EUR2.5 billion for “renovating healthcare facilities.”

On 16 September 2021, the European Commission opened applications for proposals aimed at improving transportation infrastructure.<sup>2255</sup> The initiative is linked to the Connecting Europe Facility for Transport Program and offers a total of EUR7 billion to successful applicants who develop improved, upgraded or new infrastructure. EUR5.175 billion is reserved for proposals targeting “core” infrastructure projects such as railways, ports and waterways; EUR1.575 is allocated for proposals which address alternative fuel infrastructure facilities and EUR330 million are withheld for infrastructure projects that can be utilized by civilian and military personnel. Through this initiative the European Commission aims to satisfy the EU’s goal to reduce “transport emissions by 90 [per cent] by 2050.”

On 2 November 2021, President von der Leyen delivered a speech on how infrastructure investments can respond to climate change.<sup>2256</sup> In her speech, President von der Leyen expresses the importance of working with international partners – G7 members among them – to develop “climate positive infrastructure.” Noting the disparities in this type of infrastructure that exist between countries, President von der Leyen praises B3W as a vehicle to reduce international gaps in “climate positive” infrastructure.

On 17 December 2021, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the French Development Agency (AFD) announced that they had signed an agreement with Serbia to finance the expansion and creation of eight landfills in total.<sup>2257</sup> To honour this agreement, the EBRD and the AFD will commit EUR75 million each via sovereign loan to Serbia. Through this initiative, the EBRD will help reduce 178,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions and increase recycling capacity “by more than 19,000 tonnes” annually. Lastly, this agreement complies with the EU’s standards for “biodegradable waste treatment and recovery” in addition to advancing the “circular economy of recyclable waste,” making it a green and clean infrastructure initiative.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to develop a new partnership to build back better for the world, through a step change in our approach to investment for infrastructure, including through an initiative for clean and green growth. The EU has verbally expressed of support for B3W, worked with other countries on developing infrastructure and supported initiatives for clean and green growth.

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

*Analyst: Dael Sebastian Vasquez-Hernandez*

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<sup>2254</sup> NextGenerationEU European Commission disburses €5.1 billion in pre-financing to France, European Commission (Brussels) 19 August 2021. Access Date: 17 November 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_4225](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4225)

<sup>2255</sup> Transport: €7 billion for key infrastructure projects: key missing links & green transport, European Commission (Brussels) 17 September 2021. Access Date: 18 November 2021. [https://transport.ec.europa.eu/news/transport-eu7-billion-key-infrastructure-projects-key-missing-links-green-transport-2021-09-17\\_en](https://transport.ec.europa.eu/news/transport-eu7-billion-key-infrastructure-projects-key-missing-links-green-transport-2021-09-17_en)

<sup>2256</sup> Speech by President von der Leyen at side event co-hosted by the US and the European Commission in COP26 on addressing climate change through infrastructure investment, European Commission (Glasgow) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 10 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/SPEECH\\_21\\_5763](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/SPEECH_21_5763)

<sup>2257</sup> EBRD and AFD finance Serbia’s regional landfills, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (London) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 11 January 2021. <https://www.ebrd.com/news/2021/ebrd-and-afd-finance-serbias-regional-landfills-.html>

## 18. Human Rights: Forced Labour

“We commit to continue to work together including through our own available domestic means and multilateral institutions to protect individuals from forced labour.”

*Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France		0	
Germany		0	+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union		0	
Average		+0.75 (88%)	

### Background

While the International Labour Organization’s (ILO) 1998 Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work enshrines a respect for human rights in global supply chains, Article 2(a) of the Declaration specifically calls for “the elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour.”<sup>2258</sup> Since then, the Group of Seven (G7) has supported the ILO in promoting fair labour standards across economies by working with International Financial Institutions (IFIs) like the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the World Trade Organization (WTO), and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The G7 has also adopted the ILO’s principles and instruments to advance Sustainable Development Goal Eight which oversees the “promotion of sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment for all.”<sup>2259</sup> To achieve the goal of protecting individuals from forced labour in global supply chains, the G7 encourages the identification and protection of vulnerable members of society like refugees, migrants, women, and children.

The 1990 Houston Summit was the first time that G7 members explicitly highlighted “the respect for human rights” in their agenda for sustainable economic prosperity.<sup>2260</sup> In the Houston Economic Declaration, members stated that economic prosperity would depend upon “a skilled and motivated labour force whose fundamental rights are protected.” Repeated calls to “the freedom of choice” at this summit would later set the stage for identifying the role of consent in labour rights.

At the 1994 Naples Summit, G7 members pledged “support for the newly created office of UN High Commissioner for Human Rights” in pursuing the promotion and protection of human rights everywhere.<sup>2261</sup> This move served to stimulate discussions on human rights at G7 summits in forthcoming years.

<sup>2258</sup> The Text of the Declaration and its Follow-up, International Labour Organization (Geneva) 18 June 1998. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.ilo.org/declaration/thedeclaration/textdeclaration/lang--en/index.htm>

<sup>2259</sup> Women and Sustainable Development Goals, United Nations Women (New York) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/women-and-the-sdgs/sdg-8-decent-work-economic-growth>

<sup>2260</sup> Houston Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 July 1990. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1990houston/declaration.html>

<sup>2261</sup> Chairman’s Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 July 1994. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1994naples/chairman.html>

The 1999 Köln Summit was monumental for the G8's recognition of international labour rights.<sup>2262</sup> G8 members agreed to encourage the implementation of international instruments like “the ILO Declaration On Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and its Follow-up,” which codified the concept of forced labour and “the ILO Convention on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour,” which set out clear actions to protect the most vulnerable and underrepresented groups. The summit also highlighted the need to increase international cooperation in implementing labour standards, specifically with the support of developing countries, the ILO and IFIs like the WTO.

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, G8 members emphasised the role of education in enabling the implementation of international labour standards.<sup>2263</sup> Members agreed to work with the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the ILO to promote school enrolment in efforts to eliminate child labour.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 members recognised the vulnerability of refugees and migrants to “modern slavery” and promoted their protection through the principles of “the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its Protocol.”<sup>2264</sup> Such international protection frameworks fall under the G7's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, members detailed the role of the ILO in delivering women the protection of their labour rights in the “G7 Roadmap for a Gender-Responsive Economic Environment.”<sup>2265</sup> This Roadmap included specific actions like strengthening women's access to “decent and quality jobs,” valuing “unpaid care and domestic work,” enabling their participation in the “formal labour market” and ending “violence against women and girls in the public and private spheres.”

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 members underscored the respect for human rights and the rule of law in efforts to “eradicate trafficking in persons, forced labour, child labour and all forms of slavery, including modern slavery.”<sup>2266</sup> This summit marks the first time that the G7 explicitly used the term “forced labour” in its official documents.

On 28 May 2021 in a Virtual Meeting, the G7 Trade Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to existing international instruments like those from the ILO and the “UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.”<sup>2267</sup> To advance the objective of eradicating forced labour from global supply chains, the G7 Trade Ministers also called upon similar commitments made by G7 Leaders at the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit, G20 Labour and Employment Ministers at a meeting in Mendoza in 2018 and G7 Employment and Labour Ministers at a meeting in Paris on 7 June 2019.

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<sup>2262</sup> G8 Communiqué Köln 1999 Final, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 June 1999. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1999koln/finalcom.htm>

<sup>2263</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2001. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommuniqué.html>

<sup>2264</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

<sup>2265</sup> G7 Roadmap for a Gender-Responsive Economic Environment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/gender.html>

<sup>2266</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqué.html>

<sup>2267</sup> G7 Trade Ministers' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 May 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/trade/210528-communiqué.html>



At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders promised to continue their cooperation in ensuring that “global supply chains are free from the use of forced labour.”<sup>2268</sup> At past G7 summits “forced labour” was an issue addressed only in developing countries, however, the language of the commitments made in the Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué recognised “forced labour” as a global issue that must be tackled on domestic and international scales.

### **Commitment Features**

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders made the following commitment: “We commit to continue to work together including through our own available domestic means and multilateral institutions to protect individuals from forced labour.”<sup>2269</sup>

To define the key terms in this commitment, “continue to work together” refers to those “commitments that are established and implemented” and “it should be interpreted to mean new actions will be added to the already existing ones. It should not be interpreted to mean no new allocations.”<sup>2270</sup> This means that compliance for this commitment can be fulfilled by either expanding on old initiatives or creating new ones with the purpose of protecting people from forced labour. In this context, “work together” refers to the different ways G7 members are expected to work with one another i.e., establishing partnerships, joint initiatives etc.

“Forced labour” is understood as “all work or service that is exacted from any person under the menace of penalty and for which the said person has not offered himself voluntarily.”<sup>2271</sup> In the context of this commitment, leaders committed to mobilizing their domestic and multilateral means to prevent forced labour for all individuals.

G7 members committed to continue to protect individuals from forced labour through two pillars of cooperation: their own available domestic means, and multilateral institutions. “Available” is defined as “present or ready for immediate use.”<sup>2272</sup> In the context of domestic means, “available” can refer to existing capacities. Examples of this include money, research and personnel that can be mobilized to meet this objective, both in the expansion of old initiatives and the creation of new ones. “Multilateral institutions” refer to organizations “involving or participated in by more than two nations or parties.”<sup>2273</sup> Examples of mobilizing means in the context of multilateral institutions include providing funding to international initiatives and programs that work to eradicate forced labor and by providing personnel to staff these institutions.

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<sup>2268</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communication.html>

<sup>2269</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communication.html>

<sup>2270</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>2271</sup> CO29 - Forced Labour Convention, International Labour Organization (Geneva) 28 June 1930. Access Date: 25 September 2021. [https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO::P12100\\_ILO\\_CODE:C029](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO::P12100_ILO_CODE:C029)

<sup>2272</sup> Available, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/available>

<sup>2273</sup> Multilateral, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/multilateral>

“To protect” is defined as “to keep someone or something from being harmed.”<sup>2274</sup> In the context of this commitment, an action must work to keep individuals from being harmed or impacted by forced labor. It is also important to note that the commitment calls on the protection of all “individuals from forced labor” and thus actions can work to protect all people internationally regardless of state or region.

Full compliance, or a score of +1, is awarded to G7 members who demonstrate strong action in both pillars of the commitment by employing both domestic means and multilateral institutions to protect individuals from forced labour. As stated previously, examples of strong domestic means include, but are not limited to: providing funding, creating initiatives or programs, passing legislation and providing research with the goal of protecting individuals from forced labor. Examples of strong actions regarding multilateral institutions include, but are not limited to, providing funding for programs and initiatives and aiding in the creation of new initiatives. Weaker action for both aspects of the commitment include verbal reaffirmations in support of protecting individuals from forced labor without taking any concrete action. However, in order to achieve full compliance, a member must take strong actions in both components of the commitment.

Partial compliance, or a score of -1, is awarded to members who either take weak action in both components of the commitment or take strong action in only one component of the commitment. Again, weak actions include actions that are less substantial, like verbal reaffirmations of existing commitments, attendance at international conferences, etc. If a member demonstrates strong action in only one pillar of the commitment - domestic means or multilateral institutions - they still receive partial compliance.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, is awarded to those members who do not demonstrate any action to protect individuals from forced labour.

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	The G7 member did NOT continue its cooperation in protecting individuals from forced labour NEITHER through its own available domestic means NOR through multilateral institutions.
0	The G7 member took weak action to continue its cooperation in protecting individuals from forced labour through BOTH its own available domestic means AND multilateral institutions; OR a member took strong action EITHER through its own available domestic means OR through multilateral institutions.
+1	The G7 member took strong action to continue its cooperation in protecting individuals from forced labour through BOTH its own available domestic means AND multilateral institutions.

*Compliance Director: Saarah Khan  
Lead Analyst: Sabar Fatima*

**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to continue its cooperation in protecting individuals from forced labour through its own available domestic means and multilateral institutions.

On 22 June 2021, Canada led a bloc of more than 40 countries to publish a statement urging China to allow the United Nations Human Rights Chief Michelle Bachelet immediate access to the region of Xinjiang to investigate reports that more than a million Muslim Uyghurs and other ethnic minorities have been forcibly detained in camps.<sup>2275</sup> Released at the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva, this statement aims to empower international authorities to investigate reports of torture, forced sterilisation, forced separation of families and forced labour in Xinjiang.

<sup>2274</sup> Protect, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 4 October 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/protect>

<sup>2275</sup> Open Xinjiang to “Independent Observers”, Canada tells China, Al-Jazeera (Doha) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/6/22/canada-allies-to-china-open-xinjiang-to-independent-observers>

On 22 October 2021, Minister of International Trade, Export Promotion, Small Business and Economic Development Mary Ng endorsed the Group of Seven's joint statements on trade, investment and forced labour at the third G7 Trade and Investment Ministers' Meeting in London.<sup>2276</sup> The goal of this meeting was to emphasise Canada's willingness to work with G7 members to ensure that trade and supply chains are free of goods produced by forced labour.

On 27 October 2021, Canada modified its Acts and Regulations Labour Program to better protect workers.<sup>2277</sup> The goal of modernising federal labour standards is to improve employee eligibility for entitlements, improve work-life balance, ensure fair treatment and compensation for employees in precarious work and ensure sufficient notice and compensation when jobs are terminated.

On 3 November 2021, Canada Border Services Agency reported that they had recently seized a shipment of women's and children's clothing imported into Quebec from China.<sup>2278</sup> Since the ratification of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) Implementation Act on 1 July 2020 to prohibit imports of goods and services made with forced labour, this seizure marks the first such reported enforcement action in Canada.

On 16 November 2021, Canada and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) agreed to proceed with free trade agreement negotiations.<sup>2279</sup> The goal of this agreement is to support a more transparent and safe environment for Canadian goods and services.

On 24 November 2021, Senator Julie Miville-Dechéne introduced Bill S-211 which is "An Act to Enact the Fighting Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains Act and to Amend the Customs Tariff" to the Senate.<sup>2280</sup> If passed, this act imposes an obligation on certain government institutions and private-sector entities to report on the measures taken to prevent and reduce the risk of forced labour in their supply chains. The goal of this legislation is to make governmental and private-sector entities more accountable and transparent in their operations.

On 24 November 2021, Senator Leo Housakos introduced Bill S-204 which is "An Act to Amend the Customs Tariff (Goods from Xinjiang)" to the Senate.<sup>2281</sup> If passed, this act proposes the total prohibition of importing all goods manufactured, wholly or in part, in Xinjiang, China. As the House of Commons has already recognised the ongoing human rights abuses committed against Uyghur and Turkic Muslims in the region as genocide, the goal of this legislation is to sanction the Government of China for their involvement in the genocidal and unethical activity there such as forced labour camps.

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<sup>2276</sup> Canada Endorses G7 Joint Statements On Trade And Investment, Forced Labour And Digital Trade, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 26 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/10/canada-endorses-g7-joint-statements-on-trade-and-investment-forced-labour-and-digital-trade.html>

<sup>2277</sup> Labour Program: Changes to the Canada Labour Code and Other Acts to Better Protect Workplaces, Employment and Social Development Canada (Ottawa) 27 October 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/laws-regulations/labour/current-future-legislative.html>

<sup>2278</sup> Canada Seizes Goods Made With Forced Labour From China; MPs Urge More Action For Uyghurs, The Globe and Mail (Toronto) 15 November 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022. <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/politics/article-canada-seizes-goods-made-with-forced-labour-from-china-mps-urge-more/>

<sup>2279</sup> Canada-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 16 November 2021. Access Date: 27 November 2021. <https://www.international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/asean-anase/fta-ale/negotiations-negotiations.aspx?lang=eng>

<sup>2280</sup> Bill S-211, Parliament of Canada (Ottawa) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 26 January 2022. <https://www.parl.ca/DocumentViewer/en/44-1/bill/S-211/first-reading>

<sup>2281</sup> Bill S-204, Parliament of Canada (Ottawa) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 26 January 2021. <https://www.parl.ca/DocumentViewer/en/44-1/bill/S-204/first-reading>

On 8 December 2021, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced a diplomatic boycott of the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing over concerns of human rights abuses in Xinjiang.<sup>2282</sup> Canada will not send a federal government delegation but its athletes will still be allowed to compete at the event. The goal of this action is to condemn China's genocide of Uyghur, Turkic and other minorities in Xinjiang where they have been incarcerated in camps, forcibly sterilised and forced into labour.

On 10 December 2021, Canada joined the United States and the United Kingdom in imposing sanctions against private-sector entities suspected of committing human rights abuses in Myanmar.<sup>2283</sup> The goal of these sanctions is to send a message that “democracies around the world will act against those who abuse the power of the state to inflict suffering and repression.”

On 13 January 2022, Canada met with the United States and Mexico for the First USMCA Deputies Meeting where they agreed to collaborate on combating forced labour globally and prohibiting the import of goods produced by forced labour.<sup>2284</sup> They also agreed to report concrete and measurable outcomes on implementing this obligation at the 2022 Future Technologies Conference. The goal of this meeting was to re-establish a roadmap to achieving the common objective of eradicating forced labour.

On 25 January 2022, the Government of Canada and Supermax Healthcare Canada decided to terminate two supply contracts worth more than CAD222 million with Supermax Corp. of Malaysia for the supply of nitrile gloves.<sup>2285</sup> On 10 November 2021, Public Services and Procurement Canada had put on hold deliveries of the nitrile gloves from Supermax Healthcare Canada following allegations of forced labour practices against Supermax Corp.<sup>2286</sup> As Supermax Healthcare Canada is currently taking an audit of its Malaysian partner Supermax Corp., whose results will be published in spring 2022, it is yet to be decided if Canada will terminate any further contracts with the supplier.<sup>2287</sup>

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to continue its cooperation in protecting individuals from forced labour through its own available domestic means and multilateral institutions. Canada has demonstrated its respect for upholding human rights and international labour standards by taking strong action against transgressors who employ forced labour. Most of Canada's actions have been through its own domestic means like introducing federal trade laws against forced labour and sanctioning goods and services which are suspected to be produced with forced labour in Xinjiang. Canada has also used the influence of multilateral institutions like the UN Human Rights Council, ASEAN and USMCA to reaffirm its commitment to ensuring transparency in the global supply chain and taking action against violators of human rights agreements.

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<sup>2282</sup> Canada Joining Diplomatic Boycott of Beijing Winter Olympics, Global News (Vancouver) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://globalnews.ca/news/8433493/canada-beijing-diplomatic-boycott-announcement/>

<sup>2283</sup> Treasury Sanctions Perpetrators of Serious Human Rights Abuse on International Human Rights Day, United States Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 10 December 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy0526>

<sup>2284</sup> Mexico, the United States, and Canada Joint Statement on the First USMCA Deputies Meeting, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 13 January 2022. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/january/mexico-united-states-and-canada-joint-statement-first-usmca-deputies-meeting>

<sup>2285</sup> Update on Contracts with Supermax Healthcare Canada, Public Services and Procurement Canada (Ottawa) 25 January 2022. Access Date: 26 January 2022. <https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/medias-media/actualites-news/supermax-update-eng.html>; Canada Terminates \$222M PPE Contract Following Forced Labour Probe, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (Toronto) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 26 January 2022. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/malaysia-nitrile-gloves-supermax-contract-terminated-1.6319190>

<sup>2286</sup> Contracts with Supermax Healthcare Canada, Public Services and Procurement Canada (Ottawa) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 26 January 2022. <https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/medias-media/actualites-news/supermax-eng.html>

<sup>2287</sup> Update on Contracts with Supermax Healthcare Canada, Public Services and Procurement Canada (Ottawa) 25 January 2022. Access Date: 26 January 2022. <https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/medias-media/actualites-news/supermax-update-eng.html>

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

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### **France: 0**

France has partially complied with its commitment to continue its cooperation in protecting individuals from forced labour through its own available domestic means and multilateral institutions.

On 2 July 2021, the Central Office to Fight Crimes against Humanity, Genocide and War Crimes opened an investigation into Skechers and fashion retailers Fast Retailing, Inditext and SMCP which own Uniqlo France, Zara, etc.<sup>2288</sup> This investigation comes after a complaint was filed in April 2021 concerning these retailers' use of forced Uyghur labour in their textile production. The goal of the investigation is to determine whether these retailers employ forced labour and accordingly take legal action.

On 6 July 2021, President Emmanuel Macron sent a letter to Senator Andre Gattolin that outlined France's position on China regarding forced labour issues.<sup>2289</sup> Specifically, the letter stated that France has asked China "to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular in Xinjiang, but also the rights, freedoms, and the high degree of autonomy of Hong Kong." The goal of this letter was to diplomatically convey France's stance on eradicating forced labour from the global supply chain to China.

On 20 January 2022, the National Assembly adopted a resolution that officially recognises the violence perpetrated by China against the Uyghurs as "constituting crimes against humanity and genocide."<sup>2290</sup> The resolution was adopted almost unanimously and it proposes to undertake "the necessary measures within the international community and in its foreign policy" to stop China's mistreatment of the Uyghurs. Such measures can include legal action against companies that continue to use forced labour of the Uyghur people.

France has partially complied with its commitment to continue its cooperation in protecting individuals from forced labour through its own available domestic means and multilateral institutions. It has demonstrated action only on a domestic level by undertaking an investigation of major fashion retailers reported to be profiting from forced labour and passing a non-binding resolution to stop importing goods made with forced labour.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Eleanor Park*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to continue its cooperation in protecting individuals from forced labour through its own available domestic means and multilateral institutions.

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<sup>2288</sup> France probes fashion giants for "crimes against humanity" in Uyghur camps, Radio France Internationale (Paris) 2 July 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. <https://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20210702-france-probes-fashion-giants-for-crimes-against-humanity-in-uyghur-labour-camps-china-xianjing>

<sup>2289</sup> US, EU Tighten Scrutiny on China's Xinjiang Over Uyghur Forced Labor Issue, Radio Free Asia (Washington D.C.) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/uyghur/business-advisories-07132021170808.html>

<sup>2290</sup> French Parliament Adopts Resolution Denouncing China's Uyghur "Genocide", Radio France Internationale (Paris) 20 January 2022. Access Date: 26 January 2022. <https://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20220120-french-parliament-adopts-resolution-denouncing-china-s-uyghur-genocide>

On 11 June 2021, the German parliament adopted the Act on Corporate Due Diligence Obligations in Supply Chains.<sup>2291</sup> Starting January 2024, it places enterprises with more than 1,000 German employees and headquarters, principle place of business, statutory seats or branch office in Germany under the obligation to respect human rights by implementing defined due diligence obligations along supply chains. This is the first time the responsibility of German enterprises to respect human rights in global supply chains has been put on a legal footing.

On 17 June 2021, Germany was involved in both the drafting and successful adoption of the International Labour Organization's "Global call to action for a human-centred recovery from the COVID-19 crisis that is inclusive, sustainable and resilient."<sup>2292</sup> The document calls for the need to address workers' rights violations, particularly emphasizing the need to eliminate "child and forced labour."

On 30 June 2021, Minister of Foreign Affairs Heiko Maas and the United Kingdom's Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab signed a joint declaration of intent on UK-German foreign policy cooperation.<sup>2293</sup> The goal of this declaration is to support the Group of Seven (G7)'s work towards ending forced labour among other goals.

On 2 July 2021, the Federal Foreign Office published a White Paper titled "A Multilateralism for the People."<sup>2294</sup> The document outlines the various multilateral institutions that Germany relies on, including the International Labour Organization (ILO), to generate action against forced labour. The document also emphasizes Germany's continued support for human rights under the ILO's employment laws and global supply chains. The goal of this publication is to record domestic efforts to protect individuals from forced labour.

On 2 July 2021, Germany, as a member of the Generation Equality Forum, contributed to the 'Action Coalitions Global Acceleration Plan.'<sup>2295</sup> The Acceleration Plan addresses how to end forced labour, especially in the context of gender equality.<sup>2296</sup>

On 6 July 2021, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development announced the launch of Green Button 2.0 which is a government-run certification for products and brands that meet human rights standards, certifying that the production process does not entail forced labour.<sup>2297</sup> The goal of this project is

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<sup>2291</sup> Act on Corporate Due Diligence in Supply Chains, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (Berlin) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 17 November 2021. <https://www.bmas.de/EN/Services/Press/recent-publications/2021/act-on-corporate-due-diligence-in-supply-chains.html>

<sup>2292</sup> Global call to action for a human-centered recovery from the COVID-19 crisis that is inclusive, sustainable and resilient, International Labour Organization (Geneva) 17 June 2021. Access Date: 8 March 2022. [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\\_norm/---relconf/documents/meetingdocument/wcms\\_806092.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---relconf/documents/meetingdocument/wcms_806092.pdf)

<sup>2293</sup> Joint Declaration by the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/gbr-joint-declaration/2468908>

<sup>2294</sup> A Multilateralism for the People, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 2 July 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/blob/2460320/0e29e9a0f2c3b9af9a4268ba913f26a9/weissbuch-multilateralismus-data.pdf>

<sup>2295</sup> Press release: Generation Equality Forum concludes in Paris with announcement of revolutionary commitments and Global Acceleration Plan to advance gender equality by 2026, UN Women (New York City) 2 July 2021. Access Date: 8 March 2022. <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2021/7/press-release-generation-equality-forum-concludes-with-commitments-and-global-acceleration-plan>

<sup>2296</sup> Action Coalitions Global Acceleration Plan, Generation Equality Forum (Paris) 2 July 2021. Access Date: 8 March 2022. <https://forum.generationequality.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/UNW%20-%20GAP%20Report%20-%20EN.pdf>

<sup>2297</sup> Development of the Green Button 2.0, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. <https://gruener-knopf.de/sites/default/files/file/2021-07/Green%20Button%20Consultation%20Terms%20of%20Reference.pdf>

to demonstrate the future adoption of corporate due diligence in accordance with the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

On 9 September 2021, the Federal Foreign Office published an article titled “China - A Land with Many Faces.”<sup>2298</sup> The article addresses how China set up forced labour camps in its Xinjiang region and affirms its support for the European Union’s sanctions against the country. The goal of this article is to condemn China’s violation of human rights and use diplomatic relations to address the international forced labour issue.

On 23 November 2021, the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs organized an event called “Fighting human trafficking and forced labour – What does Germany need to get done by 2030?”<sup>2299</sup> The Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs’ State Secretary Björn Böhning remarked that “even in Germany, the victims are still not recognised often enough” while stakeholders and experts discussed the road to eradicating forced labour by 2030. The goal of this event was to reiterate the commitment to ending forced labour.

On 1 December 2021, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development published a report called “Sustainable Agri-Food Systems - A World without Hunger.”<sup>2300</sup> The publication emphasized the federal ministry’s intention to shoulder responsibility for the social impacts of inequitable supply chains. The goal of this action is to highlight domestic efforts in pursuing the elimination of forced labour.

On 12 December 2021, Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock discussed the G7’s handling of forced labour issues with China in an interview with the German Press Agency.<sup>2301</sup> Baerbock called for an EU-wide import ban on goods from Xinjiang and for a more universal ban on all imports produced with forced labour. The goal of this measure is to emphasize the importance of upholding labour standards and human rights even in the European market.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to continue its cooperation in protecting individuals from forced labour through its own available domestic means and multilateral institutions. Germany took strong action through its own domestic means like passing legislation that prohibits corporations from engaging in supply chains that are underregulated and participating in forced labour and progressing with its Green Label initiative that encourages corporations to adhere to human rights standards. Germany has also aided in the implementation in the ILO’s “Global call to action” which calls for the elimination of forced and child labour..

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Imaan Khan*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to continue its cooperation in protecting individuals from forced labour through its own available domestic means and multilateral institutions.

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<sup>2298</sup> China – A Land With Many Faces, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 9 September 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021.

<https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/regionaleschwerpunkte/asien/-/231348>

<sup>2299</sup> Fighting Human Trafficking And Forced Labour - What Does Germany Need To Get Done By 2030?, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (Berlin) 29 November 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.bmas.de/EN/Services/Press/recent-publications/2021/what-does-germany-need-to-get-done-by-2030.html>

<sup>2300</sup> Sustainable Agri-Food Systems – A World without Hunger, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 1 December 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022.

[https://www.bmz.de/resource/blob/100758/87a73afe4dce879c6f2fef99176a5e62/BMZ-Kernthemenstrategie\\_EWOH\\_en.pdf](https://www.bmz.de/resource/blob/100758/87a73afe4dce879c6f2fef99176a5e62/BMZ-Kernthemenstrategie_EWOH_en.pdf)

<sup>2301</sup> Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock In An Interview With The DPA, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 30 December 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2504416>

On 17 June 2021, Prime Minister Mario Draghi criticised “China and in general all autocracies” for their use of forced labour and not respecting human rights standards.<sup>2302</sup> The goal of this statement was to verbally reaffirm Italy’s commitment to ending forced labour in supply chains.

On 22 June 2021, Italy adopted the Joint Education and Labour and Employment Ministers’ Declaration at a meeting hosted by the Group of Twenty (G20)’s Ministers of Education and Labour.<sup>2303</sup> This declaration enables the youth to access employment opportunities and decent work by encouraging the development of education, training and labour market policies.<sup>2304</sup> The G20 members highlighted the need for actions in gender equality and inclusion of the most vulnerable young groups. The goal of this declaration is to enhance the transparency of labour market opportunities and to secure good employment opportunities for the most vulnerable members of society.

On 14 July 2021, Minister of the Interior Luciana Lamorgese signed a protocol for the prevention of labour exploitation in agriculture and illegal hiring.<sup>2305</sup> The protocol promotes cooperation in the inter-institutional system to ensure the implementation of the territorial plan to combat labour exploitation in agriculture and illegal hiring. The goal of this document is to promote the implementation of measures stipulated by the “Three-Year Plan to Combat Labour Exploitation in Agriculture (2020-2022).”<sup>2306</sup> Nevertheless, the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights has still called on the Government of Italy to take more decisive actions to end the exploitation of migrant workers and to address their precarious legal status.<sup>2307</sup>

On 22 October 2021, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Luigi Di Maio represented Italy in the third Group of Seven (G7) Trade and Investment Ministers’ Meeting hosted in London.<sup>2308</sup> Italy endorsed the G7’s joint statements on trade and investment, forced labour and digital trade. The goal of this action was to reaffirm Italy’s commitment to ending forced labour on an international scale.

On 26 October 2021, Minister of Labour and Social Policies Andrea Orlando and Spain’s Second Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Labour and Social Economy Yolanda Díaz Pérez met in Rome to discuss bilateral labour concerns.<sup>2309</sup> Minister Orlando highlighted the need for Europe to regulate the minimum wage to combat wage dumping practices. He also emphasized the issues of equal pay for men and women

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<sup>2302</sup> Draghi Distances Italy From Russia, China to Return to West’s Fold, France 24 (Rome) 17 June 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20210617-draghi-distances-italy-from-russia-china-to-return-to-west-s-fold>

<sup>2303</sup> G20: Summary of the Final Declaration by the Labour Ministers, Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Rome) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/priorita/pagine/g20-sintesi-dichiarazione-finale-dei-ministri-del-lavoro.aspx/>

<sup>2304</sup> G20 Joint Education and Labour and Employment Ministers’ Declaration, Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Catania) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/temi-e-priorita/europa-e-fondi-europei/focus-on/G20/Documents/G20-Joint-Education-and-Labour-and-Employment-Ministers-Declaration.pdf>

<sup>2305</sup> Protocol to the Ministry of the Interior: Fight Against Labour Exploitation in Agriculture and Illegal Hiring, Ministry of the Interior (Rome) 14 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.interno.gov.it/it/notizie/lotta-allo-sfruttamento-lavorativo-agricoltura-e-caporalato-protocollo-viminale>

<sup>2306</sup> Signing of the Protocol to Fight Against Labour Exploitation in Agriculture and Illegal Hiring, Ministry of the Interior (Rome) 14 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.interno.gov.it/it/notizie/viminale-oggi-firma-protocollo-prevenzione-e-contrasto-sfruttamento-lavorativo-agricoltura-e-caporalato>

<sup>2307</sup> Italy: Government must break cycle of exploitation of workers, hold businesses accountable – UN experts, United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (Rome) 6 October 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=27609&LangID=E>

<sup>2308</sup> Canada Endorses G7 Joint Statements On Trade And Investment, Forced Labour And Digital Trade, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/10/canada-endorses-g7-joint-statements-on-trade-and-investment-forced-labour-and-digital-trade.html>

<sup>2309</sup> Orlando: Unity of Purpose Made Even More Solid by the Challenges Posed by the Pandemic, Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Rome) 26 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/pagine/orlando-unita-intenti-resa-ancora-piu-solida-dalle-sfide-imposte-dalla-pandemia.aspx/>



and wage transparency. The goal of this meeting was to establish a bilateral understanding on labour standards and employment protection.

On 29 October 2021, Italy completed the ratification process of the 2019 International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention on Violence and Harassment in the Workplace (No. 190) in the presence of the ILO Director-General Guy Ryder.<sup>2310</sup> This treaty is the first international labour standard to address violence and harassment in the workplace. The goal of ratifying this treaty was to move “towards a safe, healthy and inclusive world of work that is free from violence and harassment for all and, in particular, for persons in the most vulnerable situations.”

On 25 November 2021, Italy participated in the second segment of the 109th International Labour Conference (ILC).<sup>2311</sup> The ILC gathers representatives of governments, employers and workers from the 187 ILO member states.<sup>2312</sup> The goal of attending this international conference was to discuss, adopt and monitor International Labour Standards and to set the ILO’s global agenda and budget for the coming year.

On 7 December 2021, the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy introduced the first National Protocol for Collective Bargaining on Agile Work in the private sector.<sup>2313</sup> This protocol is the second provision in Europe to regulate smart working. The goal of this legislation is to protect cross-border workers and promote labour mobility.

On 10 December 2021, Italy launched, in partnership with the ILO and the European Commission, the first training module for trainers on the monitoring of the Three-Year Plan’s (2020-2022) performance in preventing labour exploitation in agriculture.<sup>2314</sup> This program includes five training modules and a session on adult training techniques. The Three-Year Plan is a joint ILO-European Commission action that tackles labour exploitation and unlawful recruitment in agriculture. The goal of the plan is to strengthen the capacity of national and local institutions in preventing and combating labour exploitation in agriculture.<sup>2315</sup>

On 21 December 2021, the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies announced the results of the operational activity carried out by Minister Orlando’s “Logistics and Freight Transport” task force to combat social dumping, labour exploitation and illegal behaviour in the sector.<sup>2316</sup> The task force audited 90 companies, verified 1,739 job positions and interviewed 945 workers and suspended the activities of four companies for

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<sup>2310</sup> Italy Ratifies The ILO Convention (No. 190) On The Elimination Of Violence And Harassment In The World Of Work, International Labour Organization (Geneva) 29 October 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.ilo.org/rome/risorse-informative/comunicati-stampa/WCMS\\_825453/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/rome/risorse-informative/comunicati-stampa/WCMS_825453/lang--en/index.htm)

<sup>2311</sup> International Labour Conference, 109th Session - Second Segment, International Labour Organization (Rome) 29 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.ilo.org/rome/eventi-e-riunioni/WCMS\\_829833/lang--it/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/rome/eventi-e-riunioni/WCMS_829833/lang--it/index.htm)

<sup>2312</sup> 109th International Labour Conference to Resume, International Labour Organization (Rome) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. [https://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS\\_828630/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS_828630/lang--en/index.htm)

<sup>2313</sup> National Protocol on Agile Work in the Private Sector, Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Rome) 9 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/Pagine/Protocollo-Nazionale-sul-Lavoro-Agile-nel-settore-privato.aspx>

<sup>2314</sup> Training on Monitoring Political Performance Against Labour Exploitation, International Labour Organization (Rome) 9 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. [https://www.ilo.org/rome/risorse-informative/comunicati-stampa/WCMS\\_831410/lang--it/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/rome/risorse-informative/comunicati-stampa/WCMS_831410/lang--it/index.htm)

<sup>2315</sup> Three-Year Plan To Combat Labour Exploitation In Agriculture, International Labour Organization (Rome) 9 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. [https://www.ilo.org/rome/approfondimenti/WCMS\\_766345/lang--it/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/rome/approfondimenti/WCMS_766345/lang--it/index.htm)

<sup>2316</sup> Logistics: Task Force “Logistics And Freight Transport” Carries Out Wide-Ranging Checks, Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Rome) 21 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/stampa-e-media/Comunicati/Pagine/Logistica-task-force-Settore-logistica-e-trasporto-merci-effettua-controllo-a-largo-raggio.aspx>

undeclared work and 15 companies for health and safety reasons. The goal of this action was “to stem the scourges of exploitation, illegal work and to constantly check safety in the workplace.”

On 30 December 2021, Italy approved the Budget Law for 2022 which includes new or stronger social protections for 12.4 million people.<sup>2317</sup> The goal of introducing these measures is to prevent the exclusion of workers from the social protection system.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to continue its cooperation in protecting individuals from forced labour through its own available domestic means and multilateral institutions. Italy has taken strong measures using its own domestic means to eradicate labour exploitation in its agricultural sector like the national ratification of laws which uphold human rights in employment and the new budget which seeks to provide social protection to vulnerable members of society. Italy has also worked with multilateral institutions like the ILO and G20 to enforce international labour standards.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Warisa Rahman*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to continue its cooperation in protecting individuals from forced labour through its own available domestic means and multilateral institutions.

On 12 July 2021, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) called on the textile industry to work together and craft guidelines that would root out human rights violations like forced labour in their supply chains.<sup>2318</sup> The goal of these guidelines is to assess existing provisions for fair work hours, fair wages and eliminating the presence of child labour or forced labour in the garment industry.

On 12 August 2021, the METI reaffirmed its support for the protection of individuals from forced labour by updating its “Business and Human Rights’: Towards A Responsible Value Chain” policy.<sup>2319</sup> Informed by international institutions such as the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the policy aims to disseminate guidelines on employing ethical labour practices and prohibiting forced labour.

On 28 September 2021, Minister for Foreign Affairs Toshimitsu Motegi protested a Korean court decision which ordered that assets seized from Mitsubishi Heavy Industries be sold off to compensate two women who were subjected to forced labour in the company during Japan’s occupation of the Korean peninsula.<sup>2320</sup> On 18 August 2021, the Korean court had ruled that assets worth KRW850 million (JPY80 million) could be seized from Mitsubishi Heavy’s account.

On 14 October 2021, Vice-Minister for International Affairs Naoshi Hirose attended the 2021 OECD Ministerial council meeting to speak on the importance of promoting corporate conduct responsibility

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<sup>2317</sup> 2022 Budget Law Approved: Work And Social Policies In The Foreground, Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Rome) 30 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 January 2022.

<https://www.lavoro.gov.it/priorita/Pagine/Approvata-la-Legge-di-Bilancio-2022-lavoro-e-politiche-sociali-in-primo-piano.aspx>

<sup>2318</sup> Japan to Craft Guidelines to Root Out Rights Violations in Textiles in Xinjiang, Asian News International (Tokyo) 12 July 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.aninews.in/news/world/asia/japan-to-craft-guidelines-to-root-out-rights-violations-in-textiles-in-xinjiang-report20210712224736/>

<sup>2319</sup> “Business and Human Rights’: Towards a Responsible Value Chain, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 12 August 2021. Access Date: 24 November 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/policy/economy/biz\\_human\\_rights/index.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/policy/economy/biz_human_rights/index.html)

<sup>2320</sup> Japan Protests S.Korean Court Ordering Sale of Mitsubishi Heavy Assets, Reuters (Tokyo) 28 September 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/business/japan-protests-skorean-court-ordering-sale-mitsubishi-heavy-assets-2021-09-28/>

towards seeking the eradication of forced labour in global supply chains.<sup>2321</sup> The goal of this action was to use an international platform to urge governments to take responsibility in ensuring that multinational corporations within their jurisdictions are following commitments regarding forced labour.

On 22 October 2021, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Kōichi Hagiuda and State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Masahiro Ishii adopted an annex concerning forced labour at the G7 Trade Ministers Meeting.<sup>2322</sup> The annex reaffirms the commitment to using both domestic and multilateral institutions to eradicate forced labour and protect workers and the intention to increase education and accessibility of guidelines and due diligence practices for businesses.<sup>2323</sup>

On 5 November 2021, the Japan Textile Federation, with the METI as an observer, signed a memorandum of understanding with the ILO to advocate for due diligence in the labour and employment policies of the textile industry.<sup>2324</sup> The agreement is based on the ILO's "Tripartite Declaration of Principles Concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy" which calls for the elimination of forced and compulsory labour.<sup>2325</sup>

On 10 November 2021, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida elected former Defense Minister Gen Nakatani to be the Prime Minister's Special Advisor on Human Rights.<sup>2326</sup> Prime Minister Kishida created the position to focus on China's involvement with forced labour in the Xinjiang region. Special Advisor Nakatani has expressed interest in introducing a law that will allow Japan to seize assets in China and ban international travel for human rights violators to and from Japan.<sup>2327</sup> The goal of creating this position is to highlight Japan's position on ongoing human rights issues.

On 26 January 2022, the Japan Federation of Bar Associations held an event called "Symposium on Realizing the Access to Remedy in Japan – The 1st Year Anniversary of Japan's National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights."<sup>2328</sup> The national action plan includes guidelines on holding businesses accountable for their

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<sup>2321</sup> Vice-Minister for International Affairs Hirose Attends the 2021 OECD Ministerial Council Meeting and the WTO Informal Ministerial Meeting, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 14 October 2021. Access Date: 24 November 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1014\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1014_001.html)

<sup>2322</sup> Minister Hagiuda and State Minister Ishii attend G7 Trade Ministers Meeting, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo), 22 October 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1022\\_005.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1022_005.html)

<sup>2323</sup> G7 Trade Ministers' Statement on Forced Labour (Annex A), Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (London) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2021/10/20211022008/20211022008-2.pdf>

<sup>2324</sup> ILO and JTF Sign An Agreement To Harness The Responsible Business Practices In Japanese Textile Industry, International Labour Organization (Geneva) 5 November 2021. Access Date: 24 November 2021. [https://www.ilo.org/tokyo/information/pr/WCMS\\_826705/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/tokyo/information/pr/WCMS_826705/lang--en/index.htm)

<sup>2325</sup> Tripartite Declaration of Principles Concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy, International Labour Organization (Geneva) 17 March 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2021. [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\\_emp/---emp\\_ent/--multi/documents/publication/wcms\\_094386.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_emp/---emp_ent/--multi/documents/publication/wcms_094386.pdf)

<sup>2326</sup> Kishida Reelected Japan's PM In Parliamentary Vote, Associated Press (Tokyo) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://apnews.com/article/fumio-kishida-japan-legislature-elections-parliamentary-elections-4a22bbe67de50963cf794c3e62a756cc>

<sup>2327</sup> Japan PM Kishida To Appoint Ex-Defence Chief Human Rights Aide, Reuters (Tokyo) 8 November 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/world/china/japan-pm-kishida-appoint-ex-defence-chief-human-rights-aide-2021-11-08/>

<sup>2328</sup> Symposium on Realizing the Access to Remedy in Japan – The 1st Year Anniversary of Japan's National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, Japan Federation of Bar Associates (Tokyo) n.d. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.nichibenren.or.jp/en/events/220126.html>

activities in the supply chain.<sup>2329</sup> The goal of the event was to celebrate the action plan's accomplishments in eliminating forced labour after one year of implementation.<sup>2330</sup>

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to continue its cooperation in protecting individuals from forced labour through its own available domestic means and multilateral institutions. Japan has demonstrated strong actions like publishing national labour standards and signing a memorandum of understanding with the ILO. Japan exhibited its intent to continue supporting the commitment with the establishment of updated labour laws and workplace regulations for the textile and garment industries that will come into effect in 2022.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Imaan Khan*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to continue its cooperation in protecting individuals from forced labour through its own available domestic means and multilateral institutions.

On 24 June 2021, the United Kingdom confirmed that it is investigating allegations of forced labour in the global solar power supply chain.<sup>2331</sup> This announcement comes after the United States Department of Commerce announced that metallurgical-grade silicon imported from Hoshine Silicon Industry would be subject to a withhold and release order as the company is reported to employ forced labour in its production process.

On 30 June 2021, Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab and Germany's Minister of Foreign Affairs Heiko Maas signed a joint declaration of intent on UK-German foreign policy cooperation.<sup>2332</sup> The goal of this declaration is to support the Group of Seven's work towards ending forced labour among other goals.

On 22 October 2021, the International Trade Secretary Anne-Marie Trevelyan issued a joint statement with other G7 Trade Ministers reaffirming that there was "no place for forced labour in the rules-based multilateral trading system" and they called on "countries, multilateral institutions and businesses to work together, including with survivors of forced labour, to eradicate forced labour from global supply chains."<sup>2333</sup> The statement also promised future collaboration and cooperation with multilateral institutions like the United Nations, International Labour Organization (ILO), United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

On 21 November 2021, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy confirmed that they are investigating Supermax Corp. of Malaysia which had a GBP316 million contract for supplying 88.5 million

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<sup>2329</sup> "Business and Human Rights": Towards a Responsible Value Chain, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 12 August 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/policy/economy/biz\\_human\\_rights/index.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/policy/economy/biz_human_rights/index.html)

<sup>2330</sup> Symposium on Realizing the Access to Remedy in Japan – The 1st Year Anniversary of Japan's National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, Japan Federation of Bar Associates (Tokyo) n.d. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.nichibenren.or.jp/en/events/220126.html>

<sup>2331</sup> UK Government "Thoroughly Investigating" Forced Labour in Solar Supply Chain, Solar Power Portal (London) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022.

[https://www.solarpowerportal.co.uk/news/uk\\_government\\_thoroughly\\_investigating\\_forced\\_labour\\_reports\\_as\\_us\\_import\\_b](https://www.solarpowerportal.co.uk/news/uk_government_thoroughly_investigating_forced_labour_reports_as_us_import_b)

<sup>2332</sup> Joint Declaration by the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 21 November 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/gbr-joint-declaration/2468908>

<sup>2333</sup> G7 Trade Ministers' Statement on Forced Labour, Department for International Trade (London) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/g7-trade-ministers-statement-on-forced-labour-annex-a>

rubber gloves and other personal protective equipment to the National Health Service.<sup>2334</sup> The Malaysian supplier has been alleged to have forced employees to work long hours, confiscated passports and ignored COVID-19 safety protocols. The goal of this investigation is to determine whether Supermax did employ forced labour and to then review all contracts with the company.

On 25 November 2021, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) released a statement on forced labour which highlighted the UK's position as a leading international player in the fight against modern slavery.<sup>2335</sup> The report highlighted how the FCDO encouraged fashion retailers to adhere to the ILO's Call to Action on Garments, contributed to the Freedom Fund's Emergency Relief Fund to provide humanitarian support to vulnerable communities, adapted the Global Fund to End Modern Slavery programme to support 167 survivors of commercial sexual exploitation and currently supports the United Nations Inter-Agency Coordination Group Against Trafficking in Persons to enhance policies combatting human trafficking and modern slavery. The goal of this report is to provide a comprehensive overview of the FCDO's work in ending forced labour between 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021.

On 8 December 2021, Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced a diplomatic boycott of the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing over concerns of human rights abuses in Xinjiang.<sup>2336</sup> The UK will not send a ministerial delegation but its athletes will still be allowed to compete at the international sporting event. The goal of this boycott is to condemn China's genocide of Uyghur, Turkic and other minorities in Xinjiang where they have been incarcerated in camps, forcibly sterilised and forced into labour.

On 10 December 2021, the UK joined Canada and the United States in imposing sanctions against entities suspected of committing human rights abuse in Myanmar.<sup>2337</sup> The goal of these sanctions is to send a message that "democracies around the world will act against those who abuse the power of the state to inflict suffering and repression."

On 15 December 2021, the High Court of England and Wales allowed the World Uyghur Congress (WUC) of Munich, Germany, and the Global Legal Action Network (GLAN) to proceed with a case that alleges the UK allowed the imports of cotton goods produced with Uyghur forced labour in Xinjiang.<sup>2338</sup> On 5 November 2021, the Uyghur rights advocacy group had filed the case through crowdfunding efforts.<sup>2339</sup>

On 20 December 2021, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Select Committee Tom Tugendhat stated that the UK should not be "buying goods from Xinjiang made with slave labour" in an interview with Politico Magazine.<sup>2340</sup> Minister State for Trade Policy Penny Mordaunt added that the UK has "been one of the

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<sup>2334</sup> UK Investigates Supplier of NHS PPE over Alleged Use of Forced Labour, The Guardian (London) 21 November 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2021/nov/21/uk-investigates-supplier-of-nhs-ppe-over-alleged-use-of-forced-labour>

<sup>2335</sup> Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office Modern Slavery Statement 2020 to 2021, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 25 November 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fcdo-modern-slavery-statement-2020-to-2021/foreign-commonwealth-and-development-office-modern-slavery-statement-2020-to-2021>

<sup>2336</sup> UK and Canada Join Diplomatic Boycott of China Winter Olympics, British Broadcasting Corporation (London) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-59582137>

<sup>2337</sup> Treasury Sanctions Perpetrators of Serious Human Rights Abuse on International Human Rights Day, United States Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 10 December 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy0526>

<sup>2338</sup> UK High Court Allows Uyghur Advocacy Group to Proceed with Forced Labour Case, Asian News International (London) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.aninews.in/news/world/europe/uk-high-court-allows-uyghur-advocacy-group-to-proceed-with-forced-labour-case20211217230139/>

<sup>2339</sup> Legal Challenge to UK on Xinjiang Imports, Ecotextile News (London) 5 November 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.ecotextile.com/2021110528584/labels-legislation-news/legal-challenge-to-uk-on-xinjiang-imports.html>

<sup>2340</sup> UK Hints at Banning Chinese Imports with Forced Labour Links, Politico (London) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.politico.eu/article/uk-could-impose-chinese-forced-labor-import-ban/>

leading forces with regard to modern slavery, but also building the systems so that consumers, investors and employers can see what is happening every level of the supply chain.” The goal of these statements is to portray optimism that the Parliament will judiciously review trade with China and work on streamlining checks and balances within the supply chain.

On 27 January 2022, Former Leader of the UK Conservative Party and current Member of Parliament (MP) Iain Duncan Smith called on Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak to block investors from financially supporting firms perpetrating forced labour abuses in Xinjiang, as part of the Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China (IPAC).<sup>2341</sup> MP Smith, amongst other signatories, urged the UK Government to draw up a blacklist of entities identified to be employing forced Uyghur labour and ban firms from investing in those blacklisted entities. The goal of this measure is to compel international governments to take action against those perpetuating the cycle of forced labour in the global supply chain.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to continue its cooperation in protecting individuals from forced labour through its own available domestic means and multilateral institutions. The United Kingdom has demonstrated strong action on a multilateral level as it has worked with the US and Canada on sanctioning Myanmar and China for their use of forced labour and it has collaborated with international organizations like the ILO to affect change in the global supply chain. On a domestic level, the United Kingdom has demonstrated its commitment to fighting forced labour by reforming labour laws, reviewing international trade and allowing the WUC and GLAN to fight their case of forced labour in a British court.

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

*Analysts: Mariem Hamdy, Saarah Khan and Sabar Fatima*

#### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to continue its cooperation in protecting individuals from forced labour through its own available domestic means and multilateral institutions.

On 24 June 2021, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) announced a Withhold Release Order (WRO) on silica-based products produced by Xinjiang-based Hoshine Silicon Industry Co., Ltd.<sup>2342</sup> The goal of this sanction is to condemn China’s use of forced labour in Xinjiang and systemic abuses against Uyghurs, Kazakhs and members of other Muslim minority groups.

On 24 June 2021, the Department of Commerce’s Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) added five Chinese entities to the Entity List for accepting or utilising forced labour in Xinjiang.<sup>2343</sup> The Entity List is a tool used by the BIS to restrict the export, re-export and domestic transfer of items subject to the Export Administration Regulations to people believed to be involved or become involved in activities considered to threaten the national security or foreign policy interests of the United States. The entities include Hoshine Silicon Industry Co., Ltd., Xinjiang Daqo New Energy Co., Ltd., Xinjiang East Hope Nonferrous Metals Co., Ltd., Xinjiang GCL New Energy Material Technology Co., Ltd. and Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps.

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<sup>2341</sup> International Alliance of MPs Calls for Blacklisting for Chinese Firms over Uyghur ‘Atrocities’, Asian News International (London) 27 January 2022. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.aninews.in/news/world/us/international-alliance-of-mps-calls-for-blacklisting-of-chinese-firms-over-uyghur-atrocities20220127100804/>

<sup>2342</sup> New U.S. Government Actions on Forced Labor in Xinjiang, The White House (Washington D.C.) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/06/24/fact-sheet-new-u-s-government-actions-on-forced-labor-in-xinjiang/>

<sup>2343</sup> Commerce Department Adds Five Chinese Entities to the Entity List for Participating in China’s Campaign of Forced Labour Against Muslims in Xinjiang, United States Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/06/commerce-department-adds-five-chinese-entities-entity-list>

On 24 June 2021, the Department of Labor updated its “List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor” to include polysilicon that is produced with forced labor in China.<sup>2344</sup>

On 9 July 2021, the Department of Commerce’s BIS added 34 entities to the Entity List involved in activities counter to the US’ foreign policy interests.<sup>2345</sup> As 14 out of 34 entities are based in China, the BIS has stated that it will take strong and decisive action to target the entities that are enabling human rights abuses in Xinjiang.

On 13 July 2021, Secretary of State Antony Blinken updated the official warning against doing business in Xinjiang citing China’s use of forced labour and genocide against the Uyghur people.<sup>2346</sup> The new 36-page advisory, co-signed by the US State, Treasury, Commerce, Homeland Security and Labor Departments and the Office of the US Trade Representative, highlights how stakeholders should “be aware of the significant reputational, economic, and legal risks of involvement with entities or individuals in or linked to Xinjiang that engage in human rights abuses...including widespread state-sponsored forced labour.” Trade Representative Katherine Tai stated that action demonstrates “the commitment to ending forced labour around the world, especially in global supply chains.”

On 20 October 2021, CBP ordered the detainment of all disposable gloves produced by Supermax Corporation Bhd. and its subsidiaries.<sup>2347</sup> The goal of this action is to protect vulnerable workers and eliminate the practice of forced labour from supply chains.

On 21 October 2021, CBP detained tomatoes produced by Agropecuarios Tom S.A. de C.V., Horticola Tom S.A. de C.V. and their subsidiaries.<sup>2348</sup> The CBP issued a WRI after identifying at least five of the International Labour Organization (ILO)’s indicators of forced labour.

On 4 November 2021, CBP ordered the detainment of all disposable gloves produced by a group of companies named Smart Glove in Malaysia.<sup>2349</sup> The order reflects the ILO’s reports indicating Smart Glove’s use of forced labour. CBP Office of Trade Executive Assistant Commissioner AnnMarie R. Highsmith stated, “there is no place for forced labor in today’s world, particularly in U.S. supply chains.”

On 6 December 2021, the US announced a diplomatic boycott against the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing over China’s abuse of Uyghur Muslims.<sup>2350</sup> The boycott means that no government officials will attend but

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<sup>2344</sup> New U.S. Government Actions on Forced Labor in Xinjiang, The White House (Washington D.C.) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/06/24/fact-sheet-new-u-s-government-actions-on-forced-labor-in-xinjiang/>

<sup>2345</sup> Commerce Department Adds 34 Entities to the Entity List to Target Enablers of China’s Human Rights Abuses and Military Modernization, and Unauthorized Iranian and Russian Procurement, United States Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/07/commerce-department-adds-34-entities-entity-list-target-enablers-chinas>

<sup>2346</sup> US, EU Tighten Scrutiny on China’s Xinjiang Over Uyghur Forced Labor Issue, Radio Free Asia (Washington D.C.) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/uyghur/business-advisories-07132021170808.html>

<sup>2347</sup> CBP Issues Withhold Release Order on Supermax Corporation Bhd. and Its Subsidiaries, United States Customs and Border Protection (Washington D.C.) 20 October 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/national-media-release/cbp-issues-withhold-release-order-supermax-corporation-bhd-and-its>

<sup>2348</sup> CBP Issues Withhold Release Order on Tomatoes Produced by Farm in Mexico, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (Washington D.C.) 21 October 2021. Access Date: 2 January 2022. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/national-media-release/cbp-issues-withhold-release-order-tomatoes-produced-farm-mexico>

<sup>2349</sup> CBP Issues Withhold Release Order on Malaysian Glove Producers, United States Customs and Border Protection (Washington D.C.) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/national-media-release/cbp-issues-withhold-release-order-malaysian-glove-producers>

<sup>2350</sup> In pointed snub, no U.S. government official will attend Beijing Winter Olympics, The Washington Post (Washington D.C.) 6 December 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. [https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/us-beijing-winter-olympics-diplomatic-boycott/2021/12/06/1d2e9920-56b1-11ec-9a18-a506cf3aa31d\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/us-beijing-winter-olympics-diplomatic-boycott/2021/12/06/1d2e9920-56b1-11ec-9a18-a506cf3aa31d_story.html)

athletes will be allowed to compete. The goal of this measure is to publicly condemn China for its ongoing violations of human rights commitments.

On 10 December 2021, the US joined with Canada and the United Kingdom in imposing sanctions against private-sector entities suspected of committing human rights abuses in Myanmar.<sup>2351</sup> The goal of these sanctions is to send a message that “democracies around the world will act against those who abuse the power of the state to inflict suffering and repression.”

On 14 December 2021, the Department of Labor awarded USD3 million cooperative agreement to the ILO.<sup>2352</sup> The goal of this investment is to strengthen the Democratic Republic of the Congo’s compliance with international labour standards.

On 20 December 2021, the CBP ordered the detainment of disposable gloves produced by Brightway Holdings in Malaysia following the issuing of withhold release order after the entity showed indicators of using forced labour.<sup>2353</sup>

On 23 December 2021, President Joe Biden signed the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act into law in efforts of pushing back against the treatment of the Uyghur Muslim minority in China.<sup>2354</sup> The Senate had passed the act on 14 July 2021 and the House of Representatives had passed the act with one opposing vote on 8 December 2021.<sup>2355</sup> This act bans imports from Xinjiang under the presumption that all products are made with forced labour and imposes sanctions on foreign individuals responsible for forced labour in Xinjiang, China.<sup>2356</sup>

On 4 January 2022, the Department of Labour announced USD14 million in grants to two projects combating child labour, forced labour and human trafficking worldwide.<sup>2357</sup> The first award to the ILO is worth USD10 million to support the UN Sustainable Development Goal’s target to end child labour, forced labour, human trafficking and modern slavery. The ILO will use this investment with trade unions, civil society organizations, governments, regional institutions and Alliance 8.7 which is a global partnership to end these abuses. The second award is to the Global March Against Child Labour’s Catalyst project, worth USD4 million, to work in Uganda, Peru and Nepal, to address child labour abuses. The goal of these investments is to set equitable labour standards and to ensure access by all children to free and quality education.

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<sup>2351</sup> Treasury Sanctions Perpetrators of Serious Human Rights Abuse on International Human Rights Day, United States Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 10 December 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy0526>

<sup>2352</sup> US Department of Labor Awards \$3M Grant to Support Progress on Labor Standards in the Democratic Republic of Congo, United States Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/ilab/ilab20211214>

<sup>2353</sup> CBP Issues Withhold Release Order on Brightway Group, United States Customs and Border Protection (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/national-media-release/cbp-issues-withhold-release-order-brightway-group>

<sup>2354</sup> Bill Signed: H.R. 6256, The White House (Washington D.C.) 23 December 2021. Access Date: 24 December 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/12/23/bill-signed-h-r-6256/>

<sup>2355</sup> Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act, United States Congress (Washington D.C.) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/65/titles?r=5&s=1>; Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act, United States Congress (Washington D.C.) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1155>

<sup>2356</sup> Bill Signed: H.R. 6256, The White House (Washington D.C.) 23 December 2021. Access Date: 24 December 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/12/23/bill-signed-h-r-6256/>

<sup>2357</sup> US Department Of Labor Awards \$14m In Grants To Two Projects Combating Child Labor, Forced Labor, Human Trafficking Worldwide, United States Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 4 January 2022. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/ilab/ilab20220104>



On 13 January 2022, the United States met with Mexico and Canada for the First United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) Deputies Meeting where they agreed to prohibit the importation of goods produced by forced labour.<sup>2358</sup> They also agreed to report concrete and measurable outcomes on implementing this obligation at the 2022 Future Technologies Conference. The goal of this meeting was to re-establish the USMCA's common objective of eradicating forced labour from global supply chains.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to continue its cooperation in protecting individuals from forced labour through its own available domestic means and multilateral institutions. The United States has consistently taken strong action against China's use of forced labour by imposing sanctions on Chinese goods, banning the imports of all goods produced in Xinjiang and conducting a diplomatic boycott of the 2022 Winter Olympics. The United States has also cooperated with other countries and the ILO to enhance the enforcement of action against those employing forced labour in global supply chains.

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

*Analyst: Eleanor Park*

### **European Union: 0**

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to continue its cooperation in protecting individuals from forced labour through its own available domestic means and multilateral institutions.

On 13 July 2021, the European Commission and the European External Action Service published guidelines to help European Union companies eradicate forced labour in their supply chains.<sup>2359</sup> The goal of these guidelines is to provide practical advice on how to identify, prevent, mitigate and address the risk of forced labour.

On 19 July 2021, the European Commission held a civil society dialogue to review the 15-Point Action Plan for Trade and Sustainable Development and the Trade Policy Review actions on forced labour.<sup>2360</sup> This meeting included representatives from civil society who discussed legislative and non-legislative initiatives addressing forced labour. The goal of this dialogue was to ensure that forced labour does not find a place within European supply chains.

On 15 September 2021, the EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen announced the European Commission's intention to propose a ban on the import of goods produced with forced labour.<sup>2361</sup> President von der Leyen stated that "the European Union should ban the import of products made by the roughly 25 million people forced into labour worldwide."

On 23 November 2021, the EU-Korea Domestic Advisory Group underlined the importance of the ratification of the International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention C29 on Forced Labour by the

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<sup>2358</sup> Mexico, the United States, and Canada Joint Statement on the First USMCA Deputies Meeting, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 13 January 2022. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/january/mexico-united-states-and-canada-joint-statement-first-usmca-deputies-meeting>

<sup>2359</sup> New EU Guidance Helps Companies To Combat Forced Labour In Supply Chain, European Commission (Brussels) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=2287&serie=1868&langId=en>

<sup>2360</sup> Civil Society Dialogue on the Review of the 15-Point Action Plan for Trade and Sustainable Development and on the Trade Policy Review Actions on Forced Labour, European Commission (Brussels) 19 July 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://trade.ec.europa.eu/dialogue/meetdetails.cfm?meet=11601>

<sup>2361</sup> EU Will Propose Ban On Products Made By Forced Labour, Says EU Commission President Von Der Leyen, Business & Human Rights Resource Centre (London) 15 September 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.business-humanrights.org/en/latest-news/eu-will-propose-ban-on-products-made-by-forced-labour-says-eu-commission-president-von-der-leyen/>

Republic of Korea in April 2021.<sup>2362</sup> Deputy Director of the ILO's International Labour Standards Department Karen Curtis stated that “the ratification demonstrates political commitment and a pledge to ensure these standards at national level, regardless of administration. It is also a significant leadership message to non-ratifiers.”

On 12 December 2021, the European Parliament held an urgent debate on the use of forced labour in the Linglong tire factory in Serbia. The aim of this dialogue was to incentivize action against forced labour.

On 22 December 2021, Executive Vice President of the European Commission for An Economy that Works for People Valdis Dombrovskis wrote to Members of the European Parliament urging caution over recent plans to ban products made using forced labour as sanctions could risk a trade backlash.<sup>2363</sup> These sentiments indicate a reluctance to adopt such explicit import bans for fear they could be seen as discriminatory trade measures if the ban does not also target forced labour inside the European Union. Instead, they are drafting due diligence legislation that will force companies to take action against potential abuses of human rights in their supply chains.

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to continue its cooperation in protecting individuals from forced labour through its own available domestic means and multilateral institutions. While the European Union has demonstrated strong actions to support the protection of individuals from forced labour such as creating labour guidelines for European companies and weak actions such as announcing intentions to propose a ban on importing goods involving forced labour and hosting civil society dialogues, the European Union has not taken any strong actions in partnership with multilateral institutions.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Eliane Ramos*

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<sup>2362</sup> EU-Korea DAG Follows The Developments In South Korea Subsequent To The Report Of The Panel Of Experts And South Korea's Ratification Of ILO Conventions, European Economic and Social Committee (Brussels) 23 November 2021. Access Date: 11 December 2021. <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/news-media/news/eu-korea-dag-follows-developments-south-korea-subsequent-report-panel-experts-and-south-koreas-ratification-ilo>

<sup>2363</sup> EU Urges Caution on Any Ban on Imports Made with Forced Labour, Financial Times (Brussels) 24 December 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. <https://www.ft.com/content/748a837b-ac51-4f2e-9a5d-3af780ec8444>

## 19. Digital Economy: Open Internet

“We commit to preserve an open, interoperable, reliable and secure internet, one that is unfragmented, supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people.”

*Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France		0	
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.75 (88%)	

### Background

The introduction of the digital sphere into the G7 agenda has been a fairly recent phenomenon. As the digital economy became increasingly relevant to actors’ ability to govern, its addition to the agenda became imperative — particularly concerning open and secure internet.<sup>2364</sup> Though the 2021 Cornwall Summit marks the first commitment regarding open internet, the digital economy was first introduced as an issue area in 2000.<sup>2365</sup> The increasing divergence of digital models predicates the existence of a more complex commitment that acknowledges the interaction between economic opportunity, security, ethics, and human rights, as well as the balance between the role of the state, businesses, and individuals. The focus on the digital economy and open internet thus serves to address the regulatory frameworks and relevant stakeholders to ensure a productive and resilient economy in the current data-driven age.<sup>2366</sup>

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, the Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society marked the first attempt to understand Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) by recognizing the need for universal and affordable internet access for all.<sup>2367</sup> The commitment to bridging the “digital divide” became the primary goal and spurred the creation of the Digital Opportunities Task Force (DOT), which aimed to increase access and connectivity to the internet.<sup>2368</sup>

At the 2011 Deauville Summit, the interactions between proper digital infrastructure and economy were highlighted as G8 leaders aimed to seize emerging opportunities in cloud computing, social networking, and

<sup>2364</sup> OECD Council Recommendation on Principles for Internet Policy Making, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 13 December 2011. Access Date: 26 October 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/sti/ieconomy/49258588.pdf>

<sup>2365</sup> Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2000. Access Date: 26 October 2021

<sup>2366</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/gis.htm> <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communication.html>

<sup>2367</sup> Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society, G8 Information Centre (Toronto), 22 July 2000. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/gis.htm>

<sup>2368</sup> Digital Opportunities for All: Meeting the Challenge | DOTForce Report Card, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 1 July 2002. Access Date: 22 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/dotforce\\_reportcard.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/dotforce_reportcard.pdf)

citizen publications.<sup>2369</sup> The G8 leaders recognized the potential challenges involving interoperability and convergence on public policies concerning personal data, net neutrality, and ICT security.

At the 2013 Lough Erne Summit, G8 leaders introduced an Open Data Charter built on the following main principles: open data by default, transparency about data collection and the release of timely and usable government data while continuing to safeguard privacy.<sup>2370</sup> G8 leaders recognized open government data as an essential resource of the information age that would support the democratic process and increase transparency in financial institutions. The G8 leaders also recognized that free access to open data is of significant value to society and the economy as they have the potential to drive innovation, economic growth, and the creation of jobs.<sup>2371</sup>

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders adopted the G7 Principles and Actions on Cyber, which recognizes digital innovation as essential to the economy and enables transparent policy to stimulate economic growth while promoting privacy and data protection.<sup>2372</sup> Additionally, the leaders aimed to improve connectivity and accessibility by promoting interoperability through ICT standards. The G7 leaders also recognized the Charter of the Digitally Connected World, further emphasizing ICT's role in economic growth and social activities.<sup>2373</sup>

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders recognized the Next Production Revolution (NPR), in which technological and digital advancements revolutionize business and government as a means of increasing economic growth and competitiveness.<sup>2374</sup> Accordingly, the leaders adopted the G7 People-Centered Action Plan on Innovation, Skills and Labor, which promotes access to the digital world while strengthening digital security and promoting Intellectual Property Rights Protections and risk-informed policies that strengthen the digital economy.<sup>2375</sup>

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, the G7 leaders committed to the Charlevoix Common Vision for the Future of Artificial Intelligence, which aims to build new forms of economic growth while maintaining an open and fair market environment with certain data protection from artificial intelligence (AI) innovation.<sup>2376</sup> The leaders also recognized the need for internet service providers and social media platforms to improve transparency, which would prevent the illegal use of personal data and breaches of privacy while stimulating the economy.<sup>2377</sup>

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, G7 leaders agreed on the Biarritz Strategy for an Open, Free and Secure Digital Transformation, which recognizes the internet as a key enabler for economic growth and acknowledges the

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<sup>2369</sup> G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html>

<sup>2370</sup> 2013 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communique.html>

<sup>2371</sup> G8 Open Data Charter, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-open-data.html>

<sup>2372</sup> G7 Principles and Actions on Cyber, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/cyber.html>

<sup>2373</sup> Charter for the Digitally Connected World, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 30 April 2016. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/ict/2016-ict-charter.html>

<sup>2374</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

<sup>2375</sup> G7 People-Centered Action Plan on Innovation, Skills and Labor, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 May 2017. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/action-plan.html>

<sup>2376</sup> Charlevoix Common Vision for the Future of Artificial Intelligence, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/ai-commitment.html>

<sup>2377</sup> Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/democracy-commitment.html>

need to stop malign online behaviour.<sup>2378</sup> The document emphasizes the importance of freedom of expression and opinion, but also addresses the internet's negative effects, including threatening democratic values and stifling economic development. The G7 leaders also formed the G7 and Africa Partnership, which aims to support the reduction of the digital divide and create a more open internet.<sup>2379</sup>

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders discussed the need for a digital ecosystem that would reflect democratic values and drive innovation across the global economy.<sup>2380</sup> The leaders recognized that cyberspace will determine the future prosperity and wellbeing of people all over the world, and committed to promoting worldwide digital literacy, strengthening digital global norms, and opposing internet shutdowns and network restrictions. The leaders also endorsed the G7 Compact on Research Collaboration and its commitment to protecting research and innovation across the G7 to open research collaboration.

### **Commitment Features**

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, leaders committed to “preserve an open, interoperable, reliable and secure internet, one that is unfragmented, supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people.” This commitment can be interpreted as having one main target, which is the preservation of the internet. This target includes six dimensions to preserve: “open,” “interoperable,” “reliable,” “secure,” “unfragmented,” and “supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people.”

“Preserve” is understood to mean keeping something safe or protecting it from harm or loss.<sup>2381</sup> In the context of the commitment, it refers to the protection of the aforementioned six dimensions.

In the context of the commitment, “open” is understood to mean unrestricted access to the internet.<sup>2382</sup> This includes free access to the World Wide Web that is available without variables that depend on the financial motives of Internet Service Providers.

“Interoperable” is understood to mean the ability of different digital services to work together and communicate with one another.<sup>2383</sup> In the context of the internet, it refers to users and organizations being able to interact with one another across platforms and efficiently exchange information. An example of compliance can include a government mandating open interfaces.

“Secure” is understood to mean protected from danger or harm.<sup>2384</sup> In the context of the internet, it refers to a connection that is encrypted by one or more security protocols to ensure the security of flowing data.<sup>2385</sup>

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<sup>2378</sup> Biarritz Strategy for an Open, Free and Secure Digital Transformation, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/biarritz-strategy-for-digital-transformation.html>

<sup>2379</sup> Biarritz Declaration for a G7 & Africa Partnership, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/biarritz-declaration-africa-partnership.html>

<sup>2380</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communication.html>

<sup>2381</sup> Preserve, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 26 October 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/preserve>

<sup>2382</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>2383</sup> Data portability, interoperability and digital platform competition, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) n.d. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/daf/competition/data-portability-interoperability-and-digital-platform-competition-2021.pdf>

<sup>2384</sup> Secure, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/secure>

<sup>2385</sup> The OECD Privacy Framework, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 2013. Access Date: 26 October 2021. [https://www.oecd.org/sti/ieconomy/oecd\\_privacy\\_framework.pdf](https://www.oecd.org/sti/ieconomy/oecd_privacy_framework.pdf)

Examples of compliance can include allocating money to information technology training and collaborating with the private sector to share intelligence on and prevent cyber attacks.

“Unfragmented” is often closely linked to “interoperable,” and is understood to mean every device on the internet being able to exchange data packets with any other device that is willing to receive them.<sup>2386</sup> Examples of compliance can include preventing fragmentation by monitoring activity on the dark web.

“Support” is understood to mean the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity.<sup>2387</sup> In the context of the commitment, it refers to the internet backing up freedom, innovation, and trust which empowers people.

“Freedom” is understood to mean the absence of necessity, coercion, or constraint in choice or action and the power to choose what one wants to do.<sup>2388</sup> In the context of the commitment, it refers to the right to have unrestricted access to information and the right to privacy, expression, opinion, and innovation.

“Innovation” is understood as the embodiment of an idea in a technology, product, or process that is new and creates value.<sup>2389</sup> An innovation is the implementation of a new or significantly improved product (good or service), or process which derives from creative ideas, technological progress, a new marketing method, a new organizational method in business practices, workplace organization or external relations. Innovation covers a wide range of domains with science and technology as the core.

“Trust” is understood as a person’s belief that another person or institution will act consistently with their expectations of positive behaviour.<sup>2390</sup> It is essential for ensuring compliance with regulations, implementing reforms, and enabling people’s meaningful participation in civic and political life.

“Empowers” is understood to mean giving powers to someone, including legal power and influence.<sup>2391</sup> Influence can include having the capacity to affect the character or development of someone or something, including oneself.

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be assigned to G7 members who exemplify demonstrable strong action in at least five of the six dimensions of the target to preserve the internet. This can include both domestic and international actions. Examples of strong actions include, but are not limited to: enforcement of laws through policy action, such as fines for disobeying government guidelines; changing legislation to bring internet-based media services under the democratic oversight of a legitimate government; and money allocation, such as improving infrastructure to connect more citizens to a reliable internet connection. On the international level, strong action can include, but is not limited to: providing financial support to bring broadband access to communities that face barriers to internet access and joining and/or participating in an international organization dedicated to preserving the internet and its dimensions, such as providing affordable internet access worldwide.

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<sup>2386</sup> Internet Fragmentation: An Overview, World Economic Forum (Cologne) January 2016. Access Date: 24 September 2021. [http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF\\_FII\\_Internet\\_Fragmentation\\_An\\_Overview\\_2016.pdf](http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_FII_Internet_Fragmentation_An_Overview_2016.pdf)

<sup>2387</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 26 October 2021 [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>2388</sup> Freedom, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 26 October 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/freedom>

<sup>2389</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 26 October 2021 [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>2390</sup> Government at a Glance 2019, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) n.d. Access Date: 26 October 2021. <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/8ccf5c38-en.pdf>

<sup>2391</sup> Empower, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/empower>

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members who exemplify demonstrable action in only two to four of the six dimensions to preserve the internet, and can include both strong and weak, and domestic and international actions. Examples of weak actions include, but are not limited to, attending meetings that speak on the importance of preserving the internet and any of the six dimensions, verbally reaffirming commitment to the development of the internet or denouncing internet shutdowns, and sharing information about cybercrime and methods of preserving the internet with other G7 members.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be assigned if one of the following scenarios take place: the G7 member exemplifies demonstrable action in one or fewer dimensions to preserve the Internet, or the G7 member fails to take any strong steps towards preserving any of the six dimensions. For example, if a member becomes aware of an increase in domestic cyberattacks but does not implement legislation or programs in efforts to prevent it, then action is not being taken to preserve the “secure” dimension of the Internet.

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	The G7 member has NOT taken action to preserve an open, interoperable, reliable, secure and unfragmented internet which empowers people OR has taken action in only one of the aforementioned six dimensions.
0	The G7 member has taken action to preserve two to four of the following six dimensions of the internet: 1) open, 2) interoperable, 3) reliable, 4) secure, 5) unfragmented, and 6) supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people.
+1	G7 member has taken strong action to preserve at least five of the following six dimensions of the internet: 1) open, 2) interoperable, 3) reliable, 4) secure, 5) unfragmented, and 6) supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people.

*Compliance Director: Sofia Shatrova  
Lead Analyst: Keah Sharma*

**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to preserve an open, interoperable, reliable and secure internet, one that is unfragmented, supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people.

On 16 July 2021, the Communications Security Establishment published the 2021 update to its report on Cyber Threats to Canada’s Democratic Process.<sup>2392</sup> The update informs Canadians of possible cyber threats against the Canadian electoral process and procedures meant to safeguard its integrity.

On 29 July 2021, Canadian Heritage presented a technical paper on the Government’s approach to “address harmful content online.”<sup>2393</sup> The paper allows the public to stay up to date with legislative changes that could influence their usage of the internet.

On 16 November 2021, the Canadian Centre for Cyber Security published a Cyber Threat Bulletin.<sup>2394</sup> The publication aims to educate the public on cyberthreats, their development and how to maintain safe internet usage.

<sup>2392</sup> 2021 update on cyber threats to Canada's democratic process, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 11 October 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/communications-security/news/2021/07/2021-update-on-cyber-threats-to-canadas-democratic-process.html>

<sup>2393</sup> The Government’s proposed approach to address harmful content online, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 11 October 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/harmful-online-content/technical-paper.html>

<sup>2394</sup> Cyber threat bulletin: The ransomware threat in 2021, Canadian Center for Cyber Security (Ottawa) 9 December 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://cyber.gc.ca/en/guidance/cyber-threat-bulletin-ransomware-threat-2021>

On 22 November 2021, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry François-Philippe Champagne announced a partnership between the Government of Canada and the European Commission to examine the use of digital credentials.<sup>2395</sup> The partnership aims to promote the interoperability of digital credentials and improve the safety of businesses and individuals working online.

On 6 December 2021, Minister of National Defence Anita Anand, Minister of Emergency Preparedness Bill Blair, Minister of Public Safety Marco Mendicino and Minister of International Trade, Export Promotion, Small Business and Economic Development Mary Ng signed an open letter urging Canadian organizations to adopt cyber security practices against ransomware and cybercrime.<sup>2396</sup> The security practices aim to protect business' data and intellectual property.

On 17 December 2021, the Government of Canada launched an open consultation to the public to ensure that all Canadians have access to high-quality wireless services.<sup>2397</sup> The consultation aims to give the public an opportunity to give input for additional provisions to support Canada's Connectivity Strategy and will allow Canadians to get their questions answered by Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada on the topic of high-quality wireless services. The consultation specifically seeks input on requirements that should be imposed on license holders and measures to support competition among wireless internet providers.<sup>2398</sup>

On 22 December 2021, the President of the Treasury Board Mona Fortier released the interim "What We Heard" report.<sup>2399</sup> The report reviews the first phase of engagement and consultations undertaken as part of the review of access to information and promotes progress tracking and transparent communication to the public.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to preserve an open, interoperable, reliable and secure internet, one that is unfragmented, supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people. Canada has improved cyber threat security and interoperability of internet-based technologies through several partnerships and publications. Additionally, Canada has fostered informed and secure internet use for businesses and public users through open communication.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Anastasiia Bondarenko*

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<sup>2395</sup> Government of Canada announces partnership with the European Commission to examine the use of digital credentials, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 22 November 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/11/government-of-canada-announces-partnership-with-the-european-commission-to-examine-the-use-of-digital-credentials.html>

<sup>2396</sup> Ministers urge Canadian organizations to take action against ransomware, Communications Security Establishment Canada (Ottawa) 6 December 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/communications-security/news/2021/12/ministers-urge-canadian-organizations-to-take-action-against-ransomware.html>

<sup>2397</sup> Government of Canada launches consultation to ensure Canadians have access to high-quality wireless services, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 24 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/12/government-of-canada-launches-consultation-to-ensure-canadians-have-access-to-high-quality-wireless-services.html>

<sup>2398</sup> Government of Canada launches consultation to ensure Canadians have access to high-quality wireless services, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 24 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/12/government-of-canada-launches-consultation-to-ensure-canadians-have-access-to-high-quality-wireless-services.html>

<sup>2399</sup> Government of Canada releases first interim report on access to information review, Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (Ottawa) 22 December 2021. Access Date: 24 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/treasury-board-secretariat/news/2021/12/government-of-canada-releases-first-interim-report-on-access-to-information-act-review.html>



## France: 0

France has partially complied with its commitment to preserve an open, interoperable, reliable, and secure internet that is unfragmented, supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people.

On 13 September 2021, France's Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications, Posts and Press Distribution (ARCEP) announced a plan to allocate two new mobile network frequency bands in French overseas territories.<sup>2400</sup> The frequency bands are intended to meet increasing demand for access to reliable and efficient mobile services. The plan will increase user connectivity and may lead to fixed internet access offers from mobile networks.

On 30 September 2021, the government of France issued Decree No. 2021-1281.<sup>2401</sup> The decree specifies the obligations of electronic communications operators to report to ARCEP and allows ARCEP to impose interoperability obligations on providers whose interoperability between end-users is compromised.

On 10 November 2021, Minister of Public Sector Transformation and the Civil Service of France Amélie de Montchalin announced a new action plan for open source software in the public sector.<sup>2402</sup> The plan will set up an Open Source Program Office within the public administration and aims to increase the use of digital commons in the administration and support the use of open source codes in France's public sector.

France has partially complied with its commitment to preserve an open, interoperable, reliable, and secure internet, one that is unfragmented, supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people. France promoted an open, interoperable, reliable and secure internet by bolstering ARCEP's regulatory power. However, France failed to take significant actions to promote an internet that is unfragmented and which supports innovation and trust which empowers people.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Selina Zeng*

## Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to preserve an open, interoperable, reliable and secure internet, one that is unfragmented, supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people.

On 30 June 2021, the Cabinet adopted the Third National Action Plan 2021-2023 to improve the digital sovereignty of the administration.<sup>2403</sup> The plan includes the creation of a joint development portal for free software, improving access to information on federal law and increasing transparency of government action.

On 7 July 2021, the German government created a framework for action to improve the government's "open data ecosystem" with the adoption of the "Open Data Strategy."<sup>2404</sup> The Strategy includes 68 measures across

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<sup>2400</sup> Frequencies - Overseas, France's Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications, Posts, and Press Distribution (Paris) 13 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 January 2022.

<https://www.arcep.fr/actualites/les-communiqués-de-presse/detail/n/frequences-outremer-130921.html>

<sup>2401</sup> Decree No. 2021-1281 of September 30, 2021 amending the obligations of electronic communications operators in accordance with the European Electronics Communications Code, Government of France (Paris) 30 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/jorf/id/JORFTEXT000044154154>

<sup>2402</sup> French Minister announces new plan for supporting open source, European Commission (Brussels) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/open-source-observatory-osor/news/new-action-plan-open-source-french-administration>

<sup>2403</sup> Boosting transparency and involvement, The Federal Government (Berlin) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/service/open-government-partnership-1938274>

<sup>2404</sup> Open Data – Driving Success in Innovation, The Federal Government (Berlin) 7 July 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/service/open-data-strategy-1940558>

three action areas: creating powerful and sustainable data infrastructures, enhancing the innovative and responsible use of data and establishing a “data culture.”

On 9 July 2021, the Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy launched its call for expressions of interest from companies and projects that seek to participate in the Important Project of Common European Interest on Next Generation Cloud Infrastructure and Services (IPCEI-CIS).<sup>2405</sup> Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy Peter Altmaier affirmed that the IPCEI-CIS would help setup an “efficient next generation cloud infrastructure” for Europe. The German government has allocated EUR750 billion to the IPCEI-CIS in support of Europe’s “digital sovereignty.”

On 8 September 2021, the German government adopted the Cyber Security Strategy for Germany 2021, a long-term plan for the government’s cyber security policy.<sup>2406</sup> The strategy includes four overarching guidelines: establishing cyber security as a joint task of the state, business, society and science, strengthening the digital sovereignty of the aforementioned spheres, ensuring the secure development of digitalization and making targets measurable and transparent.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to preserve an open, interoperable, reliable and secure internet, one that is not fragmented, supports freedom, innovation and trust. Germany has taken steps to preserve an open and secure internet by improving access to reliable information, promoting innovative and open data infrastructures and adopting a comprehensive cyber security strategy.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Arees Chooljian*

#### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to preserve an open, interoperable, reliable and secure internet that is unfragmented, supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people.

On 4 August 2021, the Official Gazette published Decree No. 82.<sup>2407</sup> The Decree contains urgent provisions on cybersecurity, a definition of national cybersecurity and the establishment of the National Cybersecurity Agency by Law No. 109.

On 4 November 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Presidency of the Council of Ministry of Defense compiled a position paper on “International Law and Cyberspace.”<sup>2408</sup> The paper outlines Italy’s views concerning the application of international law to cyberspace, including non-intervention and the protection of sovereignty, state accountability in the cyberspace, the application of international human rights law, the role of private stakeholders and international cooperation.

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to preserve an open, interoperable, reliable and secure internet that is unfragmented, supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people. Italy has

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<sup>2405</sup> Cloud IPCEI entering next phase as call for expressions of interest is launched in Germany and preparations for European matchmaking process get underway, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2021/07/20210709-cloud-ipcei-entering-next-phase.html>

<sup>2406</sup> Goals adopted in the area of cyber security, The Federal Government (Berlin) 8 September 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/service/new-cyber-security-strategy-1958688>

<sup>2407</sup> Italy: New cybersecurity law comes into force, OneTrust Dataguidance (Atlanta) 6 August 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.dataguidance.com/news/italy-new-cybersecurity-law-comes-force>

<sup>2408</sup> Conference on ‘The Application of International Law on Cyberspace’ organised at the University of Bologna, EU Cyber Direct (Brussels) 12 November 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://eucyberdirect.eu/news/conference-on-the-application-of-international-law-to-cyberspace-organized-at-the-university-of-bologna>

taken action to preserve an open and secure internet by establishing the National Cybersecurity Agency and engaging in international discourse regarding international law and the cyberspace. However, Italy has failed to take action to preserve an interoperable and reliable internet that is unfragmented, supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Anastasiia Bondarenko*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to preserve an open, interoperable, reliable and secure internet, one that is unfragmented, supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people.

On 21 June 2021, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry announced the publishing of an international standard that aims to ensure the safety and security of “Internet of Things” (IoT) systems based on IoT Security Guidelines and IoT Safety/Security Development Guidelines.<sup>2409</sup> The standard will contribute to the “safe and secure” development and maintenance of IoT products and services in the digital world.

On 1 September 2021, the Cabinet of Japan formed the Digital Agency.<sup>2410</sup> The Digital Agency aims to digitize public administrative procedures, promote the “standardization and coordination of data systems” and respond to the digital divide.<sup>2411</sup> This response will improve data linkage across separate government organizations and increase their efficiency.

On 11 September 2021, Japan and Vietnam signed an agreement that sees Japan providing Vietnam with defense equipment and technology to promote military and cyber security cooperation between the two countries.<sup>2412</sup> The agreement will control technology transfers between Japan and Vietnam, especially technology transferred to third parties.

On 13 December 2021, Japan, the United States and Australia announced funding for the development of advanced 5G telecommunications networks in the South Pacific region through the construction of a new undersea cable to improve internet connectivity to Micronesia, Nauru and Kiribati.<sup>2413</sup> The initiative aims to avoid situations in which “democracy is threatened by China’s control of [Japan’s] telecommunications networks.”

On 24 December 2021, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida held the second meeting of the Digital Society Promotion Council.<sup>2414</sup> At the meeting, Prime Minister Kishida and other participants discussed the Priority Policy Program for Realizing the Digital Society and set out principles, strategies and measures to realize it with a number of digital reforms through the 2025 fiscal year. Among other goals, the policy program will support both public and private sectors in using digitalization to enhance efficiency and creativity.

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<sup>2409</sup> New International Standard for Safe Use of IoT Products and Systems Issued, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0621\\_003.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0621_003.html)

<sup>2410</sup> Digital Society Promotion Council, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 6 September 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/99\\_suga/actions/202109/\\_00012.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/99_suga/actions/202109/_00012.html)

<sup>2411</sup> New Digital Agency Pursues Inclusive Digitalization, The Government of Japan (Tokyo) 16 September 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022. [https://www.japan.go.jp/kizuna/2021/09/new\\_digital\\_agency.html](https://www.japan.go.jp/kizuna/2021/09/new_digital_agency.html)

<sup>2412</sup> Signing of the Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam concerning the Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 13 September 2021. Access Date: 27 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\\_000244.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000244.html)

<sup>2413</sup> Japan, U.S., Australia to build 5G networks in South Pacific, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 13 December 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2021/12/259bdb572d59-japan-us-australia-to-build-5g-networks-in-south-pacific.html>

<sup>2414</sup> Digital Society Promotion Council, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 24 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101\\_kishida/actions/202112/\\_00024.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101_kishida/actions/202112/_00024.html)

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to preserve an open, interoperable, reliable and secure internet, one that is unfragmented, supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people. Japan's establishment of cyber security standards, government agencies focusing on digitalization and the funding of new undersea cable networks preserves an internet that is open, reliable, secure, and unfragmented.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Arees Chooljian*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to preserve an open, interoperable, reliable, and secure internet that is unfragmented, supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people.

On 29 October 2021, Digital Secretary Nadine Dorries announced a plan to give more than 500,000 rural homes and businesses access to improved internet connectivity as part of Project Gigabit.<sup>2415</sup> Full fibre broadband cables will be installed in hard-to-reach rural areas to improve internet speed and reliability, which will allow more people to work from home and use the internet for leisure.

On 29 November 2021, the UK government signed agreements promoting digital trade facilitation at the Future Tech Forum.<sup>2416</sup> The agreement aims to promote an open and secure cyberspace and interoperable networks where companies can mix and match equipment from various vendors to boost security and drive innovation in the telecoms supply chain.

On 8 December 2021, the UK government announced plans to phase out 2G and 3G networks and replace them with 5G.<sup>2417</sup> The change aims to reduce the world's over-reliance on a few equipment makers and promote competition among telecoms. Secretary Dorries also announced a GBP50 million investment towards telecoms research and development projects.

On 15 December 2021, the UK government published National Cyber Strategy 2022.<sup>2418</sup> The new policy paper aims to reduce cyber risks to ensure citizens and businesses can confidently use the internet knowing their confidential data is protected. The strategy is built around five core pillars: deepen the relationship between government, academia and industry; reduce cyber risks for businesses and citizens; develop domestic industrial capabilities and secure future technological advancements; advance the UK's role as an industry global leader and enhance UK security in and through cyberspace.

On 4 January 2022, the National Security and Investment Act was announced to impose certain conditions for the government to intervene in the UK's national security.<sup>2419</sup> This act will also allow for investors to gain transparency in free trade and acquisitions.

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<sup>2415</sup> Better broadband for 500,000 rural homes in UK gigabit revolution, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 29 October 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/better-broadband-for-500000-rural-homes-in-uk-gigabit-revolution>

<sup>2416</sup> UK signs series of international digital agreements at first Future Tech Forum, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 29 November 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-signs-series-of-international-digital-agreements-at-first-future-tech-forum>

<sup>2417</sup> New Measures to boost UK telecom security, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-measures-to-boost-uk-telecoms-security>

<sup>2418</sup> National Cyber Strategy 2022, Cabinet Office (London) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-cyber-strategy-2022>

<sup>2419</sup> New laws to strengthen national security come into effect, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 4 January 2022. Access Date: 10 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-laws-to-strengthen-national-security-come-into-effect>

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to preserve an open, interoperable, reliable and secure internet that is unfragmented, supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people. The UK has introduced policies and allocated funds in support of telecoms projects, national security and cyber-crime prevention. These policies promote safe and confident internet usage by businesses and the public.

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

*Analyst: Selina Zeng*

### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to preserve an open, interoperable, reliable and secure internet, one that is unfragmented, supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people.

On 29 June 2021, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) launched the Emergency Connectivity Fund.<sup>2420</sup> Schools can apply for financial support for purchasing laptops, tablets, routers and broadband connections to meet the needs for off-campus use by students and staff. Schools and libraries can also apply for the USD7.1 billion Emergency Connectivity Fund. The Fund will reduce the digital equity gap by supporting students who fall into the homework gap.

On 13 July 2021, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) issued an emergency directive to mitigate a Microsoft Windows print spooler vulnerability being exploited.<sup>2421</sup> The directive instructed federal civilian agencies to disable the service, apply the Microsoft updates and make configuration changes to all Microsoft Windows servers and workstations. If left unmitigated, the exploitation of this vulnerability could lead to the full system of affected agency networks being compromised.

On 23 July 2021, the FCC granted 5,676 C-Band Spectrum Licenses.<sup>2422</sup> The licenses pave the way for carriers to use this spectrum to provide advanced wireless services such as 5G.

On 26 July 2021, the FCC made over USD311 million available for broadband in 36 states through the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund.<sup>2423</sup> 48 broadband providers will provide broadband speeds of one gigabit per second (gbps) to 200,000 houses and businesses over the next decade.

On 28 July 2021, the FCC announced that over 4 million households were enrolled in the Emergency Broadband Benefit Fund.<sup>2424</sup> The fund is the largest broadband affordability program in the US with 1,100 broadband providers agreeing to partake in the program to temporarily subsidize eligible households' internet bills during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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<sup>2420</sup> Federal Communications Commission Launches Country's Largest Effort To Close Homework Gap, Federal Communications Commission (Washington) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-launches-emergency-connectivity-fund>

<sup>2421</sup> Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency issues emergency directive requiring federal agencies to mitigate windows print spooler service vulnerability, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (Washington) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.cisa.gov/news/2021/07/13/cisa-issues-emergency-directive-requiring-federal-agencies-mitigate-windows-print>

<sup>2422</sup> Federal Communications Commission Grants C-Band Spectrum Licenses, Federal Communications Commission (Washington) 23 July 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-grants-c-band-spectrum-licenses>

<sup>2423</sup> Federal Communications Commission Makes Available Over \$311 Million For Broadband In 36 States, While Taking Steps To Clean Up The Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Program, Federal Communications Commission (Washington) 26 July 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-announces-over-311-million-broadband-acts-clean-rdof>

<sup>2424</sup> Federal Communications Commission Enrolls Over 4 Million Households In Emergency Broadband Benefit Program, Federal Communications Commission (Washington) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-enrolls-4m-households-emergency-broadband-benefit-program>

On 2 August 2021, CISA announced the extension of the Information and Communications Technology Supply Chain Risk Management Task Force to 2023.<sup>2425</sup> The task force is a public-private partnership that identifies challenges and develops solutions and recommendations for risk management of the global information and communications technology supply chain.

On 5 August 2021, CISA announced a Joint Cyber Defense Collaboration (JCDC) to develop and execute cyber defense operations plans.<sup>2426</sup> JCDC's partners include Amazon Web Services, Microsoft and Verizon. CISA aims to facilitate coordinated action and implement defensive cyber operations to prevent cyber intrusions.

On 23 August 2021, the FCC granted six spectrum licenses to Tribal entities in Alaska.<sup>2427</sup> The licenses enable rural Alaska Native communities to use 5G and other advanced wireless services.

On 7 September 2021, CISA released the Cloud Security Technical Reference Architecture (TRA) and Zero Trust Maturity Model for public comment.<sup>2428</sup> The TRA guides agencies on zero trust strategies and implementation plans. CISA will work with stakeholders to assess feedback and develop new versions of guidance documents.

On 22 September 2021, CISA, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the National Security Agency (NSA) released a cybersecurity advisory.<sup>2429</sup> The advisory outlines technical steps on mitigating threats that public and private sector organizations can take to reduce risk to ransomware.

On 24 September 2021, the FCC announced that it will commit over USD1.2 billion in the first funding wave for the Emergency Connectivity Fund Program.<sup>2430</sup> The funds will go to over 3,040 schools, 260 libraries and 24 consortia. They will be used to provide students, school staff and librarians access to broadband connectivity and necessary devices for off-campus learning. The funds will support over 3 million devices and 774,115 broadband connections.

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<sup>2425</sup> Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency announces renewal of the information and communications technology supply chain risk management task force, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (Washington) 2 August 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.cisa.gov/news/2021/08/02/cisa-announces-renewal-information-and-communications-technology-ict-supply-chain>

<sup>2426</sup> Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency launches new joint cyber defense collaborative, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (Washington) 5 August 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.cisa.gov/news/2021/08/05/cisa-launches-new-joint-cyber-defense-collaborative>

<sup>2427</sup> Federal Communications Commission Grants Additional 2.5 GHz Spectrum Licenses For Wireless Services In Alaska Native Communities, Federal Communications Commission (Washington) 23 August 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-grants-licenses-wireless-services-alaska-native-communities>

<sup>2428</sup> Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency releases the Cloud Security Technical Reference Architecture and Zero Trust Maturity Model for public comment, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (Washington) 7 September 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.cisa.gov/news/2021/09/07/cisa-releases-cloud-security-technical-reference-architecture-and-zero-trust>

<sup>2429</sup> Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and National Security Agency release conti ransomware to help organizations reduce risk of attack, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (Washington) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.cisa.gov/news/2021/09/22/cisa-fbi-and-nsa-release-conti-ransomware-advisory-help-organizations-reduce-risk>

<sup>2430</sup> Federal Communications Commission Commits Over \$1.2 Billion In First Funding Wave Of Emergency Connectivity Fund Program To Connect Over 3.6 Million Students, Federal Communications Commission (Washington) 24 September 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-commits-over-12b-first-emergency-connectivity-funding-wave>

On 28 September 2021, the CISA released an Insider Risk Mitigation Self-Assessment Tool that helps public and private sector organizations assess their vulnerability to insider threats.<sup>2431</sup> The tool also helps organizations create prevention and mitigation programs to address insider threats.

On 12 October 2021, the FCC committed over USD1.1 billion in the second funding wave for the Emergency Connectivity Fund Program.<sup>2432</sup> The funds will support 2,471 schools, 205 libraries, and 26 consortia.

On 18 October 2021, the CISA, FBI and NSA released a cybersecurity advisory for BlackMatter ransomware cyber intrusions.<sup>2433</sup> The cyber intrusions were targeting entities such as US food and agriculture organizations. The advisory included technical details, assessment and mitigation actions to deal with the risk.

On 20 October 2021, the FCC announced that it will deploy USD554 million through the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund and provide broadband in 19 states.<sup>2434</sup> The FCC is also working to ensure that the funding goes to qualified providers in areas that need broadband.

On 20 October 2021, the CISA awarded USD 2 million to NPower and CyberWarrior, which are organizations working on the development of cyber workforce training programs.<sup>2435</sup> This is a part of CISA's mission to build the workforce of the future. The organizations work on underprivileged communities, veterans, military spouses, unemployed people and underemployed people.

On 25 October 2021, the FCC committed an additional USD269 million to the Emergency Connectivity Fund Program.<sup>2436</sup> The program received nearly USD1.3 billion in funding requests in the second application filing window. The funds will be used for connected devices and broadband connections.

On 26 October 2021, the FCC announced the third set of projects selected for the Connected Care Pilot Program.<sup>2437</sup> The program will support connected care technologies and services all over the US. It particularly focuses on low-income and veteran patients.

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<sup>2431</sup> Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency released new tool to help organizations guard against insider threats, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (Washington) 28 September 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021.

<https://www.cisa.gov/news/2021/09/28/cisa-releases-new-tool-help-organizations-guard-against-insider-threats>

<sup>2432</sup> Federal Communications Commission Commits Over \$1.1 Billion In Second Funding Wave Of Emergency Connectivity Fund Program, Funding Over 2.4 Million Devices And 1.9 Million Broadband Connections, Federal Communications Commission (Washington) 12 October 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-commits-another-11-billion-emergency-connectivity-fund>

<sup>2433</sup> Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency, Federal Bureau of Investigation and National Security Agency release BlackMatter ransomware advisory to help organizations reduce risk of attack, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (Washington) 18 October 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.cisa.gov/news/2021/10/18/cisa-fbi-and-nsa-release-blackmatter-ransomware-advisory-help-organizations-reduce>

<sup>2434</sup> Federal Communications Commission Announces \$554 Million For Broadband In 19 States Through Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Program, Federal Communications Commission (Washington) 20 October 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-announces-554-million-broadband-19-states>

<sup>2435</sup> Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency awards \$2 million to bring cybersecurity training to rural communities and diverse populations, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (Washington) 20 October 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.cisa.gov/news/2021/10/20/cisa-awards-2-million-bring-cybersecurity-training-rural-communities-and-diverse>

<sup>2436</sup> Federal Communications Commission Announces Nearly \$1.3 Billion In Funding Requests Received In Emergency Connectivity Fund Program Second Application Filing Window, Federal Communications Commission (Washington) 25 October 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-receives-13b-new-emergency-connectivity-fund-applications>

<sup>2437</sup> Federal Communications Commission Announces Third Set of Projects Selected for the Connected Care Pilot Program, Federal Communications Commission (Washington) 27 October 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-announces-36-newly-approved-connected-care-pilot-program-projects-0>

On 28 October 2021, the CISA and NSA released cybersecurity guidance to build and configure secure cloud infrastructures to support 5G.<sup>2438</sup> The release is part of the Enduring Security Framework's four part series to provide cybersecurity guidance pertaining to high priority cyber threats to critical infrastructure.

On 29 October 2021, the FCC approved 20 spectrum licenses for the Alaskan Native communities.<sup>2439</sup> This allows underserved rural Tribal communities to use advanced wireless technologies.

On 3 November 2021, the FCC authorized the Boeing Company to construct, deploy and operate a satellite constellation.<sup>2440</sup> The satellite will provide broadband and communication services for commercial, governmental and residential use in the US and globally.

On 8 November 2021, the FCC committed additional funding of over USD421 million through the Emergency Connectivity Fund Program.<sup>2441</sup> The new funding will allow a total of 10 million students to be connected to reliable internet.

On 10 November 2021, the FCC announced over USD700 million in funding for broadband through the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund.<sup>2442</sup> The funding will provide broadband for over 26 states and ensure that qualified providers serve areas that require broadband.

On 16 November 2021, the CISA released the Federal Government Cybersecurity Incident and Vulnerability Response Playbooks which provide federal civilian agencies with guidelines on responding to vulnerabilities and incidents.<sup>2443</sup> This information will help federal agencies identify and recover from incidents and vulnerabilities.

On 18 November 2021, the CISA and NSA published guidelines to mitigate cyber threats within 5G cloud infrastructure.<sup>2444</sup> The guidance includes pod security such as avoiding resource contention and implementing real time threat detection.

On 19 November 2021, the FCC proposed an enhanced competition incentive program to encourage licensees to lease, partition or disaggregate spectrum to small carriers and tribal nations.<sup>2445</sup> The proposal also outlined incentives for licensees such as license term extensions and construction extensions.

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<sup>2438</sup> National Security Agency and Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency provide cybersecurity for 5G cloud infrastructures, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (Washington) 28 October 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.cisa.gov/news/2021/10/28/nsa-and-cisa-provide-cybersecurity-guidance-5g-cloud-infrastructures>

<sup>2439</sup> Federal Communications Commission Approves Additional 2.5 GHz Spectrum Licenses To Serve Alaska Native Communities, Federal Communications Commission (Washington) 29 October 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-approves-spectrum-licenses-serve-alaska-native-communities>

<sup>2440</sup> Federal Communications Commission Authorizes Boeing Broadband Satellite Constellation, Federal Communications Commission (Washington) 3 November 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-authorizes-boeing-broadband-satellite-constellation>

<sup>2441</sup> Federal Communications Commission Commits Over \$421 Million In Additional Funding Through Emergency Connectivity Fund Program, Federal Communications Commission (Washington) 8 November 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-commits-421-million-additional-emergency-connectivity-funding>

<sup>2442</sup> Federal Communications Commission Announces Over \$700 Million For Broadband In 26 States Through Rural Digital Opportunity Fund, Federal Communications Commission (Washington) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-announces-over-700-million-broadband-26-states>

<sup>2443</sup> Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency releases incident and vulnerability response playbooks to strengthen cybersecurity for federal civilian agents, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (Washington) 16 November 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.cisa.gov/news/2021/11/16/cisa-releases-incident-and-vulnerability-response-playbooks-strengthen>

<sup>2444</sup> Enduring security framework releases part II of security guidance for 5G cloud infrastructures, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (Washington) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.cisa.gov/news/2021/11/18/enduring-security-framework-releases-part-ii-security-guidance-5g-cloud>



On 22 November 2021, the FCC announced additional program integrity measures for the Emergency Benefit Program enrollments.<sup>2446</sup> The measures, based on the community eligibility provision, aim to strengthen program integrity.

On 23 November 2021, the FCC committed over USD169 million to the Emergency Connectivity Fund.<sup>2447</sup> The funding provides support to over 500,000 students in 47 states. The funding will support 492 schools, 70 libraries, and 10 consortia. They will receive over 135,000 broadband connections.

On 1 December 2021, Director of CISA Jen Easterly announced the appointment of 23 members to the Cybersecurity Advisory Committee.<sup>2448</sup> The Committee will provide recommendations on policies, training and programs to improve cyber defense and grow the cyber workforce.

On 16 December 2021, the FCC announced over USD1 billion for the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund.<sup>2449</sup> The funding will provide support for broadband in 32 states over 10 years. 69 broadband providers will provide broadband services to 518,088 locations in the 32 states.

On 17 December 2021, the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL) announced a Request for Statement of Interest from organizations interested in potential funding from DRL.<sup>2450</sup> DRL invites organizations to submit statement of interest applications and outline program concepts that work on protecting the “open, interoperable, secure and reliable” internet by promoting, among other initiatives, the free flow of information and digital safety.

On 20 December 2021, FCC committed around USD603 million in additional Emergency Connectivity Funding.<sup>2451</sup> The program will connect over 1.4 million students in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia and may be used to support off-campus learning.

On 22 December 2021, the CISA, FBI, NSA, Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC), Canadian Centre for Cyber Security (CCCS), Computer Emergency Response Team New Zealand (CERT NZ), New Zealand National Cyber Security Centre (NZ NCSC), and the United Kingdom’s National Cyber Security Centre issued

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<sup>2445</sup> Partitioning, Disaggregation, and Leasing of Spectrum, WT Docket No. 19-38, Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Federal Communications Commission (Washington) 19 November 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021.

<https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-proposes-enhanced-competition-incentive-program-0>

<sup>2446</sup> Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Additional Program Integrity Measures for Emergency Benefit Program Enrollments Based on the Community Eligibility Provision, Federal Communications Commission (Washington) 22 November 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.fcc.gov/document/wcb-implements-ebb-program-integrity-measures-cep-enrollments>

<sup>2447</sup> Federal Communications Commission Commits Over \$169 Million in Additional Emergency Connectivity Fund Support, Federal Communications Commission (Washington) 23 November 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-commits-over-169m-emergency-connectivity-funding>

<sup>2448</sup> CISA names 23 members to new cybersecurity advisory committee, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (Washington) 1 December 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.cisa.gov/news/2021/12/01/cisa-names-23-members-new-cybersecurity-advisory-committee>

<sup>2449</sup> Federal Communications Commission Announces Over \$1 Billion in Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Support for Broadband in 32 States as Commission Continues To Clean Up Program, Federal Communications Commission (Washington) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-announces-over-1-billion-rural-broadband-support-32-states>

<sup>2450</sup> Requests for Statements of Interest: DRL FY22 Internet Freedom Annual Program Statement, U.S Department of State (Washington) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 26 December 2021. <https://www.state.gov/request-for-statements-of-interest-drl-fy22-internet-freedom-annual-program-statement/>

<sup>2451</sup> Federal Communications Commission commits nearly \$603M in additional emergency connectivity funding, Federal Communications Commission (Washington) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 26 December 2021. <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-commits-nearly-603m-additional-emergency-connectivity-funding>

an advisory on vulnerabilities in the Apache Log4j software.<sup>2452</sup> The advisory includes technical details and resources for potentially impacted organizations to address vulnerabilities. The advisory was issued in response to cyber threat actors exploiting vulnerabilities found in Java-based logging package Log4j.

On 10 January 2022, the CISA published its Public Safety Communications Security white paper which explains the importance and basic elements of Communications Security.<sup>2453</sup> The paper explains how to develop an effective strategy to prevent unauthorized persons from accessing sensitive and confidential information.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to preserve an open, interoperable, reliable and secure internet, one that is unfragmented, supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people. The US took steps to provide unrestricted access to the internet by reaching tribal communities, students in need and collaborated with Boeing to provide internet access globally. The US also took steps to strengthen cyber defense and set up innovation zones for research purposes. The US granted spectrum licenses, increased broadband access to rural areas, aided Alaskan communities and empowered small carriers and tribal nations by incentivizing licensees to lease spectrum.

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

*Analyst: Sarah Nasir*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to preserve an open, interoperable, reliable and secure internet that is unfragmented, supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people.

On 19 July 2021, the EU assessed and exposed malicious cyber activities that affected the EU's economy, security, democracy and society after hackers compromised and exploited the Microsoft Exchange server.<sup>2454</sup> Other cyber activities that targeted government institutions and political organizations were also identified. The activities were linked to hacker groups and had been conducted from the territory of China. The EU urged Chinese authorities to implement measures to investigate the situation.

On 28 July 2021, the European Data Protection Board (EDPB) requested the Irish Supervisory Authority (IE SA) to amend its draft decision regarding transparency infringements.<sup>2455</sup> The EDPB adopted a dispute resolution decision which addresses the dispute following a draft decision issued by the IE SA regarding WhatsApp Ireland Ltd. The EDPB identified breaches of articles by the IE AS and believed the IE SA should amend its draft decision pertaining to the infringements of transparency, calculation of fine and period for the order to comply.

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<sup>2452</sup> Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency, Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Security Agency and international partners issue advisory to mitigate apache log4k vulnerabilities, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (Washington) 22 December 2021. Access Date: 26 December 2021. <https://www.cisa.gov/news/2021/12/22/cisa-fbi-nsa-and-international-partners-issue-advisory-mitigate-apache-log4j>

<sup>2453</sup> The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency has published its public safety communications security white paper, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency (Washington) 10 January 2022. Access Date: 16 January 2022.

<https://www.cisa.gov/blog/2022/01/10/cybersecurity-and-infrastructure-security-agency-cisa-has-published-its-public-0>

<sup>2454</sup> China: Declaration by the High Representative on behalf of the European Union urging Chinese authorities to take action against malicious cyber activities undertaken from its territory, European Council (Brussels) 19 July 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/07/19/declaration-by-the-high-representative-on-behalf-of-the-eu-urging-china-to-take-action-against-malicious-cyber-activities-undertaken-from-its-territory/>

<sup>2455</sup> European Data Protection Board requests that Irish SA amends WhatsApp decision with clarifications on transparency and on the calculation of the amount of fine due to multiple infringements, European Data Protection Board (Brussels) 2 September 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. [https://edpb.europa.eu/news/news/2021/edpb-requests-irish-sa-amends-whatsapp-decision-clarifications-transparency-and\\_en](https://edpb.europa.eu/news/news/2021/edpb-requests-irish-sa-amends-whatsapp-decision-clarifications-transparency-and_en)

On 27 September 2021, the EDPB set up a taskforce in response to complaints concerning cookie banners filed with several European Economic Area (EEA) SAs.<sup>2456</sup> The task force will streamline communication between SAs and exchange views on legal analysis and potential infringements.

On 18 October 2021, the EDPB launched the proposal for its first coordinated action on the use of Cloud based services by the public sector.<sup>2457</sup> SAs work on certain topics at the national level and the results of the actions will be analyzed for deeper insight on the topic, which will allow for a more targeted follow-up at the national and EU level.

On 13 October 2021, the EDPB adopted the final version of Guidelines on the restrictions of data subject rights under Article 23 GDPR following a public consultation.<sup>2458</sup> The guidelines provide a thorough analysis of criteria to apply restrictions and how data subjects can exercise their rights.<sup>2459</sup>

On 19 October 2021, the European Commission proposed the Cyber Resilience Act.<sup>2460</sup> The Act will establish common cybersecurity standards, provide EU-wide broadband connectivity and secure independent communications to member states.

On 20 October 2021, the European Parliament called for the extension of the EU's roam like at home policy, which ensures that Europeans can continue to use mobile data anywhere in the EU at no extra cost.<sup>2461</sup> The new legislation will extend the policy for another ten years and ensure that networks with equivalent speed and quality to those they would use at home are available to travelers.

On 28 October 2021, the Industry Committee adopted a new draft legislation that would set stricter cybersecurity obligations.<sup>2462</sup> The legislation would require EU members to take stricter supervisory and enforcement measures in digital infrastructure, health and banking sectors. Important sectors such as postal services would also be protected by the new law. The legislation calls for stricter risk management, reporting obligations and information sharing to protect against cybercrime and make the EU "a safe place to work and do business."

On 20 November 2021, the European External Action Service (EEAS) and the Ombudsperson for Children Office in Mauritius published a leaflet on key actions to fight online child sexual abuse.<sup>2463</sup> The EEAS also

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<sup>2456</sup> European Data Protection Board establishes cookie banner task force, European Data Protection Board (Brussels) 27 September 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. [https://edpb.europa.eu/news/news/2021/edpb-establishes-cookie-banner-taskforce\\_en](https://edpb.europa.eu/news/news/2021/edpb-establishes-cookie-banner-taskforce_en)

<sup>2457</sup> European Data Protection Board launches first coordinated action, European Data Protection Board (Brussels) 18 October 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. [https://edpb.europa.eu/news/news/2021/edpb-launches-first-coordinated-action\\_en](https://edpb.europa.eu/news/news/2021/edpb-launches-first-coordinated-action_en)

<sup>2458</sup> Guidelines 10/2020 on restrictions under Article 23 GDPR, European Data Protection Board (Brussels) n.d. Access Date: 30 January 2022. [https://edpb.europa.eu/system/files/2021-10/edpb\\_guidelines202010\\_on\\_art23\\_adopted\\_after\\_consultation\\_en.pdf](https://edpb.europa.eu/system/files/2021-10/edpb_guidelines202010_on_art23_adopted_after_consultation_en.pdf)

<sup>2459</sup> European Data Protection Board adopts Guidelines on restrictions of data subject rights under Article 23 GDPR following public consultation, European Data Protection Board (Brussels) 19 October 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021.

[https://edpb.europa.eu/news/news/2021/edpb-adopts-guidelines-restrictions-data-subject-rights-under-article-23-gdpr\\_en](https://edpb.europa.eu/news/news/2021/edpb-adopts-guidelines-restrictions-data-subject-rights-under-article-23-gdpr_en)

<sup>2460</sup> 2022 Commission Work Programme: Making Europe stronger together, European Commission (Brussels) 19 October 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_5246](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5246)

<sup>2461</sup> Roam like at home: Parliament backs roaming extension, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 20 October 2021. Access date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/society/20211015STO15005/roam-like-at-home-parliament-backs-roaming-extension>

<sup>2462</sup> Cybersecurity: Members of European Parliament strengthen EU-wide requirements against threats, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 28 October 2021. Access date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20211022IPR15610/cybersecurity-meps-strengthen-eu-wide-requirements-against-threats>

<sup>2463</sup> RIGHTS OF THE CHILD: Protecting our children online, European Union Action Service (Brussels) 20 November 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. [https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/107585/rights-child-protecting-our-children-online\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/107585/rights-child-protecting-our-children-online_en)

produced a video clip that will be broadcast on national television in Mauritius to spread awareness to children, teachers and parents on the dangers of the internet.

On 3 December 2021, the European Council agreed on its position to replace the Network and Information Systems (NIS) directive with the NIS2 directive, which will set the baselines for reporting obligations and cyber security risk management measures.<sup>2464</sup> Once adopted, the NIS2 will improve incident response capacities of the public and private sectors.

On 14 December 2021, the European Parliament Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee adopted the Digital Services Act (DSA).<sup>2465</sup> The DSA creates safer online platforms by protecting fundamental rights online.<sup>2466</sup> The DSA includes new rules to tackle illegal content through a ‘notice and action’ mechanism and safeguards.<sup>2467</sup> It aims to prevent the spread of harmful content through algorithms by making sure platforms are transparent about the way algorithms work. They will be required to carry out risk assessments and take risk mitigation measures. Digital service recipients on large online platforms will also have the right to seek compensation for damages resulting from platforms not respecting their obligations.

On 14 December, the European Parliament passed the Digital Markets Act (DMA).<sup>2468</sup> The proposal was adopted by the Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee in November.<sup>2469</sup> The DMA levels the playing field for all digital companies irrespective of size.<sup>2470</sup> The major companies of gatekeepers will be identified and will have to refrain from imposing unfair conditions on businesses and consumers.<sup>2471</sup> The gatekeepers may also be restricted from making acquisitions.

On 16 December 2021, the European Commission adopted the Work Programme for the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF Digital).<sup>2472</sup> The European Commission will provide more than EUR1 billion in funding for the actions of CEF Digital. These actions include deploying 5G across the EU, fostering public and private investments, upgrading existing networks and implementing digital connectivity infrastructures.

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<sup>2464</sup> Strengthening EU-wide cybersecurity and resilience – Council agrees its position, European Council (Brussels) 3 December 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/12/03/strengthening-eu-wide-cybersecurity-and-resilience-council-agrees-its-position/>

<sup>2465</sup> Digital Services Act: a safer online space for users, stricter rules for platforms, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 25 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20211210IPR19209/digital-services-act-safer-online-space-for-users-stricter-rules-for-platforms>

<sup>2466</sup> EU Digital Markets Act and Digital Services Act explained, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 25 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/society/20211209STO19124/eu-digital-markets-act-and-digital-services-act-explained>

<sup>2467</sup> Digital Services Act: a safer online space for users, stricter rules for platforms, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 25 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20211210IPR19209/digital-services-act-safer-online-space-for-users-stricter-rules-for-platforms>

<sup>2468</sup> EU Digital Markets Act and Digital Services Act explained, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 25 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/society/20211209STO19124/eu-digital-markets-act-and-digital-services-act-explained>

<sup>2469</sup> Digital Markets Act: ending unfair practices of big online platforms, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 23 November 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20211118IPR17636/digital-markets-act-ending-unfair-practices-of-big-online-platforms>

<sup>2470</sup> EU Digital Markets Act and Digital Services Act explained, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 25 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/society/20211209STO19124/eu-digital-markets-act-and-digital-services-act-explained>

<sup>2471</sup> Digital Markets Act: ending unfair practices of big online platforms, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 23 November 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20211118IPR17636/digital-markets-act-ending-unfair-practices-of-big-online-platforms>

<sup>2472</sup> Commission to invest for than 1 billion under the connecting Europe facility for innovative and secure connectivity, European Commission (Brussels) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_6830](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_6830)

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to preserve an open, interoperable, reliable and secure internet that is unfragmented, supports freedom, innovation and trust which empowers people. The EU took steps to increase access to the internet through broadband connectivity advancement and enhanced cyber security measures and streamlined communication between businesses. The EU also empowered internet users and businesses by mandating more transparency from online platforms.

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

*Analyst: Sarah Nasir*

## 20. Macroeconomics: Strong, Resilient, Sustainable, Balanced and Inclusive Growth

“We will continue to support our economies for as long as is necessary, shifting the focus of our support from crisis response to promoting strong, resilient, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth into the future.”

*Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
United Kingdom		0	
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.75 (88%)	

### Background

Macroeconomic growth and coordinating policy measures between G7 members have been important areas of interest at G7 summits in the past few decades. At the beginning of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic began to negatively impact the global economy on numerous levels. The World Bank evaluated the ramifications of the pandemic on the global economy and estimated that global growth would accelerate to “5.6 per cent in 2021, largely on the strength in major economies such as the United States and China.”<sup>2473</sup> Consequently, the G7 Member States and the international community have pledged to facilitate strong, resilient, balanced and sustainable growth despite these unprecedented circumstances.

G7 leaders first initiated discussions regarding macroeconomic policies and their commitment to fostering global economic growth at the 1993 Tokyo Summit.<sup>2474</sup> On 6 July 1993, the G7 members made a groundbreaking commitment “to address structural issues which constituted obstacles to strong economic recovery and to longer-term growth potential.” These G7/G8 commitment discussions aimed at promoting sustainable economic growth continued into the 1998 Birmingham and 1999 Koln Summits.<sup>2475</sup> Despite the significance of synchronizing international economic policy responses to promote strong and balanced growth, the topic was not discussed again until the 2009 L’Aquila Summit following the 2008 global economic crisis.

At the 2011 Deauville Summit, G8 leaders pledged their commitment to promote both strong and resilient economic growth.<sup>2476</sup> The G8 leaders discussed macroeconomic policy strategies and “how to strengthen the

<sup>2473</sup> The Global Economy: On Track for Strong but Uneven Growth as Covid-19 Still Weighs, The World Bank (Washington D.C.) 8 June 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2021/06/08/the-global-economy-on-track-for-strong-but-uneven-growth-as-covid-19-still-weighs>

<sup>2474</sup> Economic Declaration: A strengthened Commitment to Jobs and Growth, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 July 1993. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1993tokyo/communique/index.html>

<sup>2475</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access Date: 24 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>; G7 Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 1999. Access Date: 24 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1999koln/g7statement\\_june18.htm](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1999koln/g7statement_june18.htm)

<sup>2476</sup> G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html>

recovery and foster employment, to reduce risks and ensure strong, sustainable and balanced growth, including through structural reforms.” Green Growth was also mentioned as being “an essential element to ensure global economic growth,” paving the way for discussions concerning environmental considerations at future summits.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders committed to strengthening “economic policy responses in a cooperative manner and to employ a more forceful and balanced policy mix, in order to swiftly achieve a strong, sustainable and balanced growth pattern.”<sup>2477</sup> With regards to specific measures, the leaders committed to “further investment in areas conducive to economic growth, such as environment, energy, digital economy, human resource development, education, science and technology,” stating that “monetary policy alone cannot lead to strong, sustainable and balanced growth.” The G7 leaders pledged to decarbonize the global economy by “encouraging clean energy and energy efficiency” in the macroeconomy. Additionally, as part of their commitment, the G7 leaders stated that they “commit to advancing labor market participation by women, the youth, and the elderly,” promoting inclusive growth in the underrepresented sectors of the labor market.

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, the G7 leaders identified macroeconomic growth sustainability and policy strategies as some of their top priorities to discuss.<sup>2478</sup> The delegations included a commitment to “improve knowledge and competences across all sectors and regions of our countries, by fostering innovation and new skills, by investing in fields such as education and training, as well as health, with a view to boosting economic growth and to improving people’s quality of life.” Specifically, they agreed to prioritize “high-quality investment, such as in infrastructures” as a way to use fiscal policy “flexibly to strengthen growth and job creation.” On 28 May 2017, the G7 leaders stated that it was a priority for “monetary policy to continue supporting economic activity and ensuring price stability, consistently with central banks’ mandate.” In particular, the G7 People-Centered Action Plan on Innovation, Skills and Labour discussed three pillars to foster growth in light of the Next Production Revolution (NPR): innovation in production; development of knowledge-based capital and enabling infrastructure; and the promotion of more productive and equitable labour practices.<sup>2479</sup>

Similar goals to those proclaimed at the 2016 Ise-Shima and 2017 Taormina Summits were committed to at the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, where G7 leaders emphasized that they would continue “working together to stimulate sustainable economic growth” that provides equal benefits to everyone involved.<sup>2480</sup> The communiqué from this Summit outlined three key areas of focus: the need for strong policy tools to support market developments, promotion of “smart, sustainable and high-quality investments,” and the removal of barriers that hinder the participation of citizens in the global economy, particularly for women and marginalized communities. This Summit highlighted the desire of the delegations “to reach a carbon-neutral economy over the course of the second half of the century,” allowing for the macroeconomy to grow following an increase in commerce. The communiqué also presented the Charlevoix Commitment on Innovative Financing for Development, encouraging public and private investment to promote “economic growth in developing economies and foster greater equality of opportunity within and between countries.”

While growth was not mentioned in the 2019 G7 Leaders’ Declaration, the Chair’s Summary of the 18 July 2019 G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors’ Meeting stated that ministers and governors

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<sup>2477</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html#initiative>

<sup>2478</sup> G7 Taormina G7 Leaders’ Communique, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

<sup>2479</sup> G7 People-Centered Action Plan on Innovation, Skills and Labor, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/action-plan.html>

<sup>2480</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communique, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

discussed ways of “continuing to address current risks in the global economy and the financial system to support strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth that generates widespread prosperity” and of “ensuring that the benefits of growth are more widely shared, fighting inequalities within countries as well as between advanced and developing countries.”<sup>2481</sup> More specifically, G7 ministers and governors stated that “[f]iscal policy should be flexible and growth-friendly, while rebuilding buffers where needed and ensuring debt as a share of GDP [gross domestic product] is on a sustainable path” and “continued implementation of structural reforms will enhance our growth potential.”

The COVID-19 pandemic brought about a level of instability to the global macroeconomy that was not seen since the 2008 global economic crisis. At the 2020 US Virtual Summit, G7 leaders emphasized that the negative economic impact would need to be dealt with before the pandemic was over.<sup>2482</sup> Preserving economic growth and stability after the COVID-19 pandemic was one of the top priorities of the delegations at the 2020 US Virtual Summit. On 18 March 2020, the G7 leaders stated that the level of economic growth present before the pandemic needed to be restored in order to ensure future cooperation and provide “financial assistance that is appropriate to help countries, including emerging and developing economies, face the health and economic shock of COVID-19.” The G7 leaders also recognized the importance of highlighting inequalities found in developed states and aligning economic policies to prevent future global macroeconomic recessions. Similarly, after the G7 Leaders’ Statement, the 24 March 2020 Statement of G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors committed to “do whatever is necessary to restore confidence and economic growth and to protect jobs, businesses, and the resilience of the financial system.”<sup>2483</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

With inclusive growth having been a clear focus of past G7 summits, the Carbis Bay G7 Communiqué reiterated this theme as part of the pledge “to beat COVID-19 and build back better.”<sup>2484</sup> Noting that not only do the immediate economic challenges need to be addressed, but the “long-term shifts in the global economy and society, including demographic, technological and environmental trends [and inequalities]”, the leaders agreed to “reinvigorate our economies by advancing recovery plans” which build upon the unprecedented level of economic support provided throughout the pandemic. Thus, the G7 leaders released the following commitment: “We will continue to support our economies for as long as is necessary, shifting the focus of our support from crisis response to promoting strong, resilient, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth into the future.”

“Continue to support,” in this context, can be understood to mean carrying on with “the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity.”<sup>2485</sup> At the time of the communiqué’s publication, USD12 trillion in fiscal support and liquidity measures had been implemented “to mitigate the impact of the pandemic[...], including to retain jobs and support incomes and keep businesses afloat.”<sup>2486</sup>

To determine the interpretation of the phrase “as long as is necessary,” the commitment features have incorporated the data and conclusions of the International Monetary Fund’s (IMF) World Economic Outlook

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<sup>2481</sup> Chairs Summary: G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors’ Meeting, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 July 2019. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/finance/190718-summary.html>

<sup>2482</sup> G7 Leaders’ Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html>

<sup>2483</sup> Statement of G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 24 March 2020. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/finance/200324-statement.html>

<sup>2484</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communiqué.html>

<sup>2485</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 26 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>2486</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communiqué.html>



(WEO) and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Economic Outlook Interim Report, updated most recently in July 2021 and September 2021 respectively. As per the OECD's report, economic growth has increased this year thanks to strong policy support, effective vaccination programs and resumption of "normal" economic activity, with global gross domestic product (GDP) now having "surpassed its pre-pandemic level."<sup>2487</sup> The IMF has corroborated this with its projection that the global economy is set to grow six per cent in 2021 and 4.9 per cent in 2022; a 0.5 per centage-point upgrade from the April 2021 WEO.<sup>2488</sup> However, both reports have noted that the economic recovery has been highly uneven between high-income countries and middle- to low-income countries, with the principal fault line emerging to be vaccine access.<sup>2489</sup> Additionally, the WEO posits that four main forces are deepening this divide: the emergence of new COVID-19 variants, economic aftershocks triggered by the recession, supply-demand mismatches in various sectors including housing, and inflationary pressures.<sup>2490</sup> Concurrently, the Interim Report highlights the ongoing efforts to lower unemployment levels to pre-pandemic levels and rising inflation in commodities markets due to positive demand shocks.<sup>2491</sup> Therefore, the phrase "as long as is necessary" should be interpreted as the timeline for these forces to return to or better than the pre-pandemic level.

"Crisis response" can be understood to mean the short-term actions taken by governments around the world designed to address the immediate economic impacts of the pandemic. These include but are not limited to: workplace re-openings, income support for the underemployed and unemployed, debt and contract relief, fiscal policy measures including stimulus spending and international aid.<sup>2492</sup>

"Promoting" is defined as "[supporting] or [renewing] old efforts or [creating] new efforts in the area."<sup>2493</sup> It should not have to be a brand new initiative; to contribute to growth or prosperity of, to help bring into being."

The commitment has also outlined five core criteria of economic growth that G7 leaders have pledged themselves to working towards over the course of the summit cycle: strength, resiliency, sustainability, balance and inclusivity. "Strong" growth can be interpreted to mean economic growth that aligns with or is higher than the projections published in the WEO.<sup>2494</sup> Global GDP is expected to grow at a rate of six per

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<sup>2487</sup> OECD Economic Outlook, Interim Report September 2021: Keeping the Recovery on Track, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 21 September 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/oecd-economic-outlook/volume-2021/issue-1\\_490d4832-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/oecd-economic-outlook/volume-2021/issue-1_490d4832-en)

<sup>2488</sup> World Economic Outlook Update: Fault Lines Widen in the Global Recovery, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) 27 July 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2021/07/27/world-economic-outlook-update-july-2021>

<sup>2489</sup> OECD Economic Outlook, Interim Report September 2021: Keeping the Recovery on Track, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 21 September 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/oecd-economic-outlook/volume-2021/issue-1\\_490d4832-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/oecd-economic-outlook/volume-2021/issue-1_490d4832-en); World Economic Outlook Update: Fault Lines Widen in the Global Recovery, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) 27 July 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2021/07/27/world-economic-outlook-update-july-2021>

<sup>2490</sup> World Economic Outlook Update: Fault Lines Widen in the Global Recovery, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) 27 July 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2021/07/27/world-economic-outlook-update-july-2021>

<sup>2491</sup> OECD Economic Outlook, Interim Report September 2021: Keeping the Recovery on Track, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 21 September 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/oecd-economic-outlook/volume-2021/issue-1\\_490d4832-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/oecd-economic-outlook/volume-2021/issue-1_490d4832-en)

<sup>2492</sup> Codebook for the Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker, Blavatnik School of Government (Oxford) 25 April 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker/blob/master/documentation/codebook.md>

<sup>2493</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 26 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>2494</sup> World Economic Outlook Update: Fault Lines Widen in the Global Recovery, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) 27 July 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2021/07/27/world-economic-outlook-update-july-2021>

cent in 2021, with an average rate of 5.6 per cent for advanced economies (which includes all G7 members) and 6.3 per cent for emerging markets and developing economies. “Resilient” growth can be understood to mean economic growth with “the capacity to detect and avoid risks, reduce the negative impacts of shocks when they materialise, and recover faster and stronger.”<sup>2495</sup> “Sustainable” growth is defined by the OECD as growth which incorporates environmental, social and economic concerns.<sup>2496</sup> “Balanced” growth can be understood to mean growth with all different elements (ie. strength, sustainability, resiliency and inclusivity) effectively regulated and considered.<sup>2497</sup> “Inclusive growth” is defined by the OECD as “economic growth that is distributed fairly across society and creates opportunities for all.”<sup>2498</sup> This interpretation of the term is further bolstered by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), which views inclusive growth as “consisting of both participation and benefit-sharing, where everyone can participate in the growth process and can equally share [its] benefits.”<sup>2499</sup>

This commitment area is divided into three key, interconnected pillars, each of which addresses a different part of the pledge made by leaders at the 2021 Cornwall Summit: “building resilience,” “facilitating reallocation and boosting productivity growth for all” and “supporting people in transitions.”<sup>2500</sup> These three priorities have been outlined in the OECD’s Going for Growth 2021: Shaping a Vibrant Recovery Report published in April 2021. While not formally endorsed by the G7 leaders, the report’s policy recommendations parallel many of the commitments outlined in the communique, and as such can provide an effective framework for addressing the core macroeconomic issues discussed at the summit.

### **Building Resilience and Sustainability**

The first pillar of this commitment arises from the acknowledgement that “structural policies can improve the first line of defence to shocks and strengthen the private sector’s incentives to take into account longer-term sustainability considerations.”<sup>2501</sup> Noting that resilience and long-term economic growth are interrelated, this pillar has three main focuses: “avoiding shocks and reducing risks, reducing the negative impact of shocks, and improving the ability to bounce back.”

There are a number of actions that G7 members can take in order to address this area of reform, which include but are not limited to: improving social safety nets, incorporating environmental considerations in economic policymaking, and increasing the access to sustainable and accessible infrastructure.<sup>2502</sup> These actions are predominantly domestic in scope, however any international or overseas development assistance provided by G7 members specifically towards addressing this area of reform can be included in compliance.

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<sup>2495</sup> Structural policies to deliver a stronger, more resilient, equitable and sustainable COVID-19 recovery, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 15 April 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/92b58feb-en/index.html?itemId=/content/component/92b58feb-en>

<sup>2496</sup> Sustainable Development, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) February 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/greengrowth/47445613.pdf>

<sup>2497</sup> Balanced, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 26 October 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/balanced>

<sup>2498</sup> What is Inclusive Growth, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 6-7 May 2014. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/inclusive-growth/>

<sup>2499</sup> Report on the OECD Framework for Inclusive Growth, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 6-7 May 2014. Access Date: 26 February 2021. [https://www.oecd.org/mcm/IG\\_MCM\\_ENG.pdf](https://www.oecd.org/mcm/IG_MCM_ENG.pdf)

<sup>2500</sup> Structural policies to deliver a stronger, more resilient, equitable and sustainable COVID-19 recovery, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 15 April 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/92b58feb-en/index.html?itemId=/content/component/92b58feb-en>

<sup>2501</sup> Structural policies to deliver a stronger, more resilient, equitable and sustainable COVID-19 recovery, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 15 April 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/92b58feb-en/index.html?itemId=/content/component/92b58feb-en>

<sup>2502</sup> Structural policies to deliver a stronger, more resilient, equitable and sustainable COVID-19 recovery, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 15 April 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/92b58feb-en/index.html?itemId=/content/component/92b58feb-en>

### **Facilitating Reallocation and Boosting Productivity Growth for All**

The second pillar of this commitment arises from the acknowledgement that economic downturns can leave “considerable economic and social scars” well beyond the actual downturn itself.<sup>2503</sup> Thus, this pillar consists of three main focuses: “allocating resources to productive uses, boosting dynamism and innovation, and creating opportunities for workers and entrepreneurs.”

There are a number of actions that G7 members can take in order to address this area of reform, which include but are not limited to: encouraging fair competition and innovation in markets for small-and-medium enterprises (SMEs) and entrepreneurs, eliminating barriers to trade, adapting competition policy for the digital age, creating more flexible labour mobility, and enacting tax reform.<sup>2504</sup> These actions can be both domestic and international in scope, with any policies that encourage greater international partnership specifically towards this area of reform counting as compliance.

### **Supporting People in Transition**

The third pillar of this commitment arises from the acknowledgement that policies must be designed “to ensure that people are not left behind” during periods of economic transition.<sup>2505</sup> The three focuses of this pillar of sustainability are ensuring that new opportunities to boost productivity are effectively utilized by disadvantaged individuals, ensuring that no one is left behind as economies and sectors transition away from traditional practices and creating mechanisms to improve the visibility of structural policy actions.

There are a number of actions that G7 members can take in order to address this area of reform which include but are not limited to: improving access to social safety nets, educational policies designed to upskill and reskill workers, high quality vocational education and training for youth, addressing systemic gender occupational inequalities in labour markets, and reducing financial barriers for adult learning programs.<sup>2506</sup> While these actions are predominantly domestic in scope, any international or overseas development assistance provided by G7 members specifically towards supporting people in transition should be included as compliance.

The G7 member will be found in full compliance if it takes strong and partial action in all three areas of the commitment. Partial compliance includes taking partial or strong action in one or two areas or partial action in all three areas of the commitment. Anything less than this, or less than 50 per cent of the commitment, counts as non-compliance.

Examples of partial action include verbal reaffirmations, assigned follow-up, attendance at meetings or inclusion in institutions but no evidence of active participation in such meetings. Strong action for full compliance can include allocation of money or personnel, promotion of a program, changes in regulation and legislation, cabinet reconfigurations or enforcement through policy or judicial action that addresses the relevant areas of reform above, information sharing or the sponsoring, signing or ratification of a

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<sup>2503</sup> Structural policies to deliver a stronger, more resilient, equitable and sustainable COVID-19 recovery, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 15 April 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/92b58feb-en/index.html?itemId=/content/component/92b58feb-en>

<sup>2504</sup> Structural policies to deliver a stronger, more resilient, equitable and sustainable COVID-19 recovery, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 15 April 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/92b58feb-en/index.html?itemId=/content/component/92b58feb-en>

<sup>2505</sup> Structural policies to deliver a stronger, more resilient, equitable and sustainable COVID-19 recovery, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 15 April 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/92b58feb-en/index.html?itemId=/content/component/92b58feb-en>

<sup>2506</sup> Macroeconomic Policy: Inclusive Growth, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/compliance/2020riyadh-interim/01-2020-g20-compliance-interim-inclusive-growth.pdf>; Structural policies to deliver a stronger, more resilient, equitable and sustainable COVID-19 recovery, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 15 April 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/92b58feb-en/index.html?itemId=/content/component/92b58feb-en>

commitment-related international treaty, joining and financing an international organization, provision of financial support directly or through international institutions, or international policy actions that address relevant areas of reform, etc.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has taken action in zero OR one area of building resilience and sustainability; facilitating reallocation and boosting productivity growth for all; and supporting people in transition.
0	The G7 member has taken strong or partial action in two areas OR partial action in all three areas of building resilience and sustainability; facilitating reallocation and boosting productivity growth for all; and supporting people in transition.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong action in ALL three areas of building resilience and sustainability; facilitating reallocation and boosting productivity growth for all; and supporting people in transition.

*Compliance Director: Malhaar Mobarir*

*Lead Analyst: Joseph Rosensitto*

### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to promote strong, resilient, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth.

On 27 June 2021, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau spoke with the Prime Minister of Israel Naftali Bennett.<sup>2507</sup> They discussed ways to expand trade and investment, and create new jobs and opportunities through the modernized Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement. Specifically, the updated agreement includes new provisions on gender, small and medium-sized enterprises, and inclusive trade in order to ensure the benefits and opportunities from the relationship are widely shared.<sup>2508</sup>

On 29 June 2021, Canada's Federal Budget for 2021 received royal assent and was turned into law.<sup>2509</sup> The budget has a key focus on recovery and resilience through the creation of jobs and overall growth. Budget 2021 contains measures that are intended to create one million jobs by the end of the 2021. Additionally, the budget creates opportunities for skilled tradespeople by providing CAD470 million over three years to Employment and Social Development Canada to establish a new Apprenticeship Service that will help 55,000 apprentices. The Small Business Financing program has been enhanced and will receive an additional annual financing of CAD560 million, which will support 2900 additional businesses.

On 30 June 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau announced the creation of 4,500 new affordable housing units across the country with an additional investment of CAD1.5 billion through the Rapid Housing Initiative (RHI).<sup>2510</sup> These housing units will support Canadians who are in uncertain housing situations, experiencing or at risk of homelessness, or living in temporary shelters because of the pandemic.

On 5 July 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau, announced that Algoma Steel Inc. will receive up to CAD420 million to retrofit their operations and phase out coal-fired steelmaking processes at their facility in Sault Ste.

<sup>2507</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaks with the Prime Minister of Israel Naftali Bennett, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 27 June 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/06/27/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-speaks-prime-minister-israel-naftali-bennett>

<sup>2508</sup> What is the CIFTA?, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 July 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/israel/fta-ale/index.aspx?lang=eng>

<sup>2509</sup> Budget 2021: A Recovery Plan for Jobs, Growth, and Resilience, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 April 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2021/home-accueil-en.html>

<sup>2510</sup> 4500 more homes for Canadians, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 5 July 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/06/30/4500-more-homes-canadians>

Marie, Ontario.<sup>2511</sup> The funding will allow Algoma Steel Inc. to purchase equipment to support its transition to Electric-Arc Furnace production. This electricity-based process is expected to cut greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by more than three million metric tonnes per year by 2030, making a meaningful contribution to achieving Canada's climate goals. The investment will create 500 jobs and over 600 new co-op placements for students. Additionally, 75 employees at Algoma will be trained for high-skilled jobs in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields.

On 7 July 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau confirmed the Canada's commitment to invest up to CAD1.53 billion to build the new Green Line as part of Calgary's Light Rail Transit (LRT) system.<sup>2512</sup> As the largest infrastructure project in the city's history, the Green Line will play a key role in shaping the future of Calgary by connecting people and places, reducing congestion, and creating up to 20,000 jobs.

On 9 July 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau, announced up to CAD1.3 billion in federal funding toward the Surrey Langley SkyTrain extension project.<sup>2513</sup> The public transit investment aims to create jobs and develop crucial transportation infrastructure in the region. The project will create approximately 3,000 full time, well-paying middle-class jobs, increase connectivity and allow approximately 24,000 to 30,000 riders to switch to transit from other modes of transportation.

On 14 July 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau announced that the Government of Canada will collaborate with the Government of Quebec and LM Wind Power, a GE Renewable Energy company, to pursue a CAD160 million project that will help the company expand its wind turbine blades manufacturing facility in Gaspé, Quebec.<sup>2514</sup> The Government of Canada will provide up to CAD25 million for the project which, upon completion, will create up to 200 new highly-skilled jobs and maintain approximately 380 additional jobs for Canadian workers.

On 19 July 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau announced an investment of nearly CAD120 million to help build a new 26-storey multi-residential, energy-efficient building in Brampton, Ontario.<sup>2515</sup> This project will help over 300 local families find rental housing units.

On 20 July 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau, announced CAD5 million in funding to help over 320 Ontario families and individuals find a place to live and build their future.<sup>2516</sup> This funding will be delivered through the Affordable Housing Innovation Fund, which was expanded in Budget 2021, and will build a total of 30,000 affordable housing units for Canadians.

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<sup>2511</sup> Investment in Canada's steel industry to create jobs and build a cleaner future, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 5 July 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/07/05/new-investment-canadas-steel-industry-create-jobs-and-build-cleaner>

<sup>2512</sup> Public Transit Investment in Calgary, Alberta, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 7 July 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/07/07/prime-minister-highlights-public-transit-investment-create-jobs-grow>

<sup>2513</sup> Public Transit Investment in British Columbia, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/07/09/new-public-transit-investment-create-jobs-grow-economy-and-build-back>

<sup>2514</sup> Supporting renewable energy manufacturing in Quebec to create jobs and build a cleaner future, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021.

<https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/07/14/supporting-renewable-energy-manufacturing-quebec-create-jobs-and>  
<sup>2515</sup> Helping over 300 families find affordable rental housing in Brampton, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 19 July 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/07/19/helping-over-300-families-find-rental-housing-brampton>

<sup>2516</sup> Helping 320 Canadian families find affordable housing in Ontario, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 20 July 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/07/20/helping-over-320-canadian-families-find-affordable-homes-ontario>

On 28 July 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau and the Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador Andrew Furey announced an agreement that will support an average of CAD10 dollar-a-day child care in the province.<sup>2517</sup> This includes creating 5,896 new licensed early learning and child care spaces within five years. With federal funding of over CAD347 million over the next five years and a one-time investment of CAD6.5 million, Newfoundland and Labrador will see a reduction in average parent fees for children under the age of six in regulated child care from CAD25 a day to CAD15 a day in 2022, with further reduction to an average of CAD10 a day in 2023.

On 2 August 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau spoke with President of the United States Joe Biden and discussed the importance of physical and human infrastructure investments being made to build back better from the COVID-19 pandemic and address its disproportionate impact on women, including by prioritizing supports for child care and education.<sup>2518</sup> They looked forward to working closely together for the benefit of people and jobs on both sides of the border.

On 30 October 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau participated in the first day of the G20 Leaders' Summit in Rome, Italy.<sup>2519</sup> He reaffirmed Canada's dedication to supporting the global economic recovery from the pandemic, including through inclusive and transparent debt relief measures and innovative financing. He announced that Canada will channel CAD3.7 billion, or 20 per cent of its newly allocated International Monetary Fund Special Drawing Rights to support low-income and other vulnerable countries. As part of this declaration, the Prime Minister announced that approximately CAD982 million would further be distributed to the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust.

On 31 October 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau participated in the Summit on Global Supply Chain Resilience hosted by President Biden.<sup>2520</sup> At the summit, Prime Minister Trudeau highlighted the need to foster secure and sustainable environmental supply chains and stated that Canada is committed to working with like-minded partners to build resilient supply chains and address unfair and non-market trade practices. He also noted Canada's efforts to deepen cooperation through the Canada-led Ottawa Group, highlighting Canada's many bilateral and multilateral free trade agreements as well as Canada's desire to continue to develop free trade relationships with its partners.

On 31 October 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau met with Prime Minister of Spain Pedro Sánchez and discussed key issues and areas of collaboration between Canada and Spain.<sup>2521</sup> They discussed the importance of progressive and open economic and trade relations. They exchanged views on the opportunities provided to workers and businesses in both countries by the Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement.

On 1 November 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau met with President of Argentina Alberto Fernández where they discussed the importance of inclusive and progressive approaches to trade as a way to help address

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<sup>2517</sup> \$10-a-day childcare for families in Newfoundland and Labrador, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/12/13/10-day-child-care-families-new-brunswick>

<sup>2518</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaks with the President of the United States of America Joe Biden, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 2 August 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/08/02/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-speaks-president-united-states-america-joe>

<sup>2519</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau concludes first day of G20 Leaders' Summit in Italy, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 30 October 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/10/30/global-health-and-economy-prime-minister-concludes-productive-first>

<sup>2520</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau participates in Summit of Global Supply Chain Resilience, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 31 October 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/10/31/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-participates-summit-global-supply-chain>

<sup>2521</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with Prime Minister of Spain Pedro Sánchez, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 31 October 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/10/31/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-prime-minister-pedro-sanchez-spain>

inequalities and ensure future economic resilience.<sup>2522</sup> They discussed how to ensure a strong and inclusive economic recovery that leaves no one behind and spoke about the need for liquidity and debt treatments to enable economic recovery and growth in Latin America. The Prime Minister and the President acknowledged the extent to which the pandemic has deepened social, health, and economic disparities for Indigenous peoples across Latin America. They spoke about how to address these inequalities through action and investments aimed at closing gaps in housing, health, and education for Indigenous communities.

On 5 November 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau spoke with Manitoba Premier Heather Stefanson about the importance of working together to ensure a strong economic recovery from Covid-19, healthcare and infrastructure investments.<sup>2523</sup> They also noted the role of immigration in addressing labour market shortages and committed to working together to accelerate infrastructure projects across Manitoba.

On 9 November 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau spoke with Mayor of Montréal Valérie Plante, Mayor of Quebec City Bruno Marchand, Mayor of Laval Stéphane Boyer, Mayor of Gatineau France Bélisle, Mayor of Longueuil Catherine Fournier, Mayor of Sherbrooke Évelyne Beaudin, and Mayor of Trois-Rivières Jean Lamarche. They discussed economic recovery plans for Quebec and Canada.<sup>2524</sup> Other shared priorities discussed were affordable housing, public transit, economic development and support for Canadian businesses.

On 15 November 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau and the Premier of Alberta Jason Kenney announced an agreement that will support an average of CAD10-a-day child care in the province.<sup>2525</sup> This includes creating 42,500 new licensed early learning and child care spaces by the end of March 2026. With federal funding of almost CAD3.8 billion over the next five years, Alberta will see a 50 per cent reduction in average parent fees for children under the age of six in regulated child care by the end of 2022.

On 18 November 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau met with US President Biden. They recognised their progress towards fighting Covid-19 across the world and building back better with an economic recovery that benefits everyone.<sup>2526</sup> They also reaffirmed their shared vision for a sustainable and inclusive economic recovery that strengthens the middle class, creates more opportunities and ensures that people on both sides of the border have good jobs and careers.

On 18 November 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau and President Biden underscored their commitment to supply chain security.<sup>2527</sup> They announced the launch of the Canada-United States Working Group on Supply Chains and instructed their officials to produce a report within 120 days.

On 13 December 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau and the Premier of New Brunswick Blaine Higgs announced an agreement that will support an average of CAD10-a-day child care in the province.<sup>2528</sup> This includes

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<sup>2522</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with President of Argentina Alberto Fernández, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 1 November 2021. Access Date: 07 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/11/01/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-president-argentina-alberto-fernandez>

<sup>2523</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaks with Manitoba Premier Heather Stefanson, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 5 November 2021. Access Date: 07 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/11/05/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-speaks-manitoba-premier-heather-stefanson>

<sup>2524</sup> Prime Minister Trudeau speaks with Mayors of Quebec, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 9 November 2021. Access Date: 07 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/11/09/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-speaks-mayors-quebec>

<sup>2525</sup> \$10-a-day childcare for families in Alberta, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 15 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/11/15/10-day-child-care-families-alberta>

<sup>2526</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with the President of the United States of America Joe Biden, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/11/18/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-president-united-states-america-joe>

<sup>2527</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with the President of the United States of America Joe Biden, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/11/18/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-president-united-states-america-joe>

creating 3,400 new licensed early learning and child care spaces by the end of March 2026. With federal funding of almost CAD492 million over the next five years, New Brunswick will also see a 50 per cent reduction in average parent fees for children under the age of six in regulated child care by the end of 2022.

On 13 December 2021, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities Dominic LeBlanc reiterated the Government's support toward reducing trade barriers within Canada to support the country's economic recovery and competitiveness.<sup>2529</sup> These support measures included narrowing many federal exceptions from the Canadian Free Trade Agreement and a CAD21 million commitment to reduce trade barriers in Budget 2021.

On 14 December 2021, a meeting of Federal Ministers, the ministers of British Columbia and First Nations leaders was held to discuss enhancing climate adaptation and response measures.<sup>2530</sup> In particular, four areas of priority were highlighted: interim housing, Indigenous emergency management, infrastructure (especially in the areas of supply chain management and transportation reliability) and agriculture.

On 15 December 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau met with Northwest Territories Premier Caroline Cochrane to discuss and reaffirm their commitment to building strong, healthy, and resilient communities in the Northwest Territories.<sup>2531</sup> Key issues discussed were early learning and childcare, housing and infrastructure, and ensuring all Northerners have access to the same economic and social opportunities as the rest of Canada.

On 15 December 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau launched a plan to provide CAD10-a-day childcare to all children under the age of six in the Northwest Territories.<sup>2532</sup> Federal funding of CAD51 million (over the next five years) will result in a 50 per cent reduction in average parent fees for children under the age of six in licensed child care by the end of 2022.

On 21 December 2021, Employment and Social Development Canada's Labour Program began looking for input from employers and employees on a number of proposed regulations under Parts III and IV of the Canada Labour Code.<sup>2533</sup> These include regulations related to equal treatment and temporary help agencies, the service of documents and regular rate of wages, and long-term disability plans. The Labour Program is tasked with preparing a discussion paper to summarise these initiatives.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to promote strong, resilient, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth. Canada has taken significant steps towards building resilience and sustainability, facilitating reallocation and boosting productivity growth for all and supporting people in transition. Particularly, COVID-19 appears to have accelerated many long-term economic initiatives supporting the three pillars,

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<sup>2528</sup> \$10-a-day child care for families in New Brunswick, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 13 December 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2022. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/12/13/10-day-child-care-families-new-brunswick>

<sup>2529</sup> Minister LeBlanc reaffirms commitment to enhancing internal trade in Canada, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 December 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/intergovernmental-affairs/news/2021/12/minister-leblanc-reaffirms-commitment-to-enhancing-internal-trade-in-canada.html>

<sup>2530</sup> Federal and British Columbia ministers and First Nations hold meeting on disaster recovery and climate resilience, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/intergovernmental-affairs/news/2021/12/federal-and-british-columbia-ministers-and-first-nations-hold-meeting-on-disaster-recovery-and-climate-resilience2.html>

<sup>2531</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with Northwest Territories Premier Caroline Cochrane, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2022. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/12/15/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-northwest-territories-premier-caroline>

<sup>2532</sup> \$10-a-day childcare for families in Northwest Territories, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2022. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/12/15/10-day-child-care-families-northwest-territories>

<sup>2533</sup> Regulatory Initiatives under the Canada Labour Code, Employment and Social Development Canada (Ottawa) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/corporate/portfolio/labour/programs/labour-standards/modern-consultation.html>



including reforms to the Labour Code, greater budget allocation towards growth and reforms aimed at promoting sustainability.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pritika Vij*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to promote strong, resilient, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth.

On 18 June 2021, the fourth Choose France Summit was held, bringing together more than 200 major business leaders.<sup>2534</sup> The Summit received European Commissioner for Internal Market Thierry Breton, Minister Delegate Franck Riester, Director-General of the World Trade Organization Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala and founder of the World Economic Forum Professor Schwab and focused on resilience and economic recovery in France and Europe. 22 new investment projects representing EUR3.5 billion and 7,000 jobs across France were announced by the leaders.

On 20 June 2021, Minister Delegate to the Minister of the Economy, Finance and Recovery Alain Griset and Minister Delegate to the Minister of Labor, Employment and Integration Brigitte Klinkert announced concrete solutions for restaurateurs facing recruitment difficulties.<sup>2535</sup> From 1 July until 30 September 2021, France provided an additional EUR1.5 for each hour worked by an employee in an integration structure with experience in the profession of catering.

On 5 July 2021, Minister Delegate Riester held a video conference with Quebec's Minister of Economy and Innovation and Minister of Finance Eric Girard.<sup>2536</sup> The leaders discussed prospects for strengthening the bilateral relationship and other major shared priorities, including but not limited to sustainable recovery, innovation, and young people. The Minister Delegate also participated in an economic council with French economic and institutional stakeholders in Quebec and will chair a round table entitled "Choose France."

On 7 July 2021, Minister Delegate to the Minister of the Economy, Finance and Recovery Agnès Pannier-Runacher announced the 2021-2022 roadmap of the Council for Gender Diversity in Industry.<sup>2537</sup> The Council for Gender Diversity in Industry aims to implement a program of concrete actions to increase the number of women in numerous industries and facilitate their access to positions of responsibility. The Council agreed to publish an international guide to innovative practices for gender diversity in companies, lobby with industry players for better representation in video games and support engineering schools in improving the number of young women in underrepresented industries.

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<sup>2534</sup> The Choose France Summit, France's flagship forum for economic attractiveness, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/economic-diplomacy-foreign-trade/news/article/the-choose-france-summit-france-s-flagship-forum-for-economic-attractiveness>

<sup>2535</sup> The Government supports the recruitment of employees in integration into the catering trades, Government of France (Paris) 30 June 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 4 December 2021.

[https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=AC083426-03D0-4E04-B04E-9B1304AB0E24](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=AC083426-03D0-4E04-B04E-9B1304AB0E24)

<sup>2536</sup> Canada/Quebec- Franck Riester's video conference meetings, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 5 July 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/canada/events/article/canada-quebec-franck-riester-s-video-conference-meetings-5-jul-2021>

<sup>2537</sup> Agnès Pannier-Runacher announces the 2021-2022 roadmap of the Council for Gender Diversity in Industry, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Paris) 8 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 4 December 2021. [https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=1CFD91E2-D682-44EE-824C-974F39B270C7](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=1CFD91E2-D682-44EE-824C-974F39B270C7)

On 8 July 2021, Secretary of State in charge of Digital Transition and Electronic Communications Cédric O announced the launch of French Tech Rise, an initiative to support the financing of regional startups.<sup>2538</sup> French Tech Rise aims to enhance the dynamism of territorial ecosystems and to allow startups from all metropolitan and overseas regions to participate in an exclusive event with the largest venture capital investment funds present in Paris. The Government of France will invite 82 startups to an event in Paris in November to present to an audience of investors, awarding prizes in different categories.

On 15 and 16 July 2021, Minister Delegate Riester met with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Economic Development and Technology of the Republic of Slovenia Jaroslav Gowin, State Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in charge of Economic Diplomacy Stanislav Rascan and State Secretary at the Ministry of Infrastructure in charge of Sustainable Mobility and Energy Blaz Kosorok.<sup>2539</sup> The Minister Delegate discussed Slovenian trade policy priorities, bilateral trade relations between France and Slovenia and the prospects for stronger cooperation in key sectors.

On 6 September 2021, Minister Delegate Pannier-Runacher and President of the Sector Strategy Committee Frédéric Sanchez signed the strategic contract for the Industry Solutions of the Future (SIF) sector, as part of the Global Industry trade fair organized in Lyon.<sup>2540</sup> The creation of the SIF is an integral part of France's strategy to support the transition of companies to Industry 4.0. This sector is made up of 32,000 companies and employs 500,000 people. The contract aims to bring together machinery sectors and intelligent industrial solutions.

On 13 September 2021, Minister for Ecological Transition Barbara Pompili and Minister Delegate Pannier-Runacher announced the investment of EUR370 million to accelerate the recycling of plastics, composites, textiles, strategic metals, paper, and cardboard.<sup>2541</sup> The acceleration strategy is part of the Government's plan to transition to a circular economy.

On 11 October 2021, Minister Pompili, Minister of the Economy, Finance and Recovery Bruno Le Maire and Minister Delegate in charge of Public Accounts Oliver Dussopt unveiled the second edition of the “green budget.”<sup>2542</sup> An initiative launched at the One Plante Summit in 2017, the green budget is a tool intended to support countries in the alignment of their budgetary, economic, and fiscal policy with the challenges of ecological transition. France is the first country in the world to have achieved environmental integration for its entire budget. From 2021 to 2022, France's budget for green spending increased from EUR31.4 billion to EUR32.5 billion.

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<sup>2538</sup> Cédric O announces the launch of French Tech Rise, an initiative to support funding regional start-ups, The Secretary of State for Digital (Paris) 08 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 4 December 2021.

[https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=32D2EEF7-0131-4ED1-919F-07CC449EEF04](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=32D2EEF7-0131-4ED1-919F-07CC449EEF04)

<sup>2539</sup> Slovenia – Visit by Franck Riester, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021.

<https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/slovenia/events/article/slovenia-visit-by-franck-riester-ljubljana-15-16-jul-21>

<sup>2540</sup> Industry of the future solutions: a strategic sector contract signed by Agnes Pannier-Ruancher and Frederic Sanchez, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Paris) 6 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 December 2021. [https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=9BD9D3FF-0B2F-445D-845B-AF19124DA4D7](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=9BD9D3FF-0B2F-445D-845B-AF19124DA4D7)

<sup>2541</sup> Future Investment: Barbara Pompili and Agnes Pannier-Runacher announce 370M to accelerate the transition towards the economy circular, Government of France (Paris) 13 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 December 2021. [https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=6FCDCE67-3A67-416A-B90F-C5409D425F90](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=6FCDCE67-3A67-416A-B90F-C5409D425F90)

<sup>2542</sup> Increase in environmentally friendly spending in 2022, Government of France (Paris) 11 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 December 2021.

[https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=F610771B-59DB-4215-94D1-ED2DF4172A25](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=F610771B-59DB-4215-94D1-ED2DF4172A25)

On 12 October 2021, Minister Delegate Riester attended the G20 trade minister meeting in Sorrento.<sup>2543</sup> The topics discussed included the reform of the World Trade Organization, better integration of sustainable development into trade policies, the expansion of small and medium-sized enterprises in international markets and ways to ensure fair competition at the global level, including by controls on industrial subsidies.

On 21 and 22 October 2021, Minister Delegate Riester attended the G7 Trade Ministers meeting.<sup>2544</sup> The Minister Delegate argued in favor of strengthening the multilateral trading system and addressed the role of trade policies in fighting climate change, to ensuring gender equality and supporting the economic emancipation of women.

On 2 November 2021, Prime Minister Jean Castex and Secretary of State for the Social, Solidarity and Responsible Economy Olivia Grégoire launched the month of the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE).<sup>2545</sup> The SSE is an annual initiative that occurs throughout the month of November through locally anchored events. This year more than 1,000 events took place promoting the SSE.

On 9 November 2021, Secretary of State O visited Ada Tech School, the first code training targeted to women.<sup>2546</sup> During the visit, Founder and CEO of Ada Tech School Chloé Hermary presented her strategy to make technical professions more inclusive by feminizing training.

From 11 to 13 November 2021, France held the Fourth Paris Peace Forum. The Forum brings together Heads of State, international organizations, civil society, ministers and business leaders to address social issues.<sup>2547</sup> The work that took place was centered around finding solutions to overcome the social divisions widened by the COVID-19 crisis and launching an inclusive and supportive economic recovery.

On 19 November 2021, the Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Recovery announced a communication campaign co-built with Snapchat as part of the tenth Industry Week, which ran until 28 November 2021.<sup>2548</sup> The campaign tackled issues of diversity, equality, environment, and well-being at work. Addressed to young people aged 13 to 18, the campaign emphasized industry as a dynamic sector, committed to ecological and digital transitions.

On 22 November 2021, Minister of Labor, Employment, and Integration Elisabeth Borne, Secretary of State Grégoire and High Commissioner for Employment and Engagement Thibaut Guilluy announced four

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<sup>2543</sup> G20 – Participation of Franck Riester in the trade ministers meeting, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 12 October 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/economic-diplomacy-foreign-trade/news/article/g20-participation-of-franck-riester-in-the-trade-ministers-meeting-sorrento-12>

<sup>2544</sup> G7 – Franck Riester attending trade ministers', Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/economic-diplomacy-foreign-trade/news/article/g7-participation-de-franck-riester-a-la-reunion-des-ministres-du-commerce>

<sup>2545</sup> Launch of the Social and Solidarity Economy Month in the presence of Jean Castex, Prime Minister and Olivia Grégoire, secretary of State to the social, solidarity and responsible, Government of France (Paris) 2 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 December 2021. [https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=94375412-78C5-4466-B712-D9164B253131](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=94375412-78C5-4466-B712-D9164B253131)

<sup>2546</sup> Diversity in French Tech – Cedric O visits the Ada Tech School, Secretary of State for the Digital Economy (Paris) 8 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 December 2021. [https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=821BBA21-F804-4871-BCFE-62788BB7AE06](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=821BBA21-F804-4871-BCFE-62788BB7AE06)

<sup>2547</sup> Fourth Paris Peace Forum, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 13 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/civil-society/paris-peace-forum/article/fourth-paris-peace-forum>

<sup>2548</sup> Industry Week: The Ministry of Economy, Finance and Recovery breaks the youth clichés about the industry, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Recovery (Paris) 19 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 December 2021. [https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=54794132-59EF-4B63-B965-1CB5D8A149F9](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=54794132-59EF-4B63-B965-1CB5D8A149F9)

winners of the “Innovate to Access Employment” impact contracts.<sup>2549</sup> The winners received EUR10 million to develop their innovations aimed at improving access to employment for disadvantaged individuals.

On 23 November 2021, Minister Delegate Pannier-Runacher and President of the National Federation of Production Schools Dominique Hiesse announced the government’s support for 34 new projects to develop production schools targeted towards disadvantaged youth.<sup>2550</sup> The announcement took place as part of the Territories of Industry program and reflects France’s goal to double the number of production schools by the end of 2023. Additionally, Minister Borne announced the mobilization of EUR7.5 million for the operation of these schools in 2022.

On 23 November 2021, Minister of National Education and Youth and Sports Jean-Michel Blanquer, Minister of Higher Education, Research, and Innovation Frédérique Vidal, and Minister Delegate Pannier-Runacher signed an agreement with the President of the Union of Industries and Trades of Metallurgy Eric Trappier to strengthen links between the educational world and economic world.<sup>2551</sup> The agreement aims to improve and promote initial and continuing technological and vocational training through apprenticeships.

On 24 November 2021, Minister Le Maire participated in the second summit of the international coalition Export Finance for the Future, which seeks to significantly redirect export funding towards sustainable projects consistent with the climate objectives of the Paris Agreement.<sup>2552</sup> The summit promoted the application of the declaration at the United Nations Climate Change Conference to international trade while ensuring a level playing field.

On 24 November 2021, Minister Vidal, Secretary of State O and Secretary General for Investment Guillaume Boudy launched the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the i-PhD competition and the 24<sup>th</sup> edition of the i-Lab competition.<sup>2553</sup> The competitions encourage entrepreneurship and support start-ups in the tech industry.

On 25 November 2021, Secretary of State Grégoire announced EUR100,000 in financial support for 15 emerging territorial economic cooperation hubs.<sup>2554</sup> Through this financial support, France seeks to “provide a legal and financial framework for local solutions, devised by actors in the field, to respond to local problems and create synergies between economic actors.”

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<sup>2549</sup> “Innovating to access employment”: Elisabeth Borne and Olivia Grégoire announce 4 winners for the new impact contracts, Government of Paris (Paris) 22 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 December 2021.

<sup>2550</sup> The Government announces its support for 34 new projects to develop schools in production, Government of France (Paris) 23 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 December 2021.

<sup>2551</sup> Industry Week: the Government and UIMM sign an agreement to enhance the attractiveness of industrial careers, Government of Paris (Paris) 23 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 December 2021.

<sup>2552</sup> Export Finance for Future Coalition Summit, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Recovery (Paris) 24 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 December 2021.

<sup>2553</sup> Opening of applications for the I-PHD and iLab innovation competitions to encourage the entrepreneurial spirit in deeptech, Government of France (Paris) 24 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 December 2021.

<sup>2554</sup> Olivia Grégoire announces financial support from the State for 15 emerging territorial economic cooperation hubs, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Recovery (Paris) 25 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 December 2021. [https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=C05A4B33-94E6-45B2-9932-0E6107571A22](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=C05A4B33-94E6-45B2-9932-0E6107571A22)

On 26 November 2021, the Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Recovery hosted the first economic inclusion summit.<sup>2555</sup> This included the participation of Minister Le Maire, Secretary of State Grégoire and Secretary of State O who participated in round tables addressing issues of the deployment of economic inclusion policy within territories and the potential of digital technology for economic inclusion.

On 6 December 2021, the Ministry of Labour, Employment, and Integration advertised the deployment of Pix Emploi, a tool for better digital training and access to employment for young people and jobseekers.<sup>2556</sup> The platform gives users access to a professional network where they can search for online offers or information on a company, create a CV and email potential employers.

On 14 December 2021, Minister Borne and French President of the Adecco group Alexandre Viros signed a partnership agreement aimed at increasing support for long-term jobseekers.<sup>2557</sup> The agreement will create 1,000 additional work-study contracts and help workers transition between sectors.

On 16 December 2021, the French Government announced a plan to support subcontractors, employees and regions in the transition of the automotive industry.<sup>2558</sup> Minister Le Maire, Minister Borne and Minister Delegate Pannier-Runacher introduced the plan as part of the France 2030 investment plan. The plan aims to support the automotive industry with COVID-19 related shocks and the transition towards electric vehicles.

On 4 January 2022, Minister Borne and High Commissioner for Employment and Engagement Thibaut Huilluy announced the launch of two new services dedicated to the guidance of young people.<sup>2559</sup> Regarding the launch of the “I create my CV” and “Find my job” services, Minister Borne stated “these new services, we want to offer turnkey solutions to enable each young person to find their way and enter the labor market.”

On 5 January 2022, the French Government announced 10 new actions to promote the competitiveness of medium-sized enterprises (ETIs) through its “ETI Nation Strategy.”<sup>2560</sup> The 10 actions build upon previous efforts to support ETIs and improve competitiveness.

On 12 January 2022, the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Integration and Atlas signed a multi-year framework agreement related to the implementation of a Digital Engagement for the Development of

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<sup>2555</sup> First Economic Inclusion Summit, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Recovery (Paris) 26 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 December 2021.

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<sup>2556</sup> Better digital training: deployment of Pix Emploi, a tool for access to employment for young people and job seekers, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Economic Inclusion (Paris) 6 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/mieux-former-au-numérique-deploiement-de-pix-emploi-un-outil-pour-l'accès-a-l>

<sup>2557</sup> Signature of a partnership agreement with the Adecco group to promote access to employment for long-term job seekers and retraining of employees, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Economic Inclusion (Paris) 14 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/signature-d-une-convention-de-partenariat-avec-le-groupe-adecco-pour-favoriser>

<sup>2558</sup> France 2030: the Government announces a plan to support subcontractors, employees and territories in the transition of the automotive sector, Government of France (Paris) 16 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. [https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=74A3BA84-18D1-41F0-A6B3-C6B3ABFB8D8B](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=74A3BA84-18D1-41F0-A6B3-C6B3ABFB8D8B)

<sup>2559</sup> “1 young person, 1 solution”: launch of two new functionalities to facilitate the professional orientation of young people on 1jeune1solution.gouv.fr, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Economic Inclusion (Paris) 4 January 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/1-jeune-1-solution-lancement-de-deux-nouvelles-fonctionnalités-pour-faciliter-l>

<sup>2560</sup> “ETI Nation Strategy”: the Government takes stock and announces 10 new actions to promote the competitiveness of ETIs, Government of France (Paris) 5 January 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. [https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=97B96D10-707C-452B-814D-A5FA70A5BCBF](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=97B96D10-707C-452B-814D-A5FA70A5BCBF)

Employment and Skills (EDEC) project.<sup>2561</sup> The EDEC project will be deployed in two stages and will have a total budget of EUR470,000. As High Commissioner for Skills Carine Seiler states, “the digital transition is a collective challenge that transforms professions regardless of the sectors and professional branches. The EDEC will shed light on the necessary transitions arising from employment and skills needs.”

On 13 January 2022, the Ministry of Economy, Finance and Recovery organized the ministerial conference “A stronger industry for a more autonomous Europe” as part of the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union.<sup>2562</sup> Several round tables were organized with public and private stakeholders who explored the conditions necessary to strengthen the strategic autonomy and resilience capacities of the European industry.

France has fully complied with its commitment to promote strong, resilient, sustainable, balanced, and inclusive growth. France has fully complied with its commitment to build resilience and sustainability by incorporating environmental considerations in economic policymaking. Additionally, France has complied with facilitating reallocation and boosting productivity growth for all by encouraging competition and innovation. Moreover, France has fully complied with supporting people in transition through policies designed to upskill and reskill workers as well as through investments in high-quality vocational education and training.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Juliana Rivas*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to promote strong, resilient, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth.

On 23 June 2021, the Federal Cabinet approved the immediate climate protection (ICP) program for 2022, which provides an additional EUR8 billion to the existing EUR80 billion climate protection investments which have been implemented in the past two years.<sup>2563</sup> The ICP program aims to meet the target set by the Climate Protection Act of 65 per cent fewer greenhouse gas emissions in 2030 compared to 1990, and encourage economic sustainability by promoting industrial sectors in climate-friendly products, energy-efficient renovations in residential buildings, abating traffic, etc.

On 13 July 2021, the Ministry of Finance announced that EUR14 billion had been paid out through Bridging Aid III.<sup>2564</sup> Bridging Aid III provides equity grants and reimburses the fixed costs of companies and self-employed persons that had a decline in sales of more than 30 per cent.<sup>2565</sup>

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<sup>2561</sup> Signature of a Digital EDEC: the Ministry of Work, Employment and Integration and Atlas are committed to the digital transition, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Economic Inclusion (Paris) 12 January 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/signature-d-un-edec-numerique-le-ministere-du-travail-de-l-emploi-et-de-l>

<sup>2562</sup> “A stronger industry for a more autonomous Europe”, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Recovery (Paris) 6 January 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022.

[https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=19AD86BF-BCB2-491D-AAF5-84FA12D613ED](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/default.ashx?WCI=ContenuEnLigne&ID=19AD86BF-BCB2-491D-AAF5-84FA12D613ED)

<sup>2563</sup> Immediate program for more climate protection, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate.

<https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Standardartikel/Themen/Schlaglichter/Klimaschutz/klimaschutz-sofortprogramm.html>

<sup>2564</sup> July 13, 2021: 14 billion euros in bridging aid III have already been paid out, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate.

<https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Bilderstreifen/Infografiken/2021-08-27-corona-hilfen/08.html>

On 20 July 2021, the Ministry of Finance launched the EUR1.3 billion Restart Aid for self-employed people who do not benefit from the Bridging Aid due to a lack of fixed costs.<sup>2566</sup> The Restart Aid Plus offers EUR1,500 per month to support self-employed people in restarting their businesses.

On 21 July 2021, the Federal Cabinet launched an extensive aid package for flood regions in addition to the initial EUR200 million.<sup>2567</sup> To restore the devastated economy in the flood regions, the package includes fast and unbureaucratic emergency aid, a comprehensive reconstruction program, the restoration of federal infrastructure, and a security system.

On 22 July 2021, the German Federal Law Gazette published the Supply Chain Due Diligence Act that will enter into force on 1 January 2023.<sup>2568</sup> The law was passed by the German parliament on 11 June 2021, with the goal of more effectively safeguarding human rights and the environment in the global economy. The act obligates companies with 3,000 or more employees to take appropriate measures to respect human rights within their supply chains.<sup>2569</sup>

On 27 July 2021, the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy began funding new artificial intelligence (AI) projects – especially for medium-sized companies – with around EUR44 million encourage innovative competition within the AI industry for the prevention and management of crises.<sup>2570</sup> The competition was announced in the wake of severe flooding, which demonstrated the importance of fast, reliable and interoperable data aggregation.

On 1 August 2021, the Federal Foreign Office announced that Germany acceded to the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP).<sup>2571</sup> The key element of ReCAAP is the exchange of information on security-related attacks. With about 60 per cent of exports being transported via international shipping routes, this agreement will expand Germany's efforts to tackle piracy in Asia, promoting secure and free trade routes.

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<sup>2565</sup> Comprehensive corona aid for companies and the self-employed, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate.

<https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Standardartikel/Themen/Schlaglichter/Corona/ueberbrueckungshilfe.html#Inhaltsverzeichnisb59c3ef9-bade-4a61-9c49-ef0d3cd2f4ba>

<sup>2566</sup> Comprehensive corona aid for companies and the self-employed, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 2 December 2021.

Access Date: 7 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate.

<https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Standardartikel/Themen/Schlaglichter/Corona/ueberbrueckungshilfe.html#Inhaltsverzeichnisb59c3ef9-bade-4a61-9c49-ef0d3cd2f4ba>

<sup>2567</sup> The federal government decides on an extensive aid package for flood regions, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 21 July 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate.

<https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Pressemitteilungen/Finanzpolitik/2021/07/2021-07-21-hilfspaket-fuer-hochwasserregionen.html>

<sup>2568</sup> Germany: New Law Obligates Companies to Establish Due Diligence Procedures in Global Supply Chains to Safeguard Human Rights and Environment, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 22 July 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021.

<https://www.loc.gov/item/global-legal-monitor/2021-08-17/germany-new-law-obligates-companies-to-establish-due-diligence-procedures-in-global-supply-chains-to-safeguard-human-rights-and-the-environment>

<sup>2569</sup> Due Diligence Act, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (Berlin) 22 July 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021.

Translation provided by Google Translate. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Service/Gesetze-und-Gesetzesvorhaben/gesetz-unternehmerische-sorgfaltspflichten-lieferketten>

<sup>2570</sup> Altmaier: Artificial intelligence can support crisis management, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 27 July 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. Translated by Google Translate.

<https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2021/07/20210727-altmaier-ki-kann-krisenmanagement-unterstuetzen.html>

<sup>2571</sup> International Cooperation to Combat Piracy: Germany Accedes to the International Agreement ReCAAP, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 1 August 2021. Access Date: 25 November 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/regionaleschwerpunkte/asien/recaap/2437518>

On 18 August 2021, the Federal Cabinet passed the Federal Government's 28<sup>th</sup> subsidy report.<sup>2572</sup> Section 12 of the Stability and Growth Act indicates an increase in the subsidy volume from EUR24.6 billion in 2019 to EUR47.2 billion in 2022. This increase consists largely of federal financial aid with the expansion of the energy and climate fund in the 2030 climate protection program and the future investments decided in the economic stimulus program to cope with the pandemic. The increase in subsidies aims to support people in transition during the COVID-19 pandemic and promote sustainability in economic activities.

On 25 August 2021, Finance Minister Olaf Scholz presented a joint key-issues paper for an international climate club to the Federal Cabinet.<sup>2573</sup> Minister Scholz hopes that cooperation between countries will lead to the implementation of social and economic change necessary to tackle climate change. The idea of an international climate club was previously discussed among G7 finance ministers in May.

On 25 August 2021, Minister Scholz presented the launch of construction aid in 2021 with EUR30 billion in the Development Aid Act.<sup>2574</sup> The reconstruction fund intends to support regions affected by flooding with economic recovery.<sup>2575</sup>

On 31 August 2021, the Federal Environment Ministry, in cooperation with KfW Bank, expanded the funding of environmental and climate protection investments as well as measures to adapt to the consequences of climate change.<sup>2576</sup> The funds will help meet the immense capital needed to transition the economy towards a clean, carbon neutral and resource efficient future.

On 22 November 2021, the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth adjusted the parental allowance to provide economic stability to families.<sup>2577</sup> The adjustment includes an extension to 31 December 2021 and a partnership bonus with Elterngeld Plus for parents whose children were born before 1 September.<sup>2578</sup> The changes seek to compensate for lost income due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 2 December 2021, the Federal Ministry of Finance announced the amendment of legal provisions for the implementation of the Federal Compensation Act, which increases the compensation pensions for victims of

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<sup>2572</sup> Government Subsidy Report, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) September 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Monatsberichte/2021/09/Inhalte/Kapitel-3-Analysen/3-1-28-subventionsbericht>

<sup>2573</sup> The German Government Wants to Establish an International Climate Club, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin), 25 August 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2021/20210825-german-government-wants-to-establish-an-international-climate-club.html>

<sup>2574</sup> Establishment of a special fund "Aufbauhilfe 2021" (Aufbauhilfegesetz): Speech by Olaf Scholz, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 25 August 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Reden/2021/2021-08-25-rede-scholz-aufbauhilfe-2021.html>

<sup>2575</sup> Together against the flood disaster: emergency aid and reconstruction fund, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 26 August 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Monatsberichte/2021/08/Inhalte/Kapitel-2b-Schlaglicht/2b-gemeinsam-gegen-die-flutkatastrophe.html>

<sup>2576</sup> Federal Environment Ministry and KfW funding for environmental protection and adaptation to climate change, The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (Berlin) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/bundesumweltministerium-und-kfw-verbessern-foerderung-von-umweltschutz-und-anpassung-an-den-klimawandel>

<sup>2577</sup> Financial Support, The Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 22 November 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/themen/corona-pandemie/finanzielle-unterstuetzung>

<sup>2578</sup> Parental Allowance, The Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 1 September 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/themen/familie/familienleistungen/elterngeld/elterngeld-73752>



Nazi persecution to improve economic resilience in these families.<sup>2579</sup> The compensation pensions will be increased by 3.1 per cent retrospectively from 1 September 2021 to 1 January 2022.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to promote strong, resilient, sustainable, balanced, and inclusive growth. Germany has fully complied with its commitment in all three areas of building economic resilience and sustainability, facilitating reallocation and boosting productivity growth for all, and supporting people in transition by allocating funds towards disaster relief and sustainable economic practices.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Yiran (Sarah) Xie*

### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to promote strong, resilient, sustainable, balanced, and inclusive growth.

From 3 to 19 June 2021, Italy participated in the first session of the International Labor Conference.<sup>2580</sup> Several commissions dealt with issues including the International Labor Organization's response to the pandemic, the strategic objective of social protection, the application of international labor standards and the repeal and withdrawal of obsolete conventions and recommendations. The conference produced a final document highlighting the need for a sustainable and inclusive recovery.

On 16 June 2021, Deputy Foreign Minister Marina Sereni addressed the UN Global Compact Leaders Summit.<sup>2581</sup> Minister Sereni added that “now it is time to lay the foundations for a different and better world, in which new development models centered on socio-economic inclusion and mutual collaboration are adopted.” Additionally, Minister Sereni outlined the synergies between the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Italian National Strategy for Sustainable Development, which seeks to establish a partnership framework with countries in Africa to provide know-how in areas of food, agriculture, and infrastructure.

On 23 and 24 June 2021, the Ministry of Economic Development organized the G20 Forum.<sup>2582</sup> The main theme addressed was the promotion sustainable economic growth by focusing on investments in innovation and the digital transition of industry. The Forum also included the G20 Labor Ministers' Meeting, in which Ministers discussed female employment, gender inequalities in the labor market, the adoption of protections

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<sup>2579</sup> Ordinance amending legislation implementing the Federal Compensation Act, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. [https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Gesetzestexte/Gesetze\\_Gesetzesvorhaben/Abteilungen/Abteilung\\_V/19\\_Legislaturperiode/2021-10-13-BEG-AENDVO/0-Gesetz.html](https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Gesetzestexte/Gesetze_Gesetzesvorhaben/Abteilungen/Abteilung_V/19_Legislaturperiode/2021-10-13-BEG-AENDVO/0-Gesetz.html)

<sup>2580</sup> 109 Session of the International Labour Conference (ILC), Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome) 3 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/Pagine/109-Session-of-the-International-Labour-Conference-ILC.aspx>

<sup>2581</sup> UN; Sereni, from companies a fundamental role for sustainable development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 16 June 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/06/onu-sereni-da-imprese-ruolo-fondamentale-per-sviluppo-sostenibile\\_0/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/06/onu-sereni-da-imprese-ruolo-fondamentale-per-sviluppo-sostenibile_0/)

<sup>2582</sup> G20: 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> June Forum on digital transition of Industry, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/en/202-news-english/2042409-g20-23rd-and-24th-june-forum-on-digital-transition-of-industry>

against sectoral changes and the regulation of remote and digital work.<sup>2583</sup> The forum concluded with the approval of the declaration of the Labor Ministers.

On 8 July 2021, Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs Manlio Di Stefano, the Minister of Education Patrizio Bianchi and the Deputy Minister of Economy Laura Castelli spoke at the International Conference of Villa Mondragone. The Conference aims to deepen dialogue between the academic world and representatives of national and international institutions on the issues of growth and sustainable development.<sup>2584</sup> At the center of the 2021 edition of the conference was the economic policy response to the pandemic in the context of recovery and resilience plans aiming at promoting lasting, inclusive and sustainable growth.

On 28 July 2021, Deputy Minister Sereni in a video speech at the Global Education Summit confirmed Italy's commitment to increase its multi-year contribution to the Global Partnership for Education (GPE).<sup>2585</sup> Italy will contribute EUR25 million for the next five years, half of which will be directed to the education of girls in Africa. On this occasion, Italy and the other EU Member States announced a joint pledge, making "Team Europe" the main donor of the GPE.

On 17 September 2021, the International Coalition for Equal Pay, of which Italy has been a member since 2021, celebrated the International Day of Equal Pay.<sup>2586</sup> The event is aimed at bringing attention to efforts made by various players in the labor market to ensure that wage equality is progressively resolved, specifically the contribution of women to economic recovery.

On 5 October 2021, Minister of Labor and Social Policies Andrea Orlando spoke at the Sustainable Development Festival, organized by the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development.<sup>2587</sup> The notion of a pact for youth employment was mentioned by Minister Orlando who underlined the impact of the working group "Youth Policies: Work and Welfare." He explained that the group has the "precise objective of working on proposals for improving the working and living conditions of the new generations" and focuses on improving orientation and communication between the worlds of training and work, providing the necessary tools for entering the labor market, improving the quality of youth work, housing, and social independence as well as welfare.

On 6 October 2021, Deputy Minister Sereni emphasized the importance of intermediate cities in development when opening the proceedings of the second edition of the World Forum on Intermediate

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<sup>2583</sup> G20, the Joint Ministerial Declaration of the Ministers of Labor and Education and the Final Declaration of the Ministers of Labor published, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome) 28 June 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/Pagine/G20-leggi-la-Dichiarazione-Ministeriale-Congiunta-dei-Ministri-del-Lavoro-e-dell-Istruzione-e-la-Dichiarazione-finale.aspx>

<sup>2584</sup> Undersecretary Hon. Manlio Di Stefano speaks at the "Villa Mondragone International Economic Seminar", Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 7 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/07/il-sottosegretario-on-manlio-di-stefano-interviene-al-villa-mondragone-international-economic-seminar/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/07/il-sottosegretario-on-manlio-di-stefano-interviene-al-villa-mondragone-international-economic-seminar/)

<sup>2585</sup> Global Education Summit; Sereni, 25 million from Italy over the next 5 years to the Global Partnership for Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 28 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/07/global-education-summit-sereni-dall-italia-25-milioni-nei-prossimi-5-anni-alla-global-partnership-for-education/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/07/global-education-summit-sereni-dall-italia-25-milioni-nei-prossimi-5-anni-alla-global-partnership-for-education/)

<sup>2586</sup> International Day of Equal Pay, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome) 16 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/Pagine/17-settembre-2021-Giornata-Internazionale-della-parita-salariale.aspx>

<sup>2587</sup> A Pact for Youth Employment, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome) 5 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/priorita/Pagine/Un-Patto-per-l-Occupazione-Giovanile.aspx>

Cities.<sup>2588</sup> The deputy minister noted that cities represent a frontline if Italy is to achieve a sustainable and inclusive post-pandemic recovery.

On 6 October 2021, Undersecretary Di Stefano attended the Ministerial meeting of the Council of the OECD.<sup>2589</sup> Undersecretary Di Stefano spoke at the thematic sessions dedicated to foreign trade and digitization. He advocated for the introduction of regulations on corporate social responsibility in relation to supply chains and the alignment of the rules of the World Trade Organization on public subsidies to the current global dynamism.

On 7 October 2021, the President of the Republic Sergio Mattarella inaugurated the third edition of “Encounters with Africa,” the Ministerial Conference between Italy and over 50 delegations from African countries.<sup>2590</sup> As part of the conference organized by Italy, four interactive thematic panels took place which addressed issues of energy transition, green finance, sustainable development and the blue economy.

On 9 October 2021, Deputy Minister Sereni inaugurated the Italy-Africa Business Week, which represents a place for meeting and exchanging ideas and experiences between African and Italian entrepreneurs.<sup>2591</sup> Sereni reaffirmed the importance of synergistic relationships between the two worlds and emphasized the goal of creating even closer and more fruitful partnerships between different stakeholders.

On 21 October 2021, Minister Orlando reached an agreement at the Conference of Regions and Autonomous Provinces to allocate EUR880 million to the Gol Program.<sup>2592</sup> The Gol Program helps workers to find and maintain their jobs, and helps businesses retrain the workforce.

On 22 October 2021, Italy, in unison with fellow G7 members, issued a joint statement on the G7 Trade Track.<sup>2593</sup> Members met to develop initiatives and pursue discussion on reforming the multilateral trading system to address current trade issues whilst advancing free and fair trade. They reaffirmed their commitment to rebuild better and welcomed the Economic Resilience Panel suggestion on strengthening the resilience of global supply chains.

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<sup>2588</sup> Intermediate cities; Peaceful, essential for sustainable and inclusive development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 6 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/citta-intermedie-sereni-fondamentali-per-uno-sviluppo-sostenibile-e-inclusivo/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/citta-intermedie-sereni-fondamentali-per-uno-sviluppo-sostenibile-e-inclusivo/)

<sup>2589</sup> Undersecretary Di Stefano at the OECD Ministerial Council, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 6 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/sottosegretario-di-stefano-al-consiglio-ministeriale-dell-ocse/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/sottosegretario-di-stefano-al-consiglio-ministeriale-dell-ocse/)

<sup>2590</sup> “Encounters with Africa” kicks off, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 7 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/nota-farnesina-al-via-incontri-con-l-africa-roma-7-8-ottobre/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/nota-farnesina-al-via-incontri-con-l-africa-roma-7-8-ottobre/)

<sup>2591</sup> Italy-Africa Business Week; Sereni, together to rebuild better, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 9 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/italia-africa-business-week-sereni-insieme-per-ricostruire-meglio/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/italia-africa-business-week-sereni-insieme-per-ricostruire-meglio/)

<sup>2592</sup> Goal program: green light for the agreement on the allocation of the first 880 million euros, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome) 21 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/Pagine/Programma-GOL-via-libera-a-intesa-sul-riparto-dei-primi-880-milioni-di-euro.aspx>

<sup>2593</sup> Joint statement issued by the G7 countries to the G7 Trade Track on 22 October 2021, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 22 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/the-joint-communique-issued-by-the-g7-countries-at-the-g7-trade-track-on-22-october-2021/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/the-joint-communique-issued-by-the-g7-countries-at-the-g7-trade-track-on-22-october-2021/)

On 22 October 2021, the “National strategic plan for the development of the skills of the adult population” was approved at the Unified Conference.<sup>2594</sup> The plan presents a proposal for multi-year operational interventions, which will retrain a substantial part of the adult population to provide basic skills and qualifications.

On 22 October 2021, the Directorate General of Immigration and Integrations Policies promoted professional and civic-linguistic training activities in the countries of origin of foreign citizens who possess the requisites to enter Italy for reasons of family reunification, work and internship.<sup>2595</sup> With the allocation of over EUR10 million, 10 projects were launched, and activities will be carried out until 30 September 2022. Pre-departure activities will take place across 15 non-EU countries.

On 28 October 2021, the Ministry of Labor gained the approval of the European Commission for the “exemption from contributions for the recruitment of disadvantaged women as well as for the transformation of the related fixed-term contracts into permanent ones.”<sup>2596</sup> The main purpose of the measure is to reduce labor costs while encouraging private employers to hire women in the post-pandemic recovery.

On 31 October 2021, G20 members, including Italy, announced the contribution of EUR45 billion in support of the most vulnerable countries.<sup>2597</sup> Italy contributes EUR4 billion to this commitment. These funds are aimed at increasing the financing capacity of the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust of the IMF, which provides subsidized loans to the poorest countries.

On 4 November 2021, Deputy Minister Sereni participated in a video message at Expo Yeelba, a festival dedicated to the promotion of Burkina Faso’s cotton-textile supply chain.<sup>2598</sup> The event allowed the promotion of Faso Danfani — a traditional cotton product — in Italy and around the world alongside the exchange of professional contacts, skills, technologies, and innovations between attendants. As the Deputy Minister stated: “Expo Yeelba is not just business. It’s a successful cooperation between institutions, civil society, young people, and women on the African continent. The enhancement of cotton production in Burkina Faso is a fundamental step on the path towards sustainable and inclusive development. Italy is ready to accompany this process.”

From 16 to 18 November 2021, the Ministry of Labor and Social Policies participated in the 2021 edition of the Orientation exhibition, the annual event dedicated to guidance, training, and work.<sup>2599</sup> During the three

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<sup>2594</sup> National strategic plan for the development of the skills of the adult population, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome) 22 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/priorita/Pagine/Piano-strategico-nazionale-per-lo-sviluppo-delle-competenze-della-popolazione-adulta.aspx>

<sup>2595</sup> Pre-departure training to facilitate the integration process of migrants, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome) 22 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/Pagine/La-formazione-pre-partenza-per-favorire-il-processo-di-integrazione-dei-migranti.aspx>

<sup>2596</sup> Work: ok EU Commission to exempt from contributions for hiring disadvantaged women, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome) 28 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/priorita/Pagine/Lavoro-ok-Commissione-Ue-a-esonero-contributivo-per-assunzioni-donne-svantaggiate.aspx>

<sup>2597</sup> The G20 announces \$ 45 billion in support of the most vulnerable countries, with the goal of reaching \$ 100 billion globally, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Rome) 31 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.mef.gov.it/ufficio-stampa/comunicati/2021/Il-G20-annuncia-45-miliardi-di-dollari-a-sostegno-dei-paesi-piu-vulnerabili-con-lobiettivo-di-raggiungere-100-miliardi-a-livello-globale/>

<sup>2598</sup> Sereni, to enhance the cotton production of Burkina Faso in a sustainable sense, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 4 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/11/sereni-valorizzare-in-senso-sostenibile-produzione-cotoniera-del-burkina-faso/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/11/sereni-valorizzare-in-senso-sostenibile-produzione-cotoniera-del-burkina-faso/)

<sup>2599</sup> Orientations 2021: in Genoa, from 16 to 18 November, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome) 15 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/Pagine/Orientamenti-2021-a-Genova-dal-16-al-18-novembre.aspx>

days of the event, projects related to training and job placement in Italy and abroad will be presented, with particular emphasis on internships, apprenticeships, and digital jobs.

On 19 November 2021, Minister Orlando spoke at the international meeting organized by INPS on “Digital Transition and EU Social Security Coordination.”<sup>2600</sup> The minister highlighted how technology can and should help to create dedicated services for those workers who have limited access to social protection systems in preparation for future challenges. During his speech, the Minister highlighted how the digital transition constitutes a “great lever for modernization and greater social protection.”

On 24 November 2021, Italy joined the Export Finance for Future (E3F) coalition which promotes green projects and investments through public financial support for exports.<sup>2601</sup> The E3F coalition hopes to aid the “process aimed at generating value in the context of an ecological transition that is able to guarantee a gradual and orderly path to citizens, businesses and employment.”

From 25 to 27 November 2021, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Labor and Social Policies organized the JOB & Orienta 2021, a national exhibition dedicated to orientation, school, work, and training.<sup>2602</sup> The event included a seminar led by the Ministry of Labor and Social Policies with the purpose of spreading knowledge about “Learning the apprenticeship.”

From 25 November to 11 December 2021, Italy participated in the second session of the International Labor Conference. Issues addressed included, but were not limited to, inequalities in the workforce, skills and lifelong learning.<sup>2603</sup>

On 13 December 2021, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Minister of Economic Development co-chaired the control room, which determines strategy surrounding the production system.<sup>2604</sup> Issues addressed include the modernization of production facilities towards digitization and environmental sustainability, promoting innovation and supporting start-ups in international markets and freeing the potential of Southern Italy.

On 16 December 2021, Deputy Minister Marina Sereni chaired the seventh meeting of the Joint Committee for Development Cooperation.<sup>2605</sup> During the meeting, a significant package of 25 cooperation initiatives were approved, totaling EUR86.3 million. This included EUR35 million in aid for Mozambique and approximately EUR8 million for the implementation of initiatives in Africa, Latin America and the Middle

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<sup>2600</sup> Orlando: the digital transition as a great lever for modernization and greater social protection, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome) 19 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021.

<https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/Pagine/Orlando-la-transizione-digitale-come-grande-leva-di-modernizzazione-e-di-maggiore-protezione-sociale.aspx>

<sup>2601</sup> Italy joins the Export Finance for Future (E3F) coalition to promote green projects and investments through public financial support for exports, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Rome) 24 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.mef.gov.it/ufficio-stampa/comunicati/2021/LItalia-aderisce-alla-coalizione-Export-Finance-for-Future-E3F-per-promuovere-progetti-e-investimenti-green-tramite-il-sostegno-finanziario-pubblico-alle-esportazioni/>

<sup>2602</sup> At the start JOB & Orienta 2021, in Verona, from Thursday 25 November, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome) 23 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021.

<https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/Pagine/Al-via-JOBorienta-2021-a-Verona-da-giovedi-25-novembre.aspx>

<sup>2603</sup> 109 ^ Session of the International Labor Conference (ILC), Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome) 3 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/Pagine/109-Session-of-the-International-Labour-Conference-ILC.aspx>

<sup>2604</sup> X Control room for Internationalization, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 14 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022.

[https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/12/x-cabina-di-regia-per-linternazionalizzazione/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/12/x-cabina-di-regia-per-linternazionalizzazione/)

<sup>2605</sup> Note Farnesina – Development Cooperation, Deputy Minister Sereni chairs the Joint Committee (Rome) 17 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/12/nota-farnesina-cooperazione-allo-sviluppo-vice-ministra-sereni-presiede-comitato-congiunto-2/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/12/nota-farnesina-cooperazione-allo-sviluppo-vice-ministra-sereni-presiede-comitato-congiunto-2/)

East in the sectors of socio-economic development, food security, environment protection, governance, infrastructure, gender equality and support for female entrepreneurs.

On 3 January 2022, the Minister of Labour and Social Policies announced the approval of the Budget Law for 2022.<sup>2606</sup> The Budget Law includes reforms to social safety nets, such as modifications to the Wage Guarantee Fund and the widening of the Salary Integration Fund.

On 13 January 2022, the Secretary General of the Farnesina Ettore Fancesco Sequi received a delegation from the Spanish Congress of Deputies led by the President of the Commission for Foreign Affairs Pau Mari Klose.<sup>2607</sup> The parties discussed Italo-Spanish relations, seeking to strengthen their partnership.

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to promote strong, resilient, sustainable, balanced, and inclusive growth. Italy has taken partial action in all three areas of building resilience and sustainability, facilitating reallocation, and boosting productivity growth for all and supporting people in transition. However, Italy has failed to take strong action in any of the three commitment areas.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Juliana Rivas*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to promote strong, resilient, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth.

On 5 August 2021, the Bank Indonesia and the Ministry of Finance of Japan announced the strengthening of the Japanese yen and Indonesian rupiah settlement framework.<sup>2608</sup> The strengthened framework is part of the continuous effort to encourage trade and investment, as well as improve macroeconomic stability by promoting more extensive use of local currencies for the settlement of trade and direct investment between Indonesia and Japan.

On 23 August 2021, Prime Minister Suga Yoshihide attended the 11th meeting of the Council for Promotion of Regulatory Reform at the Prime Minister's Office.<sup>2609</sup> Here, he discussed advancing regulatory reforms centred on the priority areas such as sustainability, digitalization, creating vibrant communities and children and child-rearing. Prime Minister Suga's remarks included relaxing restrictions on the connection of renewable energy generators with power grids, accelerating the use of online consultations and realizing flexible fundraising by agricultural ventures.

On 2 September 2021, Prime Minister Suga attended the 13th meeting of the Committee on the Growth Strategy at the Prime Minister's Office.<sup>2610</sup> At the meeting, participants engaged in discussions on

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<sup>2606</sup> The reform of the social safety nets is underway, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Rome) 3 January 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/Pagine/Al-via-la-riforma-degli-ammortizzatori-sociali.aspx>

<sup>2607</sup> Italy-Spain: the Secretary General of the Farnesina meets the President of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Congress Klose, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 13 January 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 January 2022. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/01/italia-spagna-il-segretario-generale-della-farnesina-incontra-il-presidente-della-commissione-esteri-del-congresso-klose/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/01/italia-spagna-il-segretario-generale-della-farnesina-incontra-il-presidente-della-commissione-esteri-del-congresso-klose/)

<sup>2608</sup> Strengthening of the Japanese JPY and Indonesian Rupiah settlement framework, Ministry of Finance of Japan (Tokyo) 5 August 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. [https://www.mof.go.jp/english/policy/international\\_policy/financial\\_cooperation\\_in\\_asia/bilateral\\_financial\\_cooperation/20210805\\_Indonesia.html](https://www.mof.go.jp/english/policy/international_policy/financial_cooperation_in_asia/bilateral_financial_cooperation/20210805_Indonesia.html)

<sup>2609</sup> Council for Promotion of Regulatory Reform, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 23 August 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/99\\_suga/actions/202108/\\_00031.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/99_suga/actions/202108/_00031.html)

<sup>2610</sup> Committee on Growth Strategy, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 2 September 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/99\\_suga/actions/202109/\\_00005.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/99_suga/actions/202109/_00005.html)

macroeconomic growth strategy for quarter four of 2021. They discussed making new investments in the green energy, overcoming the declining birth rate, fostering start-ups, inviting advanced semi-conductor factories and legislation to facilitate voluntary liquidation to support the business restructuring of companies.

On 15 September 2021, the 27th Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry Consultations of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) were held between Japan, the ASEAN Secretariat and the ASEAN Member States.<sup>2611</sup> Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Kajiyama Hiroshi attended for Japan. The key priorities discussed were the implementation of the ASEAN-Japan Economic Resilience Action Plan; the identification of priority fields for innovation and sustainability in industry, urban areas and rural areas; the upgrade of the ASEAN-Japan Economic Resilience Action Plan and the further promotion of public-private partnerships between ASEAN and Japan based on the Dialogue for Innovative and Sustainable Growth.

On 12 November 2021, Prime Minister Kishida Fumio attended the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting, whereby he, along with all APEC leaders, agreed to implement the new Aotearoa Plan in order to ensure an inclusive and sustainable economic recovery from the pandemic among other areas of commitment.<sup>2612</sup> Specific actions within this area include pledges to advance inclusive and gender-sensitive trade and investment policies, support and promote micro, small and medium-sized enterprises in the global markets and promoting economic and technical cooperation.

On 17 November 2021, Prime Minister Kishida held a summit telephone talk with President of the Republic of the Philippines Rodrigo R. Duterte.<sup>2613</sup> Prime Minister Kishida expressed his commitment to continuing support to the Philippines' infrastructure development including railways, COVID-19 recovery and capabilities enhancement for maritime law enforcement, among others. The two leaders concurred on advancing concrete cooperation for the realization of a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" and the "ASEAN Outlook for the Indo-Pacific," including in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and their surrounding areas.

On 17 November 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, and Office of the United States Trade Representative launched the Japan-US Partnership on Trade.<sup>2614</sup> In this framework, the US and Japan discussed common issues in the area of trade and cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region.

On 25 November 2021, diplomatic notes were exchanged between Japan and the Republic of Finland.<sup>2615</sup> For the employees temporarily sent from Japan to the Republic of Finland as well as those temporarily sent from the Republic of Finland to Japan, there are currently problems such as being subject to compulsory coverage under the pension systems and employment insurance systems of both countries, which cause dual payment of social insurance contribution in both countries. Under this Agreement, those employees temporarily sent from either country to the other will be covered in principle, only by the pension system and employment insurance system of the former country provided that the period of such detachment is not expected to exceed five years. The Agreement will also enable employees to establish eligibility to receive pension benefits in each country by totalizing the periods of the coverage of both countries.

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<sup>2611</sup> 27th ASEAN Economic Ministers' (AEM) - METI Consultations Held, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan (Tokyo) 15 September 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0915\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0915_001.html)

<sup>2612</sup> APEC Leaders' Meeting, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 12 November 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101\\_kishida/actions/202111/\\_00015.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101_kishida/actions/202111/_00015.html)

<sup>2613</sup> Japan-Philippines Summit Talks, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 17 November 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/s\\_sa/sea2/ph/page4e\\_001186.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/s_sa/sea2/ph/page4e_001186.html)

<sup>2614</sup> The Launch of Japan-US Partnership on Trade, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 17 November 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_003058.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_003058.html)

<sup>2615</sup> Exchange of Diplomatic Notes for the Entry into Force of the Agreement between Japan and the Republic of Finland on Social Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 25 November 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_003063.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_003063.html)

On 25 November 2021, Prime Minister Kishida held the 15th meeting of the Council on Economic and Fiscal Policy in 2021 at the Prime Minister's Office.<sup>2616</sup> At the meeting, the participants engaged in discussions on priority issues on the Integrated Economic and Fiscal Reforms (social security) and improvement in medium-term economic and fiscal management.

On 26 November 2021, Prime Minister Kishida held the third meeting of the Council of New Form of Capitalism Realization at the Prime Minister's Office. At the meeting, the participants discussed wages and human capital.<sup>2617</sup>

On 30 November 2021, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Hagiuda Koichi attended a trilateral meeting of the Japanese, US and EU Trade Ministers held via video conference. Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to holding a successful 12th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO), which was postponed due to COVID-19.<sup>2618</sup> They also agreed to work trilaterally to address the global challenges posed by countries' non-market policies and practices, discuss them at the administrative level going forward and regularly check progress.

On 3 December 2021, Prime Minister Kishida held the 16th meeting of the Council on Economic and Fiscal Policy in 2021 at the Prime Minister's Office.<sup>2619</sup> At the meeting, participants engaged in discussions on Priority Issues on the Integrated Economic and Fiscal Reforms, leveraging innovation and digitalization (education and culture as well as science and technology, social infrastructure improvement, and local public administration and finance) and the basic principles of FY2022 Budget formulation.

On 3 December 2021, Korea deposited its Instrument of Ratification of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Agreement to the Secretary-General of ASEAN (the Depository).<sup>2620</sup> With this deposit, the RCEP Agreement, to which Japan is a party, will enter into force on 1 February 2022. The agreement resolves to keep markets open, support an open, free and rules-based multilateral trading system and spur post-pandemic recovery, while creating the world's largest free trade area which covers almost 30 per cent of the world's population.

On 10 December 2021, Prime Minister Kishida attended the General Assembly of Japan's National Council for Export Promotion of Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery Products and Processed Foods held in Tokyo.<sup>2621</sup> Here, he made a statement conveying a need to increase the country's export capacity through an all-Japan approach by organizing export promotion bodies by product line. He noted that the Kishida Cabinet will submit a bill to revise an act to facilitate and strongly promote further organization of leading product bodies, including those for rice, Japanese sake and fruits, in the current economic stimulus package without waiting for a legal revision, and hopes to achieve the major export targets of JPY2 trillion in 2025 and JPY5 trillion in 2030.

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<sup>2616</sup> Meeting of the Council on Economic and Fiscal Policy, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 25 November 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101\\_kishida/actions/202111/\\_00041.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101_kishida/actions/202111/_00041.html)

<sup>2617</sup> Council of New Form of Capitalism Realization, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 26 November 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101\\_kishida/actions/202111/\\_00045.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101_kishida/actions/202111/_00045.html)

<sup>2618</sup> METI Minister Hagiuda Attends Trilateral Meeting of Trade Ministers, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan (Tokyo) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1130\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1130_001.html)

<sup>2619</sup> Meeting of the Council on Economic and Fiscal Policy, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 3 December 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101\\_kishida/actions/202112/\\_00006.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101_kishida/actions/202112/_00006.html)

<sup>2620</sup> The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Agreement will enter into force in South Korea, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan (Tokyo) 06 December 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1206\\_002.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1206_002.html)

<sup>2621</sup> General Assembly of Japan's National Council for Export Promotion of Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery Products and Processed Foods, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 10 December 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2022. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101\\_kishida/actions/202112/\\_00011.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101_kishida/actions/202112/_00011.html)



On 10 December 2021, a WTO joint statement on investment facilitation for development was issued in Geneva, Switzerland.<sup>2622</sup> More than 110 countries and regions participated in the negotiations, including Japan, which means conclusion of this agreement will make investing more convenient for investors even with countries with which Japan has not concluded bilateral investment agreements.

On 11 December 2021, Minister for Foreign Affairs Hayashi Yoshimasa, who was visiting the United Kingdom to attend G7 Foreign and Development Ministers' Meeting, held a meeting with Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Commonwealth of Australia Senator Marise Payne.<sup>2623</sup> The Ministers affirmed that Japan and Australia would continue to assist the efforts to build quality infrastructure in the Indo-Pacific region.

On 23 December 2021, Minister Hayashi held a video conference with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan H. E. Ayman Safadi.<sup>2624</sup> Minister Hayashi stated that the cooperative relationship between Japan and Jordan is steadily progressing based on the strategic partnership and expressed his hope to strengthen the relationship for further development.

On 23 December 2021, Prime Minister Kishida held the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Council on Economic and Fiscal Policy in 2021 at the Prime Minister's Office.<sup>2625</sup> At the meeting participants engaged in discussions on the Financial Year 2022 economic outlook and the potential reforms to the New Plan to Advance Economic and Fiscal Revitalization.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to promote strong, resilient, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth. Japan has taken comprehensive action towards economic recovery and beyond through domestic reform as well as multilateral cooperation. Japan has taken sufficient action in all three areas of building resilience and sustainability, facilitating reallocation and boosting productivity growth for all and supporting people in transition.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pritika Vij*

### **United Kingdom: 0**

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to promote strong, resilient, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth.

On 29 June 2021, Investment Minister Gerry Grimstone announced a new pilot grant funding program that will provide targeted support to UK professional and business service regulators to make recognition arrangements on professional qualifications.<sup>2626</sup> The recognition arrangements will allow UK businesses and professionals to seize opportunities overseas and boost the appeal of UK qualifications, which improves UK competition in international markets.

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<sup>2622</sup> WTO Joint Statement on Investment Facilitation for Development Issued, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan (Tokyo) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1214\\_002.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1214_002.html)

<sup>2623</sup> Japan-Australia Foreign Ministers' meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 11 December 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/page6e\\_000267.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/page6e_000267.html)

<sup>2624</sup> Japan-Jordan Foreign Ministers' video conference, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 23 December 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e\\_000361.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000361.html)

<sup>2625</sup> Meeting of the Council on Economic and Fiscal Policy, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 23 December 2021. Access Date: 4 January 2022. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101\\_kishida/actions/202112/\\_00019.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101_kishida/actions/202112/_00019.html)

<sup>2626</sup> New funding to support UK professional and business services regulators, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 26 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funding-to-support-uk-professional-and-business-services-regulators>

On 30 June 2021, Her Majesty's Treasury (HM Treasury) and the United Kingdom Debt Management Office published the UK Government Green Financing Framework, which lists six types of green expenditures that are financed by the Green Gilt and retail Green Saving Bonds: clean transportation, renewable energy, energy efficiency, pollution prevention and control, living and natural resources, and climate change adaptation.<sup>2627</sup> Since launching in September 2021, HM Treasury reported that the green financing program has raised more than GBP16 billion from the sale of Green Gilts and NS&I's Green Saving Bonds, and these funds support projects with environmental benefits which supports projects with environmental benefits and promotion to economic sustainability.

On 22 July 2021, the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy announced the UK innovation strategy in supporting businesses innovations by making the most of the UK's research, development and innovation systems.<sup>2628</sup> The strategy includes four pillars: fueling businesses who want to innovate, attracting talented and innovative people, ensuring research and development serve the needs of businesses and stimulating innovation to tackle major technological challenges.

On 21 September 2021, the Office for the Internal Market (OIM) launched and created a new digital reporting service for businesses to report their issues and concerns about trading between UK nations.<sup>2629</sup> The concerns from businesses will contribute to the first State of the UK Internal Market report and help the OIM support the effective operation of the UK internal markets using its economic and technical expertise.

On 4 November 2021, the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy announced the energy-related products policy framework, which sets out the UK's plan on driving products to consume less energy, resources and materials to save carbon, reduce energy demand and help households and businesses reduce their energy bills, promoting both environmental and economic sustainability.<sup>2630</sup>

On 20 October 2021, the UK spearheaded the Agile Nations conference, which is an international summit between the UK, Denmark, Canada, Italy, Japan, Singapore, and the United Arab Emirates.<sup>2631</sup> The network's main mission is to make it easier for businesses to introduce and scale innovations across markets while upholding protections for citizens and the environment. During this summit, the UK promised to lead a project aimed at helping create a global market for legal services and will work together with Canada and Singapore to iron out potential cyber-security issues.

On 1 December 2021, the Department of Education confirmed reforms for initial teacher training to ensure all children and young people receive an excellent education.<sup>2632</sup> The reforms are backed by GBP35.7 million allocated to ensure trainees can receive high-quality mentoring support. The package promotes a higher

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<sup>2627</sup> UK Government Green Financing Framework, HM Treasury and United Kingdom Debt Management Office (London) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1002579/20210630\\_UK\\_Government\\_Green\\_Financing\\_Framework\\_-\\_large\\_text.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1002579/20210630_UK_Government_Green_Financing_Framework_-_large_text.pdf)

<sup>2628</sup> UK Innovation Strategy: leading the future by creating it, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 22 July 2021. Access Date: 26 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-innovation-strategy-leading-the-future-by-creating-it>

<sup>2629</sup> Office for the Internal Market opens for business, Competition and Markets Authority and Office for the Internal Market (London) 21 September 2021. Access Date, 3 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/office-for-the-internal-market-opens-for-business>

<sup>2630</sup> Energy-related products policy framework, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 4 November 2021, Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/energy-related-products-policy-framework>

<sup>2631</sup> UK-led international summit sets new horizons for innovation, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 20 October 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-led-international-summit-sets-new-horizons-for-innovation>

<sup>2632</sup> Plans to develop world class teachers through high-quality training and support, Department for Education (London) 1 December 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/plans-to-develop-world-class-teachers-through-high-quality-training-and-support>

quality of vocational education and provides new opportunities that can boost productivity in the education sector.

On 2 December 2021, the Department of Education launched a GBP30 million target support for teenagers in “hotspot” areas, where incidents of serious youth violence are highest.<sup>2633</sup> This targeted support intends to protect vulnerable young people from violence, which gives the youth a better education environment that can boost the productivity of the next generation.

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to strong, resilient, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth. The UK has taken strong action towards building resilience and sustainability through the introduction of the Green Financing Framework. However, the UK has not taken substantial action towards facilitating reallocation and boosting productivity growth and supporting people in transition.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Yiran (Sarah) Xie*

### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to strong, resilient, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth.

From 14 June to 16 June 2021, US Secretary of Commerce Gina M. Raimondo joined President Biden, Secretary Blinken, Ambassador Tai and European Union leaders at the US-EU Summit in Brussels.<sup>2634</sup> Both the US and EU set an agenda for the post-pandemic era which included strengthening tech and trade cooperation to ensure openness, fair competition, transparency, and accountability. At the summit Secretary Raimondo focused on how the US and EU can work together to write rules for the transforming economy which included expanding and deepening trade and investment ties and driving a digital transformation that boosts innovation.

On 15 June 2021, the US Department of Labor announced the availability of USD1.5 million to develop partnerships with community-based and non-profits to better inform women about their rights and benefits in the workplace.<sup>2635</sup> The initiative is led by the Department’s Women’s Bureau and Employment and Training Administration.

On 21 June 2021, the US Department of Labor announced USD85.5 million to assist formerly incarcerated individuals in securing employment opportunities in their communities.<sup>2636</sup> The Department’s Employment and Training Administration is administering the program which Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh says helps formerly incarcerated individuals by creating more opportunities “to complete high school and college, enter apprenticeships and share the benefits as our economy continues to recover.”

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<sup>2633</sup> Support for vulnerable young people in serious violence hotspots, Department for Education (London) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/support-for-vulnerable-young-people-in-serious-violence-hotspots>

<sup>2634</sup> US Secretary of Commerce Gina M. Raimondo Joins President Biden at US-EU Summit and Advances Tech and Trade Issues with European Union and Private Sector Leaders, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 23 June 2021. Access date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/blog/2021/06/US-secretary-commerce-gina-m-raimondo-joins-president-biden-us-eu-summit-and>

<sup>2635</sup> US Department of Labor Announces Funding Availability Of \$1.5m In Grants To Better Inform Women About Labor Rights, Benefits, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/wb/wb20210615>

<sup>2636</sup> US Department of Labor Awards More Than \$85.5m To Improve Employment Outcomes For People Now Or Once Involved In Criminal Justice System, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210621>

On 29 June 2021, the US Department of Labor announced USD43 million in grants to help reemploy dislocated workers most affected by the economic and employment fallout of the coronavirus pandemic.<sup>2637</sup> The program will focus on providing funds to “workers from historically marginalized communities or groups, and those unemployed for an extended period or who have exhausted unemployment insurance or other pandemic unemployment insurance programs.” Administered by the Employment and Training Administration, the funds will be distributed by the Comprehensive and Accessible Reemployment through Equitable Employment Recovery National Dislocated Worker Grants. Workers can apply to receive grants for either “workforce services, including career, training and supportive services to help participants gain employment” or “purchasing, building or expanding virtual technology platforms, software systems or services for job search, career guidance, training or other allowable activities.”

On 30 June 2021, Secretary of the US Department of Transportation Pete Buttigieg announced that the Biden-Harris Administration intends to award USD905.25 million to 24 projects in 18 states under the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA).<sup>2638</sup> Applicants were judged on a variety of criteria. Recipients of INFRA grants not only demonstrated that their projects would make infrastructure investments which supported local and regional investments, but also how well proposals would “address climate change, environmental justice, and racial equity.” Furthermore, projects which focused on rural communities to address underinvestment were also prioritized.

On 1 July 2021, the US in addition to 130 countries showed support for a global minimum tax of 15 per cent for large corporations by signing the Statement on a Two-Pillar Solution to Address the Tax Challenges Arising from the Digitalisation of the Economy.<sup>2625</sup> The two-pillar package – the outcome of negotiations coordinated by the OECD for much of the last decade – aims to ensure that large Multinational Enterprises (MNEs) pay tax where they operate and earn profits, while adding much-needed certainty and stability to the international tax system. Pillar one will ensure a fairer distribution of profits and taxing rights among countries with respect to the largest MNEs, including digital companies. It would re-allocate some taxing rights over MNEs from their home countries to the markets where they have business activities and earn profits, regardless of whether firms have a physical presence there. Pillar two seeks to put a floor on competition over corporate income tax, through the introduction of a global minimum corporate tax rate that countries can use to protect their tax bases.

On 6 July 2021, the US Department of Labor announced a USD1.9 million grant for members of the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe in Washington state to provide jobs, employment, and training services to individuals impacted by the health and economic effects of opioid use, addiction, and overdose.<sup>2639</sup> This is part of a larger USD6.0 million grant to tribal community participants in Washington’s King and Pierce counties. Dislocated worker grants temporarily expand the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 to the state and local levels by providing funds in response to large, unexpected economic events which cause significant job losses.

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<sup>2637</sup> US Department of Labor Announces Availability Of \$43m In Funds To Support Reemployment Of Workers Displaced By The Pandemic, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210629>

<sup>2638</sup> US Department of Transportation Announces \$905.25 Million in Proposed Awards for the FY 2021 Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grant Program, US Department of Transportation (Washington D.C.) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.transportation.gov/briefing-room/US-department-transportation-announces-90525-million-proposed-awards-fy-2021>

<sup>2639</sup> US Department of Labor Awards \$1.9m Grant To Muckleshoot Indian Tribe To Provide Employment, Training In Response To Opioid Crisis, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 10 Dec 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210706>

On 9 July 2021, President Biden signed an Executive Order promoting competition in the American economy to support the interests of American workers, businesses, and consumers.<sup>2640</sup> The 72 actions include promoting greater competition through federal agency's procurement and spending decisions, increasing opportunities for small businesses and increasing competition by breaking up anti-competitive practices.<sup>2641</sup> Additionally, the order addresses labor market regulation by making it easier for workers to demand better terms of employment. The plan also introduces competition in the agriculture industry to reduce costs for small farms which are shrinking profits and growing debts.<sup>2642</sup>

On 15 July 2021, the US Department of Labor announced USD92.6 million for training and employment services for workers adversely affected by trade.<sup>2643</sup> The Employment and Training Administration administers the program which supports training, employment and case management services, job search and relocation allowances, and income support during training through the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Workers Program. In addition, the program subsidizes wages of workers 50 or older whose current wages are lower as a result of reemployment compared to their prior trade-affected employment. As of 5 December 2021, the bill failed to pass Congress, causing funding for the program to end on 30 June 2022.<sup>2644,2645</sup>

On 20 July 2021, the US Department of Energy (DOE) announced USD127 million to a set of small businesses working on scientific tools and clean, secure energy for Americans.<sup>2646</sup> The investment, according to Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm, will help "small businesses take their work to the next level, expand their operations and create new jobs, and be part of the fight against the existential crisis of our time – climate change." Funding for the awards comes from the DOE's Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer programs.

On 23 July 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue plan into law which included USD3 billion for economic development.<sup>2647</sup> Included in the USD3 billion is USD500 million allocated for workforce training programs and apprenticeships for women, people of color, and underserved communities to be successful in

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<sup>2640</sup> Executive Order on Promoting Competition in the American Economy, The White House (Washington D.C.) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/07/09/executive-order-on-promoting-competition-in-the-american-economy/>

<sup>2641</sup> FACT SHEET: Executive Order on Promoting Competition in the American Economy, The White House (Washington D.C.) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/07/09/fact-sheet-executive-order-on-promoting-competition-in-the-american-economy/>

<sup>2642</sup> Remarks by President Biden At Signing of An Executive Order Promoting Competition in the American Economy, The White House (Washington D.C.) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2021/07/09/remarks-by-president-biden-at-signing-of-an-executive-order-promoting-competition-in-the-american-economy/>

<sup>2643</sup> US Department of Labor Announces More Than \$92m In Funding For Training, Employment Services, Wage Subsidies For Workers Harmed By Foreign Trade, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210715-0>

<sup>2644</sup> US Department of Labor Announces More Than \$92m In Funding For Training, Employment Services, Wage Subsidies For Workers Harmed By Foreign Trade, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210715-0>

<sup>2645</sup> Related Bills - H.R.4242 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Trade Adjustment Assistance Extension Act of 2021, Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/4242/related-bills?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22Trade+Adjustment+Assistance+for+Workers+Program%22%2C%22Trade%22%2C%22Adjustment%22%2C%22Assistance%22%2C%22for%22%2C%22Workers%22%2C%22Program%22%5D%7D&r=3&s=1>

<sup>2646</sup> DOE Announces \$127 Million For Small Business Research And Development Grants, Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 20 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-announces-127-million-small-business-research-and-development-grants>

<sup>2647</sup> Remarks by US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo at White House Announcement of \$3 Billion EDA Investment in America's Communities, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 23 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/speeches/2021/07/remarks-us-secretary-commerce-gina-raimondo-white-house-announcement-3>

good jobs. Included in the allocation are funds to cover childcare and transportation to make training accessible to all workers.

On 26 July 2021, the DOE announced USD60 million for Industrial Assessment Centers (IACs) which assist “small- and medium-sized manufacturers in reducing their carbon emissions and lowering energy costs, while training the next generation of energy-efficiency workers.”<sup>2648</sup> The investment in IACs will help decarbonize manufacturing industries by reducing barriers. IACs will train workers by partnering with community colleges and technical programs to train students and professionals to do energy-efficiency assessments of buildings, especially those in disadvantaged communities.

On 28 July 2021, Deputy Secretary Don Graves hosted a roundtable with minority-owned business leaders to discuss issues within the care economy.<sup>2649</sup> Participants shared their suggestions on how to help minority entrepreneurs facing challenges when it comes to care because women participate in the labour force at lower rates because of the issue of care, particularly for young children.

On 28 July 2021, the US Department of Labor allocated USD3 million to Maine and Indiana, collectively, to continue employment and training services to individuals significantly affected by widespread opioid use, addiction, and overdose.<sup>2650</sup> The grant will provide employment in jobs addressing the impacts of the opioid crisis and may provide services “to reintegrate workers affected by the crisis and train individuals to work in mental health treatment, addiction treatment and pain management.”<sup>2651</sup>

On 2 August 2021, United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai and US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo co-hosted the Industry Trade Advisory Committee meeting.<sup>2652</sup> During the meeting, members committed to “removing barriers to trade, developing an inclusive and sustainable growth strategy, and using the private sector’s expertise to enforce existing trade agreements and inform US commercial advocacy with foreign governments.”

On 4 August 2021, the US Department of Labor announced a partnership with the American Association of Access Equity and Diversity to “promote the inclusion of people with disabilities in the national organization’s workplace equity efforts.”<sup>2653</sup> Established by the Office of Disability Employment Policy, the program will provide tools and information to advance inclusion of people with disabilities in the workforce. Office of Disability Employment Policy Deputy Assistant Secretary Jennifer Sheehy said the partnership is one of many partnerships which are “determined to rebuild our economy equitably so that all people – including people with disabilities and others from historically marginalized communities – share in the benefits of our nation’s recovery.”

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<sup>2648</sup> DOE Announces New \$60 Million Investment to Increase Energy Efficiency in Manufacturing, US Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 26 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-announces-new-60-million-investment-increase-energy-efficiency-manufacturing>

<sup>2649</sup> Deputy Secretary Don Graves Hosts Roundtable with Minority-Owned Business Leaders to Address Critical Need for Investments in the Care Economy, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/blog/2021/07/deputy-secretary-don-graves-hosts-roundtable-minority-owned-business-leaders>

<sup>2650</sup> US Department of Labor Awards \$2M In Funding To Continue Employment, Training Services To Combat Maine’s Opioid Crisis, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021 <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210728>

<sup>2651</sup> US Department of Labor Awards \$1M Incremental Funding to Continue Employment, Training Service to Combat Indiana Opioid Crisis, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210728-0>

<sup>2652</sup> Readout of the Inaugural Industry Trade Advisory Committee Meeting, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 2 August 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021 <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/08/readout-inaugural-industry-trade-advisory-committee-meeting>

<sup>2653</sup> US Department of Labor Announces Alliance With National Organization Of Equal Opportunity Professionals To Promote Workplace Diversity, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 4 August 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20210804>

On 10 August 2021, the Department of Labor announced the Bureau of International Labor Affairs' intent to grant USD10 million to improve gender equity in Mexican workplaces.<sup>2654</sup> The money will fund a project which is intended to “increase the number of women in union leadership, strengthen protections, reduce workplace harassment, and increase wages for women” and “increase women’s participation in collective bargaining and empower worker organizations to undertake sustained action to promote gender equity in the workplace.” The Bureau of International Labor Affairs’ intends to engage stakeholders and use a worker-centered approach to advance the project.

On 16 August 2021, the US Department of Education and the US Department of Labor announced a program to connect unemployed Americans to postsecondary education which would train them to with skills that could lead to good jobs.<sup>2655</sup> The US Department of Education created a new website to help unemployed Americans connect with colleges registered under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act meaning recipients of unemployment insurance can receive benefits while attending school.

On 19 August 2021, the Department of Labor announced USD90 million in grants to help workers get services and training for good quality jobs as the economy recovers.<sup>2656</sup> The grants are focused on individuals who were displaced by the pandemic, historically marginalized communities and those who have exhausted unemployment benefits. This announcement doubles the initial investment of USD43 million announced on 29 June 2021.

On 31 August 2021, the Department of Labor announced the establishment of the Office of Unemployment Insurance Modernization which is intended to help states modernize and reform the unemployment insurance system.<sup>2657</sup> The Office is intended to implement the strategic vision announced in the Unemployment Insurance modernization plans which includes USD260 million to improve access for lower-income claimants, among other goals.<sup>2658</sup> The Unemployment Insurance modernization plans also include increasing public awareness and service delivery which helps improve racial and ethnic disparities in administering and delivering unemployment benefits.

On 1 September 2021, Secretary Raimondo met with Ukrainian First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy Oleksiy Lyubchenko and signed a memorandum of understanding which outlined renewed cooperation on trade in addition to US support for Ukrainian efforts to improve its business and investment climate.<sup>2659</sup> The memorandum outlines cooperation on Ukrainian economic transformation in sectors, allowing US companies to increase economic relations with Ukrainian companies.

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<sup>2654</sup> US Department of Labor Announces \$10m Funding Availability To Improve Gender Equity Among Workers In Mexico, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 10 August 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/ilab/ilab20210810>

<sup>2655</sup> Education, Labor Departments Renew Efforts to Help Unemployed Americans Pursue Postsecondary Education, US Department of Education (Washington D.C.) 16 August 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/education-labor-departments-renew-efforts-help-unemployed-americans-pursue-postsecondary-education>

<sup>2656</sup> US Department of Labor Announces \$90m In Grants To Support Training, Employment Services For Workers Displaced By The Pandemic, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 19 August 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210819-0>

<sup>2657</sup> US Department of Labor Announces Establishment Of Office To Modernize, Reform States’ Unemployment Insurance Systems, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210831>

<sup>2658</sup> US Department of Labor Announces Funding To States To Modernize Unemployment Insurance System, Combat Fraud, Address Equity, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 11 August 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210811>

<sup>2659</sup> Supporting Allies Through Trade: US & Ukrainian Leaders Sign Memorandum of Understanding on Commercial Cooperation, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 1 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021 <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/09/supporting-allies-through-trade-us-ukrainian-leaders-sign-memorandum>

On 7 September 2021, the Department of Labor announced the 2021 National Apprenticeship Week will be celebrated 15 to 21 November allowing various industries to demonstrate their support for apprenticeships that train highly-skilled workers.<sup>2660</sup> During Apprenticeship Week, the Biden-Harris administration was recognized for “encouraging and increasing apprenticeship opportunities for women and communities underrepresented in apprenticeships.” Several events were planned for the week which focused on bringing underrepresented groups into apprenticeship programs. The week was designed to promote programs which are designed to upskill and reskill workers including youth, supporting workers learning skills to use in the workforce.

On 9 September 2021, Secretary Raimondo co-chaired a relaunched US-Mexico High-Level Economic Dialogue to advance shared economic and commercial goals, such as promoting inclusive trade.<sup>2661</sup> Secretary Raimondo was joined by high-level US and Mexico officials to discuss improving US-Mexico relations in areas important to both countries.

On 9 September 2021, Secretary Walsh from the Department of Labor announced a USD33 million grant, administered by the Women’s Bureau and Employment and Training Administration, to “recruit, train and retain more women in quality pre-apprenticeship and registered apprenticeship programs as well as nontraditional occupations.”<sup>2662</sup> These grants are intended to reduce barriers to entry into apprenticeships and nontraditional careers for women and empower women to get the training required to pursue well-paying jobs and create a more inclusive workforce.

On 10 September 2021, the Department of Labor announced the availability of funds to support new contracts which launch, support, and expand apprenticeships in critical industries impacted by the “coronavirus pandemic and industries that have not traditionally used apprenticeship to meet employer and sector needs.”<sup>2663</sup> Not only will the funds help industries impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, but they will also “increase opportunities for under-represented populations and leverage existing resources to support and sustain Registered Apprenticeship programs at the local and national level.”

On 15 September 2021, The US Treasury Department released a report titled “The Economics of Childcare,” confirming that childcare remains expensive and inaccessible for many and makes it possible for parents to work.<sup>2664</sup> In a speech announcing the report, Vice President Harris promoted the Build Back Better Agenda which would extend the Child Tax Credit, expand family leave, and lower childcare costs by USD15,000. The proposed investments in childcare would also increase gender parity in the workforce and boost GDP.

On 20 September 2021, the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) announced 44 projects will be designated as INFRA (Infrastructure for Rebuilding America) Extra making them eligible to apply to the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) credit assistance for up to cover up to 49

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<sup>2660</sup> US Department of Labor Will Highlight ‘Learn-as-you-earn’ Model During National Apprenticeship Week, Nov. 15-21, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 7 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210907>

<sup>2661</sup> Secretary of Commerce Gina M. Raimondo Co-chairs US-Mexico High Level Economic Dialogue, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 9 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021 <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/09/secretary-commerce-gina-m-raimondo-co-chairs-us-mexico-high-level>

<sup>2662</sup> US Department of Labor Announces \$3.3m In Grants To Expand Job Opportunities For Women In Apprenticeships, Nontraditional Occupations, US Department of Labor (Philadelphia) 9 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/wb/wb20210909>

<sup>2663</sup> US Department of Labor Announces Available Funding To Promote, Develop, Expand Registered Apprenticeship In Critical, Non-traditional Industries, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 10 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210910>

<sup>2664</sup> Remarks by Vice President Harris on the Administration’s Proposed Investments in Childcare, The White House (Washington D.C.) 15 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2021/09/15/remarks-by-vice-president-harris-on-the-administrations-proposed-investments-in-childcare/>



per cent of project costs, up from 33 per cent.<sup>2665</sup> Projects are evaluated on several criteria including environmental impact.<sup>2666</sup> TIFIA is administered by the USDOT's Build America Bureau.

On 20 September 2021, the Department of Labor announced a USD2 million grant to conduct outreach to low-income and marginalized women workers through community-based organizations and non-profits to help these individuals understand and exercise their rights and benefits in the workplace.<sup>2667</sup> The program was designed in response to the disproportionate impact the coronavirus pandemic had on women and the subsequent recovery. The focus is on making sure women benefit from the ongoing national recovery.

On 20 September 2021, Secretary Raimondo announced initiatives and tools to help the Department of Commerce enhance equitable economic growth and spur good-paying jobs.<sup>2668</sup> Among the tools the department announced, The Opportunity Project is a program designed to spur innovation aimed at advancing equitable economic growth by using federal data to develop new technologies and new solutions.

On 21 September 2021, the Department of Labor and the Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations agreed to improve access for individuals seeking to file claims for unemployment insurance benefits who have limited English proficiency and eligible non-US citizens.<sup>2669</sup> The announcement ensures Hawaii's unemployment insurance services are not discriminating against protected groups by civil rights law.

On 27 September 2021, the Department of Labor in conjunction with the Appalachian Regional Commission and Delta Regional Authority announced a USD29 million grant to organizations which provide employment and training services to regional and local workers.<sup>2670</sup> The grant is intended to provide funding for projects investing in education, training, and career support services for high quality careers in high-demand industries such as aerospace and defense manufacturing, agricultural technology and renewable energy. The grant is targeted towards the rural Appalachian and lower Mississippi Delta region to provide opportunities for workers in these regions to improve their technical skills.

On 28 September 2021, Secretary Raimondo gave a speech highlighting the Commerce Department's priorities to increase American competitiveness.<sup>2671</sup> She touched on several topics including calling on Congress to increase investments in small and medium manufacturers, promoting the Department's program

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<sup>2665</sup> US Department of Transportation Announces First Ever INFRA Extra Project Designations to Help Fund Dozens of Priority Projects in Communities Around the Country, US Department of Transportation (Washington D.C.) 20 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.transportation.gov/briefing-room/US-department-transportation-announces-first-ever-infra-extra-project-designations>

<sup>2666</sup> Eligibility, US Department of Transportation Build America Bureau (Washington D.C.) 17 October 2014. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/financing/tifia/eligibility>

<sup>2667</sup> US Department of Labor Awards \$2m In Grants To Support Awareness, Use Of Employment Rights, Benefits By Low-income, Marginalized Women, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 20 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/wb/wb20210920>

<sup>2668</sup> US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo Announces New Data Strategy to Enhance Equitable Economic Growth, Spur Good-Paying Jobs for All Americans, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 20 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021 <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/09/US-secretary-commerce-gina-raimondo-announces-new-data-strategy-enhance>

<sup>2669</sup> US Department of Labor Reaches Voluntary Conciliation Agreement With Hawaii To Improve Language Access To Unemployment Insurance, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 21 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20210921>

<sup>2670</sup> US Department of Labor Announces \$29m In Grants For Job Training, Supportive Services In Appalachian Region, Lower Mississippi Delta, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 27 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210927>

<sup>2671</sup> Secretary Raimondo Outlines Agenda to Increase American Competitiveness, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 28 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/speeches/2021/09/secretary-raimondo-outlines-agenda-increase-american-competitiveness>

which invests in workforce training and registered apprenticeships for women, people of color, and underserved communities, and investing in innovation.

On 29 September 2021, the Department of Labor announced USD68 million in grant funding to help organizations connect job seekers to jobs.<sup>2672</sup> The award is a portion of the USD90 million grant announced on 19 August 2021 to help workers displaced by the coronavirus pandemic find work. These grants fund “reemployment services that support job seekers with search assistance, career guidance and childcare and transportation costs” or upgrade services which enable accessibility and capacity to job seekers.

On 29 September 2021, the Trade and Technology council established at the US-EU summit in June 2021 had their inaugural meeting where the two members committed to work together to generate economic growth with a focus on small and medium-sized enterprises.<sup>2673</sup> The US and EU committed to closely coordinate on several issues including to “strengthen their competitiveness and technological leadership by developing common strategies to mitigate the impact of non-market practices at home and in third countries and by working to avoid new and unnecessary barriers to trade, especially in products and services derived from emerging technologies.” The co-chairs asked working groups to cooperate on issues including promoting small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) access to digital tools, securing critical supply chains, and cooperating on emerging technology standards in addition to other areas.<sup>2674</sup>

On 7 October 2021, Secretary Raimondo and Singapore Minister for Trade and Industry Gan Kim Yong signed a memorandum of understanding implementing the “US-Singapore Partnership for Growth and Innovation, which aims to strengthen US-Singapore trade and investment collaboration.”<sup>2675</sup> The partnership will further integrate US-Singapore economic integration by promoting partnerships and exchanges which will bring inclusive growth in both country’s economies and regions.

On 14 October 2021, Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen gave remarks at the Joint International Monetary and Financial Committee and Development Committee.<sup>2676</sup> Secretary Yellen’s remarks voice support for several issues pertinent to this commitment. In IDA-20 (International Development Association) Secretary Yellen encouraged World Bank leaders to support IDA countries “in enhancing investments to address crisis and pandemic preparedness, increasing debt vulnerabilities, and inclusion for all, including women, girls, and LGBTQIA+ people.” Additionally, Secretary Yellen called on countries with the ability to, should allocate some of their Special Drawing Rights (SDR) to countries which need them through the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust and a new Resilience and Sustainability Trust (RST) at the IMF. Secretary Yellen called on IMF Governors to voice their support for the RST because she believes the RST is important to “supporting vulnerable countries undergoing structural transformations that will strengthen public health systems and create more sustainable, low-emission and climate-resilient economies.”

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<sup>2672</sup> US Department of Labor Awards \$68m In Grants For Training, Reemployment, Supportive Services To Unemployed, Underemployed Workers, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 29 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210929>

<sup>2673</sup> FACT SHEET: US-EU Establish Common Principles to Update the Rules for the 21st Century Economy at Inaugural Trade and Technology Council Meeting, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 29 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021 <https://www.commerce.gov/news/fact-sheets/2021/09/fact-sheet-US-eu-establish-common-principles-update-rules-21st-century>

<sup>2674</sup> US-EU Trade and Technology Council Inaugural Joint Statement, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 29 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021 <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/09/US-eu-trade-and-technology-council-inaugural-joint-statement>

<sup>2675</sup> US-Singapore Partnership for Growth and Innovation: A Joint Statement by US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo and Singapore Minister for Trade and Industry Gan Kim Yong, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021 <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/10/US-singapore-partnership-growth-and-innovation-joint-statement-US>

<sup>2676</sup> Statement from Secretary of the Treasury Janet L. Yellen for the Joint IMFC and Development Committee, US Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 14 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy0407>

On 14 October 2021, Deputy Secretary Graves announced a USD3.6 million grant to establish an adult technical training and workforce development facility in Cleveland.<sup>2677</sup> The investment is meant to create jobs for individuals including women and people of color. The grant is part of a larger USD3 billion allocation by the American Rescue Act passed by Congress to fund programs which bring Americans back to work by connecting employers with skilled employees who are trained in high-demand skills which lead to good jobs.

On 18 October 2021, the DOE announced USD105 million for small businesses to pursue deployment of clean energy technologies, part of the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to building a clean energy economy and achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.<sup>2678</sup> The investment, according to US Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm, will "boost innovation, foster the next generation of diverse clean energy leaders from underrepresented communities and set up our small businesses for success as we transform and strengthen our energy infrastructure to fight climate change." Small businesses receiving funding can apply for awards for research opportunities for student entrepreneurs from underrepresented groups, including women and those from socially and economically disadvantaged communities, in addition to this opportunity.

On 15 October 2021, the Department of Labor reopened Job Corps for in-person instruction and job training.<sup>2679</sup> The reopening of Job Corps for in-person instruction means students can take full advantage of career-training services, better equipping them for the workforce.

On 22 October 2021, President Biden released the US National Strategy on Gender Equity and Equality which illustrates a country where every individual have "equal access to opportunities, the safety and security of people of every gender is guaranteed; and where everyone is treated fairly at home and in their schools, workplaces and communities."<sup>2680</sup> The report sets forth an "aspirational vision and a comprehensive agenda to advance gender equity and equality in domestic and foreign policy."<sup>2681</sup> In the report, President Biden announced priorities including economic security which means equal access to jobs, investments in care infrastructure and dismantling barriers to equal opportunity. The Department of Commerce has taken actions to support President Biden's plan including creating initiatives, programs and councils to address the issues highlighted by President Biden.<sup>2682</sup>

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<sup>2677</sup> Manufacturing Month: Deputy Secretary Don Graves Stresses Administration's Commitment to Equitable Workforce Training in Ohio: Announces \$3.6 Million Grant for Workforce Development Facility in Cleveland, US Department of Commerce (Cleveland) 14 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021 <https://www.commerce.gov/news/blog/2021/10/manufacturing-month-deputy-secretary-don-graves-stresses-administrations>

<sup>2678</sup> DOE Announces \$105 Million for Small Businesses to Invest in Clean Energy Research and Development, US Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 18 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-announces-105-million-small-businesses-invest-clean-energy-research-and-development>

<sup>2679</sup> US Department of Labor Announces Resumption Of Job Corps' New Student Enrollment For In-person Instruction, Training, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 15 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20211015>

<sup>2680</sup> Secretary Raimondo Applauds White House Release of National Strategy Gender Equity, Reaffirms Commerce Department's Commitment to Promoting Gender Equity, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021 <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/10/secretary-raimondo-applauds-white-house-release-national-strategy>

<sup>2681</sup> Fact Sheet: National Strategy on Gender Equity and Equality, The White House (Washington D.C.) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/10/22/fact-sheet-national-strategy-on-gender-equity-and-equality/>

<sup>2682</sup> Secretary Raimondo Applauds White House Release of National Strategy Gender Equity, Reaffirms Commerce Department's Commitment to Promoting Gender Equity, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021 <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/10/secretary-raimondo-applauds-white-house-release-national-strategy>

On 27 October 2021, Secretary Raimondo announced her new role as Chair of the re-branded Council for Inclusive Innovation which will develop a strategy to create a more inclusive innovation system.<sup>2683</sup> With leaders from industry, academia, non-profit and government, the Council is focusing on increasing diversity among inventors holding patents.

On 31 October 2021, the US announced it “allow duty-free importation steel and aluminum from the EU at a historical-based volume,” suspending section 232 duties and the EU will “suspend related tariffs on US products.”<sup>2684</sup> Aside from tariff reductions, the US and EU announced a negotiation to address carbon intensity and overcapacity of steel and aluminum as part of the deal. Included in the deal are agreements to “cooperate in trade remedies and customs matters and development of additional actions” which indicates increased cooperation to reduce barriers to trade. In the joint statement, the US and EU announced they would suspend WTO disputes as a result of the deal. Along with steel and aluminum, the deal eliminates the threat of tariffs on “brands like Harley Davidson and the Kentucky bourbon industry.”<sup>2685</sup>

On 31 October 2021, the US and UK announced they were working closely together to address issues related to steel and aluminum.<sup>2686</sup> The US and UK state they were focusing on “impacts of overcapacity on the global steel and aluminum markets; the need for like-minded countries to take collective action to address the root causes of the problem; and the climate impacts of the sector.”

On 1 November 2021, the Department of Labor, supported by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, announced USD1.3 million allocated to Rhode Island as an Opioid Disaster Recovery Dislocated Worker Grants.<sup>2687</sup> The grant is intended to support jobs and workforce training by “creating temporary jobs and provide services to reintegrate workers affected by the [opioid] crisis and train individuals to work in addiction treatment, mental health treatment and pain management.”

On 1 November 2021, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced the allocation of more than USD2 billion under the Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act to recover and build resilience to natural disasters with a focus on low- and moderate-income populations.<sup>2688</sup> HUD is providing assistance to 10 states for 15 separate major disasters that occurred in the calendar year 2020. Funds are to be used for “disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, economic revitalization, and mitigation, in the most impacted and distressed areas.” Funds are distributed in accordance with HUD’s Climate Action Plan, focusing on equitable disaster recovery and resilience. HUD’s Climate Action Plan notes that the Department is committed to advancing the goals of Executive Order 13985, requiring HUD to allocate resources in a manner that equitably invests in underserved communities, especially communities of color. HUD’s Climate Action Plan and implementation

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<sup>2683</sup> US Secretary of Commerce Gina M. Raimondo to Chair Council for Inclusive Innovation (CI2), US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 27 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021 <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/10/US-secretary-commerce-gina-m-raimondo-chair-council-inclusive>

<sup>2684</sup> Joint US-EU Statement on Trade in Steel and Aluminum, Executive Office of the President Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 31 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://ustr.gov/about-US/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/october/joint-US-eu-statement-trade-steel-and-aluminum>

<sup>2685</sup> Raimondo, Tai Statements on 232 Tariff Agreements, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 31 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021 <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/10/raimondo-tai-statements-232-tariff-agreements>

<sup>2686</sup> Department of Commerce Issues Statement on Consultations with the UK on Steel and Aluminum, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 31 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021 <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/10/department-commerce-issues-statement-consultations-uk-steel-and>

<sup>2687</sup> US Department of Labor Awards \$1.3m In Funding To Continue Employment, Training Services To Combat Rhode Island’s Opioid Crisis, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 1 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20211101>

<sup>2688</sup> HUD Allocates More than \$2 Billion to Advance Equitable Disaster Recovery, Build Climate Change Resilience, Department of Housing and Urban Development (Washington D.C.) 1 November 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021. [https://www.hud.gov/press/press\\_releases\\_media\\_advisories/HUD\\_No\\_21\\_181](https://www.hud.gov/press/press_releases_media_advisories/HUD_No_21_181)

of Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act illustrates HUD's commitment to investing in climate resiliency to reinforce its mission of creating strong, sustainable, and inclusive communities with affordable homes for all.

On 4 November 2021, Secretary Granholm announced President Biden's Build Back Better Agenda containing USD800 billion for clean energy and climate action at COP26 Energy Day Opening Plenary: Accelerating a Just and Inclusive Energy Transition.<sup>2689</sup> The money allocated for clean energy and climate action is intended for creating jobs for individuals within communities, leading to a more diversified, resilient economy that can address longstanding inequities and offer stability, sustainability, and safety to all who take part and want to take part in the economy. Furthermore, Secretary Granholm pledged "support for developing nations as they work to stake their own claims in this clean energy opportunity."

On 9 November 2021, the Department of Commerce and philanthropic, non-profit, labor and advocacy leaders met at the Interagency Convening on Equitable Economic Growth.<sup>2690</sup> In Deputy Secretary Graves's remarks he stated support for several of President Biden's legislative initiatives.<sup>2691</sup> He reiterated the commitment by the Biden administration in the Build Back Better agenda to design an inclusive growth strategy for Americans. He also mentioned that the House of Representatives passed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act which includes "statutory authority to make the Minority Business Development Agency permanent." Finally, he mentioned the Economic Development Administration was allocated USD3 billion to help communities in the American Rescue Act, of which portion of the funds were allocated to workforce training programs and apprenticeships among other initiatives intended to create inclusive growth.

On 9 November 2021, the DOE released a fact sheet highlighting how the passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act by the US Congress supports the Department's goals. The DOE noted the bill provided USD750 million to support the transition of coal communities to energy technology manufacturing projects.<sup>2692</sup> Additionally, the facts sheet notes the bill will "invest hundreds of millions in workforce development, giving workers in the electric grid, clean buildings, and industrial sectors access to training in cutting-edge technologies that will spur their careers in the years to come."

On 9 November 2021, the Department of Commerce held the first Interagency Equity Convening. At the Convening, experts from different agencies and sectors discussed issues in building an inclusive economic recovery and solutions such as community investing, quality job creation, workforce training, supporting small businesses, diversity in corporate America and leveraging data and disclosure for transparency and racial and gender equity.<sup>2693</sup>

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<sup>2689</sup> Remarks as Delivered at the COP26 Energy Day Opening Plenary: Accelerating a Just and Inclusive Energy Transition, US Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021.

<https://www.energy.gov/articles/remarks-delivered-cop26-energy-day-opening-plenary-accelerating-just-and-inclusive-energy>

<sup>2690</sup> ADVISORY: Department of Commerce, Ford Foundation to Host Interagency Convening on Equitable Economic Growth, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021 <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/11/advisory-department-commerce-ford-foundation-host-interagency-convening>

<sup>2691</sup> Remarks by US Deputy Secretary of Commerce Don Graves at the Deputies' Convening on Equitable Economic Growth, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 9 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021 <https://www.commerce.gov/news/speeches/2021/11/remarks-us-deputy-secretary-commerce-don-graves-deputies-convening-equitable>

<sup>2692</sup> DOE Fact Sheet: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal Will Deliver For American Workers, Families and Usher in the Clean Energy Future, US Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 9 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021.

<https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-fact-sheet-bipartisan-infrastructure-deal-will-deliver-american-workers-families-and-0>

<sup>2693</sup> Department of Commerce Hosts Biden Administration's First Interagency Equity Convening, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 12 November 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021.

<https://www.commerce.gov/news/blog/2021/11/department-commerce-hosts-biden-administrations-first-interagency-equity>

On 9 November 2021, the HUD announced USD36 million to boost local economic development and affordable housing programs.<sup>2694</sup> The funding is intended to reach 250 communities across the country to increase the economic impact of local community development and affordable housing programs for low- and moderate-income persons. Funding will support three national organizations to produce approximately 8,000 units of affordable housing nationwide and stimulate nearly USD150 million in investment. Funding will go towards increasing technical and administrative support of projects providing adequate housing, education, employment and shopping, safe streets, and transportation.

On 10 November 2021, the Department of Commerce released its plan to use the USD65 billion allocated to expanding broadband across the US allocated in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.<sup>2695</sup> Within the plan, USD48 billion is allocated for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to oversee the broadband expansion. Of the USD48 billion, USD42.45 billion will be awarded in grants to states and the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico to fund the deployment of high-speed broadband or making the service more affordable in underserved communities. USD2 billion will go towards Tribal broadband grants through the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program. USD2.75 billion will go towards promoting digital equity by instituting three grant programs to promote digital inclusion and equity for communities that lack the skills, technologies and support needed to take advantage of broadband connections. NTIA will also implement a formula-based state grant program and a competitive grant program to accelerate the adoption of broadband through digital literacy training, workforce development, devices access programs and other digital inclusion measures.

On 12 November 2021, the Department of Labor announced a proposal to rescind the Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Program (IRAP) in order to direct more funding to Registered Apprenticeships and suspend reviewing applications for the Standard Recognitions Entities in response to President Biden's Executive Order 14016.<sup>2696</sup> The proposal is intended to strengthen the Registered Apprenticeship model, including "investing in pipelines to these programs, and improving the quality of apprenticeship programs," by rescinding the framework which governs IRAPs and finding pathways for it to become program sponsors or intermediaries in the Registered Apprenticeship program. This proposal will incentivize apprentices to join the program and develop local, diverse and well-trained workers to meet employment needs.

On 15 November 2021, Secretary Raimondo and Japan's Minister Hagiuda Koichi met to deepen the US-Japan economic relationship.<sup>2697</sup> At the meeting, the Secretary and Minister established the US-Japan Commercial and Industrial Partnership (JUCIP) to work together on various economic issues the countries share. For example, some issues the JUCIP will work on include "strengthen collaboration in the protection of critical technologies and the development of infrastructure, addressing market-distorting measures to counter unfair trade practices" and "place a priority on promoting the development and use of clean energy and related technologies" with the intention of increasing competitiveness and address shared challenges.

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<sup>2694</sup> HUD Awards \$36 Million To Boost Local Economic Development And Affordable Housing Programs, Department of Housing and Urban Development (Washington D.C.) 9 November 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021. [https://www.hud.gov/press/press\\_releases\\_media\\_advisories/HUD\\_No\\_21\\_184](https://www.hud.gov/press/press_releases_media_advisories/HUD_No_21_184)

<sup>2695</sup> Fact Sheet: Department of Commerce's Use of Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal Funding to Help Close the Digital Divide, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/fact-sheets/2021/11/fact-sheet-department-commerces-Use-bipartisan-infrastructure-deal-funding>

<sup>2696</sup> US Department of Labor Announces Proposal To Rescind Industry-recognized Apprenticeship Program, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 12 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/ETA/ETA20211112>

<sup>2697</sup> Joint Statement between Department of Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo and Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry Minister Hagiuda Koichi, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 15 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021 <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/11/joint-statement-between-department-commerce-secretary-gina-raimondo-and>

On 15 November 2021, the Department of Labor, supported by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, announced USD3 million allocated to New Jersey as an Opioid Disaster Recovery Dislocated Worker Grants.<sup>2698</sup> The grant is intended to support jobs and workforce training by “creating temporary jobs in peer recovery positions and provide services to reintegrate workers affected by the [opioid] crisis back into the workforce.”

On 15 November 2021, the US Congress passed H.R.3684 - Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.<sup>2699</sup> The law addresses economic disparities in the economy, especially communities of color, and considers environmental issues when making economic policy. The bill includes investments in broadband internet affordable and available (USD65 billion), invests in public transportation (USD48.5 billion), rebuilds infrastructure damaged by natural disasters and strengthens its resilience in the face of disaster (USD52 billion), a national network of electric car chargers and stimulates opportunities for American businesses to participate in producing the goods needed for the proposed infrastructure investments. Additionally, the bill contributes funds to projects and research hubs to develop technology for these projects. Americans earning less than USD400,000 will not experience tax increases to pay for the bill. The bill seeks to address implements to economic growth that will benefit economically disadvantaged individuals who will experience a reduction in income inequality and more equitable access to jobs. Furthermore, the bill makes infrastructure improvements in areas vulnerable to the effects of climate change which is where people of color are more likely to live.<sup>2700</sup>

On 16 November 2021, the Department of Labor launched an online dialogue to increase access to Registered Apprenticeships for job seekers in underrepresented communities with stakeholders.<sup>2701</sup> The conversation focuses on “developing and shaping Registered Apprenticeship programs and funding opportunities, and foster diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility” in order to address “occupational segregation and underrepresentation” so workers and employers from all communities understand the benefits of Registered Apprenticeships. The dialogue was launched in participation with National Apprenticeships Week.

On 16 November 2021, Vice President Kamala Harris announced that the US Department of Commerce’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has awarded the first three grants as part of the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program. The initial awards total USD1.4 million and will go towards providing broadband services, computers and digital skills training to tribal members in two projects and one project will fund a tribal broadband planning project.<sup>2702</sup>

On 18 November 2021, Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona, Secretary Walsh, Deputy Secretary Graves and Switzerland’s President Guy Parmelin signed a Memorandum of Understanding expand in

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<sup>2698</sup> US Department of Labor Awards \$3m In Incremental Funding To Continue Employment, Training Services To Combat New Jersey’s Opioid Crisis, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 15 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20211115-0>

<sup>2699</sup> H.R.3684 - Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Congress.gov (Washington D.C.) Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/hoUse-bill/3684/text>

<sup>2700</sup> Fact Sheet: Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework Will Address Barriers Communities of Color Face to Economic Opportunity, The White House (Washington D.C.) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/06/29/fact-sheet-bipartisan-infrastructure-framework-will-address-barriers-communities-of-color-face-to-economic-opportunity/>

<sup>2701</sup> US Department of Labor Opens Online Dialogue With Stakeholders To Expand Access Among Underrepresented Communities To Registered Apprenticeships, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 16 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20211116>

<sup>2702</sup> Department of Commerce’s NTIA Awards First Grants to Tribal Groups Seeking to Expand Broadband, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 16 November 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/11/department-commerces-ntia-awards-first-grants-tribal-groups-seeking>

apprenticeships in Swiss companies and Swiss-invested companies.<sup>2703</sup> Additionally, the memorandum states Swiss companies will invest in 500,000 manufacturing jobs in the US with an average salary of USD101,800. This memorandum will allow “Americans, especially those in underserved communities with the right skills to reemerge from the pandemic stronger than ever,” according to Secretary Cardona. He added, “the \$122 billion American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund gives America’s high school students a path to rewarding and high-paying careers through work-based learning and career and technical education, and this partnership will allow more students to benefit from these opportunities.”

On 18 November 2021, Secretary Raimondo announced that the US Department of Commerce Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) has been permanently authorized as a result of the passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Secretary Raimondo described the permanent passage of the MBDA as a “historic moment...because we recognize that America’s road to recovery runs through our minority business community.”<sup>2704</sup> Making MBDA a statutory Agency provides MBDA with the authorities, workforce and resources needed to help level the playing field on behalf of minority businesses and minority entrepreneurs.” Deputy Secretary Graves added that the legislation is a “new era in minority business development and progress toward addressing the long-standing racial disparities in access to capital, contracts, and business ecosystems.”

On 19 November 2021, Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg announced the Biden Administration will invest nearly USD1 billion in American infrastructure through the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity grants.<sup>2705</sup> Projects receiving grants will advance equity and combat climate change among other characteristics. Projects were selected on their ability to “encompass safety, environmental sustainability quality of life, economic competitiveness, state of good repair, innovation, and partnerships with a broad range of stakeholders” and reflected the Department’s priorities of “creating good-paying jobs, improving safety, applying transformative technology, and explicitly addressing climate change and advancing racial equity.”

On 19 November 2021, the US House of Representatives passed the Build Back Better Act.<sup>2706</sup> The framework of the bill includes investments in childcare to reduce the cost, provide two years of free preschool, extending the expanded Child Tax Credit, and expand access to high-quality home care for older Americans and people with disabilities. The bill also strengthens the middle class by expanding access to affordable, high-quality education beyond high school and will cut taxes for 17 million low-wage workers by extending the expanded Earned Income Tax Credit and invests in gender equitable workforce development programs and career pathways for women through Women in Apprenticeship and Non-Traditional Occupations grants. More broadly the framework proposes a subsidized jobs program which will create employment opportunities for workers “adversely affected by the economic crisis, especially public assistance recipients, long-term unemployed individuals and the underemployed.”<sup>2707</sup> Investments include the creation

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<sup>2703</sup> Secretary Cardona, Secretary Walsh, Swiss President Parmelin Sign Memorandum of Understanding to Expand Registered Apprenticeship Programs in the United States, US Department of Education (Washington D.C.) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/secretary-cardona-secretary-walsh-swiss-president-parmelin-sign-memorandum-understanding-expand-registered-apprenticeship-programs-united-states>

<sup>2704</sup> The Minority Business Development Agency is Permanently Authorized in Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/blog/2021/11/minority-business-development-agency-permanently-authorized-bipartisan>

<sup>2705</sup> US Secretary of Transportation Buttigieg Announces Nearly \$1 Billion in Grant Awards for America's Infrastructure, US Department of Transportation (Washington D.C.) 19 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.transportation.gov/briefing-room/US-secretary-transportation-buttigieg-announces-nearly-1-billion-grant-awards>

<sup>2706</sup> H.R.5376 - Build Back Better Act, Congress (Washington D.C.) Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/5376>

<sup>2707</sup> President Biden Announces the Build Back Better Framework, The White House (Washington D.C.) 28 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/10/28/president-biden-announces-the-build-back-better-framework>



of career pathway programs in middle and high schools, prioritizing increased access to high-quality career and technical programs which connect underrepresented students programs training them in in-demand sectors through “partnerships with both institutions of higher education and employers.”

On 23 November 2021, the Department of Labor announced a USD90 million funding opportunity in the YouthBuild program, administered by the Employment and Training Administration.<sup>2708</sup> The program is intended to bridge the divide between the richest and poorest students by providing poor communities with “occupational skills training, employment services and educational support to disadvantaged youth, ages 16-24, in communities where inequalities hinder basic academic and career skills development.” The program will fund pre-apprenticeship services for in-demand industries.

On 3 December 2021, the Department of Labor announced a USD800,000 grant to the Washington State Department of Employment Security to support job creation and workforce training services to individuals impacted by the health and economic effects of opioid use, addiction, and overdose.<sup>2709</sup> Opioid Disaster Recovery Dislocated Worker Grants temporarily expand the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 to the state and local levels by providing funds in response to large, unexpected economic events which cause significant job losses.

On 7 December 2021, Secretary Walsh announced the Multilateral Partnership for Organizing, Worker Empowerment and Rights (M-POWER) initiative.<sup>2710</sup> This initiative is the largest commitment by the US government to advance worker empowerment and support trade union rights in the global economy. M-POWER incorporates more than USD120 million funded by the Department of Labor, Department of State and the US Agency for International Development to Strengthen free and independent trade unions, support labor law reform and enforcement, promote worker organizing and innovative use of collective bargaining, and extend labor law coverage to protect workers employed in low-wage jobs and sectors often excluded from labor law protection, particularly in the informal economy.

On 13 December 2021, Secretary Cardona today announced grant awards to 30 school districts, institutions of higher education, and nonprofit organizations across the United States as part of the Education Innovation and Research (EIR) program.<sup>2711</sup> The Department of Education is investing USD182 million to support local efforts to develop, implement, and take to scale entrepreneurial and evidence-based projects which could improve academic achievement for underserved students. 26 of the 30 recipients addressed promoting equity in student access to high-quality educational resources and opportunities or responding to the impact of the pandemic in their proposals The EIR program finding recipients are exploring ways to address the impact of school closures and lost instructional time. EIR program funding supports USD46 million in grants to rural areas, USD67 million in grants focused on STEM education (including computer science), and USD73 million in grants supporting social-emotional learning projects.

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<sup>2708</sup> US Department of Labor Announces Funding Opportunity For \$90m In Grants To Support Academic, Skills Training, Pre-Apprenticeship Services, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 23 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20211123>

<sup>2709</sup> US Department of Labor Awards \$800k In Funding For Employment, Training Services To Combat Washington State’s Opioid Crisis, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 3 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20211203>

<sup>2710</sup> Secretary Walsh Announces Major Global Initiative To Empower Workers, Ensure Rights, Promote Democracy, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20211207>

<sup>2711</sup> US Department of Education Announces \$182 Million in Education Innovation and Research Grants to Improve Academic Achievement for Underserved Students, US Department of Education (Washington D.C.) 13 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/US-department-education-announces-182-million-education-innovation-and-research-grants-improve-academic-achievement-underserved-students>

On 13 December 2021, Secretary Raimondo announced 60 finalists for the US Economic Development Administration's USD1 billion "Build Back Better Regional Challenge."<sup>2712</sup> The Challenge provides investments – up to USD100 million per grantee – to develop and strengthen regional industry clusters across the country, all while embracing economic equity, creating good-paying jobs and enhancing US competitiveness globally. Finalists were provided with USD500,000 to further develop their projects in advance of applying for Phase 2 funding awards Phase 2 will grant up to USD100 million for 20-30 regional coalitions to implement 3-8 projects. Projects focus on industries unique to each region of the US.

On 14 December 2021, Secretary Yellen and Vice President Harris announced more than USD8.7 billion in investments made possible by the Emergency Capital Investment Program (ECIP) to increase lending to small and minority-owned businesses, and low- and moderate-income consumers in underserved communities, including rural areas.<sup>2713</sup> ECIP enables Treasury to directly invest in banks, credit unions, and holding companies designated as a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) or a Minority Depository Institution (MDI). The investment includes USD3.1 billion in ECIP investments offered to 57 minority depository institutions. Lending to CDFIs and MDIs is critical because these institutions often make smaller loans and work with borrowers facing barriers in the economy and may require more time-intensive and personalized technical support. ECIP investments are designed to support responsible investments in low- and moderate-income and minority communities disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

On 14 December 2021, Secretary Granholm and Secretary Buttigieg signed a memorandum of understanding to create a Joint Office of Energy and Transportation to support the deployment of USD7.5 billion from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to build a national electric vehicle charging network, with a focus on filling gaps in rural, disadvantaged and hard-to-reach locations.<sup>2714</sup> The Joint Office will facilitate deployment of a convenient, reliable, affordable and equitable national network of charging stations by providing technical assistance to States and localities to strategically build electric vehicle charging stations. Assistance will include help to develop comprehensive plans for charging station networks to guide implementation of the program.

On 21 December 2021, the Department of Labor today announced the award of a USD10 million cooperative agreement to Partners of the Americas to strengthen gender equity efforts in Mexico and reduce workplace discrimination and harassment.<sup>2715</sup> Directed by the Bureau of International Labor Affairs, this project will work with multiple stakeholders to advance the gender equity goals of the US-Mexico-Canada Agreement including increasing the number of women in leadership positions in Mexico's unions, better protect women from workplace discrimination and harassment, and raise wages to achieve equity. The project enables worker organizations to advance issues of gender equity in their own institutions. The program will also take actions to promote gender equity in the workplace with employers, such as through collective bargaining.

On 21 December 2021, the HUD today announced a USD9 million loan guarantee to the City of Cleveland, Ohio for the development of a mixed-used site that includes nearly 200 housing units and a 40,000 square

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<sup>2712</sup> US Secretary of Commerce Gina M. Raimondo Announces Finalists for \$1 Billion "Build Back Better Regional Challenge", US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 13 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022.

<https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/12/US-secretary-commerce-gina-m-raimondo-announces-finalists-1-billion>  
<sup>2713</sup> Secretary of the Treasury Janet L. Yellen and Vice President Kamala Harris to Announce \$8.7 billion in Investments for a More Equitable Economy at 2021 Freedman's Bank Forum, US Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy0530>

<sup>2714</sup> DOE and DOT Launch Joint Effort to Build Out Nationwide Electric Vehicle Charging Network, US Department of Transportation (Washington D.C.) 19 November 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.transportation.gov/briefing-room/doe-and-dot-launch-joint-effort-build-out-nationwide-electric-vehicle-charging>

<sup>2715</sup> US Department of Labor Awards \$10m To Promote Gender Equity, Reduce Workplace Discrimination, Harassment In Mexico, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/ilab/ilab20211221-0>

foot grocery store.<sup>2716</sup> The funding was provided under Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program (Section 108), which provides Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) recipients with the ability to leverage their annual grant allocation to access low-cost, flexible financing for economic development, housing, public facility, and infrastructure projects.

On 22 December 2021, Secretary Raimondo announced that the Department will be awarding USD4.2 million to Tribal communities in Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Oregon and Wisconsin in order for them to build broadband infrastructure and increase connectivity on Tribal lands.<sup>2717</sup> The Economic Development Administration (EDA) is awarding a USD3.2 million grant for Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Towaoc, Colorado to construct broadband infrastructure and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) is awarding USD1 million for Tribes Arizona and Wisconsin to expand broadband connectivity. In addition to initial investment from the government, the EDA's investment is expected to create 33 jobs and generate USD550,000 in private investment. Funding was made available for these projects as a result of the passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act passed earlier in the year.

On 29 December 2021, the Department of Labor today announced a USD8.4 million cooperative agreement to the Pan American Development Foundation to address unacceptable working conditions in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.<sup>2718</sup> The project will provide direct training, mentorship and small grant funding to at least 45 civil society and workers' organizations from across six departments in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. The project will train 1,200 individuals, representing civil society, government and the private sector, on labor rights and inclusion to apply their knowledge and build national and multi-country coalitions to increase collective actions to improve working conditions. The project will promote gender and racial equity and prioritize people of African descent, Garifuna and indigenous communities.

On 6 January 2022, the DOE announced USD35 million in funding for diverse small businesses to pursue scientific, clean energy and climate solutions.<sup>2719</sup> 158 projects from 29 states were chosen because they aim to develop various clean energy technologies, from climate research tools to improved batteries for electric vehicles. Alongside investment in research, the money will create good-paying jobs, build a diverse climate workforce, and help achieve President Biden's goal of a net-zero carbon economy by 2050. Funding for the grants comes from the DOE's Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer programs which support businesses in sectors relevant to the DOE's missions.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to strong, resilient, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth. The US has fully complied with its commitment to build resilience and sustainability by implementing clear policies addressing access to sustainable and accessible infrastructure most notably through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act which was signed into law. Additionally, the US has complied with facilitating reallocation and boosting productivity growth for all by placing small- and medium-sized enterprises at the center of several commerce policies including limiting anti-competitive practices and providing financial incentives to innovate. Lastly, the US has taken strong action towards supporting people

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<sup>2716</sup> HUD Announces \$9 Million Loan Guarantee To Cleveland For Development With Nearly 200 Housing Units, Grocery Store, Department of Housing and Urban Development (Washington D.C.) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. [https://www.hud.gov/press/press\\_releases\\_media\\_advisories/HUD\\_No\\_21\\_209](https://www.hud.gov/press/press_releases_media_advisories/HUD_No_21_209)

<sup>2717</sup> Commerce Awards \$4.2 Million to Expand Broadband for Tribal Communities in Arizona, Colorado, Wisconsin, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 22 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/12/commerce-awards-42-million-expand-broadband-tribal-communities-arizona>

<sup>2718</sup> US Department of Labor Awards \$8.4m Grant To Address Child Labor, Forced Labor, Unacceptable Work Conditions In El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, US Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 29 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/ilab/ilab20211229>

<sup>2719</sup> DOE Awards \$35 Million to Small Businesses Pursuing Clean Energy and Climate Solutions, Families and Usher in the Clean Energy Future, US Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 06 January 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-awards-35-million-small-businesses-pursuing-clean-energy-and-climate-solutions>

in transition by investing in policies designed to upskill and reskill workers through workforce training and apprenticeship programs including programs specifically designed to help women, people of color, and underrepresented groups.

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

*Analyst: Julia Rychlik*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to strong, resilient, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth.

On 14 June 2021, the Council of the European Union approved conclusions of the annual report to the European Council on EU Development Aid Targets for 2020. The report showed Official Development Assistance (ODA) increased 15 per cent (EUR8.9 billion) from 2019.<sup>2720</sup> Additionally, the report noted the EU as the largest contributor of ODA (46.2 per cent of total ODA), representing 0.5 per cent of EU Gross National Income (a 0.09 per cent increase from 2019).

On 14 June 2021, the Council of the EU adopted conclusions on enhancing the European financial architecture for development. The conclusions stress the need to increase development impact and address development challenges reinforced by the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>2721</sup> The conclusions encourage the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) to work together more effectively, efficiently and co-operatively with the European development banks and financial institutions as part of Team Europe. The report focuses on the importance of investment in developing countries and fragile countries affected by conflict or the COVID-19 pandemic. The report also emphasized the need to achieve the Agenda 2030 for sustainable development and its Sustainable Development Goals.

On 15 June 2021, the EU and US released a statement following their summit. In the statement, both members agreed to renew their commitment to their transatlantic partnership and collaborate on an agenda for the post pandemic era.<sup>2722</sup> Commitments included intentions to engage in a sustainable global recovery, foster green growth, and strengthen trade and cooperation. Both members agreed to establish an EU-US Trade and Technology Council (TTC) whose goals include growing the bilateral trade and investment, avoiding new unnecessary technical barriers to trade and coordinating and seeking commonalities and cooperation on technology, digital issues and supply chains.

From 18 June 2021 to 5 October 2021, the European Commission has been approving member country's recovery plans in line with the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) passed by the European Parliament on 10 February 2021 as part of NextGenerationEU.<sup>2723</sup> Member States have been submitting their national recovery and resilience plans, which are being assessed by the Commission and adopted by the Council

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<sup>2720</sup> Official Development Assistance: Council approves the Annual Report to the European Council on EU Development Aid Targets, Council of the EU and European Council (Brussels) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/06/14/official-development-assistance-council-approves-the-annual-report-to-the-european-council-on-eu-development-aid-targets/>

<sup>2721</sup> Council adopts conclusions on enhancing the European financial architecture for development, Council of the EU and European Council (Brussels) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/06/14/council-adopts-conclusions-on-enhancing-the-european-financial-architecture-for-development/>

<sup>2722</sup> EU-US summit statement: "Towards a renewed Transatlantic partnership", Council of the EU and European Council (Brussels) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/06/15/eu-us-summit-statement-towards-a-renewed-transatlantic-partnership/>

<sup>2723</sup> Commission welcomes European Parliament's approval of Recovery and Resilience Facility, European Commission (Brussels) 10 February 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_423](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_423)

before members can access the EUR672.5 billion in loans and grants allocated by the bill. Recovery and resilience plans outline the reforms and public investment projects that members will pursue with funding from the RRF. The RRF is constructed around “six objectives: green transition, digital transformation, economic cohesion, productivity and competitiveness, social and territorial cohesion, health, economic, social and institutional resilience, and policies for the next generation.” In addition to meeting the six objectives of the RRF, plans must allocate a minimum of 37 per cent of funding towards climate objectives and a minimum of 20 per cent of funding supporting the digital transition (developing skills through education and increasing the availability and efficiency of public services using new digital tools). The RRF will support investment increasing internet speeds, education and training and new technologies to help build a more sustainable and resilient economies.

On 21 June 2021, the EIB Group and Landesbank Baden Württemberg (LBBW) collaborated to support small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the recovery from the COVID-19 crisis.<sup>2724</sup> The EIB provided a EUR95 million guarantee to Landesbank which enables them to provide up to EUR570 million in new lending to SMEs to alleviate liquidity shortages and support 28,000 jobs. Support for the agreement comes from the European Fund for Strategic Investments (ESFI), a component of the Investment Plan for Europe to increase investments in the European economy.

On 23 June 2021, the European Parliament adopted three EU funds to strengthen the EU’s economic, social and territorial cohesion totaling EUR243 billion.<sup>2725</sup> The European Territorial Cooperation Goal (Interreg), the European Regional Development Fund and Cohesion Fund, and the Common Provisions Regulation will all have to devote 30 per cent of resources to climate action, the circular economy and investments in sustainable growth and job creation. The Parliament foresees specific measures for SMEs and outermost regions being added.

On 24 June 2021, the European Commission announced direct equity investment through the European Innovation Council (EIC) Fund for innovative start-ups and small and medium-sized businesses.<sup>2726</sup> The EIC invested in 69 new investments totaling EUR500 million. Investments range from EUR0.5 to EUR15 million per company and complement grants up to EUR2.5 million.

On 7 July 2021, Prime Minister of Slovenia Janez Janša announced that the Slovenian presidency of the European Parliament will focus on priorities including recovery and resilience, translating ambitious green goals into binding legislation, and the digital transition. Most Members of European Parliament (MEPs) welcomed the Slovenian presidency’s priorities.<sup>2727</sup>

On 7 July 2021, the European Parliament adopted the 2021-2027 European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund to encourage more competition, investment in a sustainable economy, new markets, and technology in fisheries and aquaculture.<sup>2728</sup> Needs of small fisheries need to be accounted for as well as plans

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<sup>2724</sup> Germany: EIB Group and LBBW join forces to support small and medium-sized companies in the COVID-19 crisis, European Commission (Brussels) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3108](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3108)

<sup>2725</sup> MEPs adopt greener funds for regional development and cooperation, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210621IPR06628/meps-adopt-greener-funds-for-regional-development-and-cooperation>

<sup>2726</sup> European Innovation Council Fund: equity investments surpass €500 million in breakthrough innovations, European Commission (Brussels) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3155](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3155)

<sup>2727</sup> Slovenian Presidency to focus on digital and green reforms and future of Europe, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210701IPR07510/slovenian-presidency-to-focus-on-digital-and-green-reforms-and-future-of-europe>

<sup>2728</sup> €6.1 billion to promote sustainable fisheries and safeguard fishing communities, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210701IPR07518/EU6-1-billion-to-promote-sustainable-fisheries-and-safeguard-fishing-communities>

on how to help them develop. Also, included in the EUR6.1 billion fund are provisions to compensate “fishermen who have to temporarily stop working to abide with certain conservation measures.”

On 8 July 2021, the European Central Bank (ECB) decided on an action plan to incorporate climate change considerations into policy to more efficiently allocate resources.<sup>2729</sup> The ECB plan aligns with “progress on EU policies and initiatives in the field of environmental sustainability disclosure and reporting, including the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive, the Taxonomy Regulation and the Regulation on sustainability-related disclosures in the financial services sector.”

On 13 July 2021, EU finance and economic ministers adopted the Council implementing decisions on the approval of national recovery and resilience plans for 12 countries to sign grant and loan agreements that will allow for up to 13 per cent pre-financing.<sup>2730</sup> Projects are centered around six policy areas which include “green and digital transition, smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, and social and territorial cohesion.” The finance and economic minister’s decision is the final step before the countries can conclude grant and loan agreements with the Commission to receive funds and implement plans.

On 13 July 2021, President von der Leyen gave a speech at the Rome W20 Summit emphasizing the importance of women’s issues. Specifically, President von der Leyen emphasized the European Commission’s increased contribution to the Global Partnership for Education to EUR100 million per year, guaranteed for seven years, to help 40 million more girls attend school by 2026.<sup>2731</sup> Second she stressed the importance of creating equal access for women in the job market. She highlighted the EU’s agreement to cut the gender employment gap by 50 per cent by 2030. Finally, she discussed reforms and the need for more resourced for parental payments and parental leave for mothers and fathers, improved childcare, and strengthening elderly care which NextGenerationEU and the new EU budget address.

On 14 July 2021, the European Commission adopted a package of proposals to make EU policies reduce net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55 per cent by 2030.<sup>2732</sup> The proposals focus on climate change; however, there are policies which address development. First, there is a proposal to revise the Energy Taxation Directive to safeguard and improve the Single Market and support the green transition by setting the right incentives and removing outdated exemptions which encourage using fossil fuels. Additionally, a new Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism aims to address carbon leakage by putting a carbon price on imports of targeted products. Leakage occurs when companies based in the EU move carbon-intensive production abroad to take advantage of lax standards. To guarantee a fair transition, a Social Climate Fund is proposed to provide funding to Member States to help citizens finance investments which reduce carbon output. The Social Climate Fund is financed by the EU budget, using 25 per cent of the expected revenues of emissions trading for building and road transport fuels. It will provide EUR72.2 billion of funding to Member States, from 2025 to 2032, based on a targeted amendment to the multiannual financial framework, and would match member state funding, mobilizing EUR144.4 billion for a socially fair transition.

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<sup>2729</sup> ECB presents action plan to include climate change considerations in its monetary policy strategy, European Central Bank (Frankfurt) 8 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021.

[https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/pr/date/2021/html/ecb.pr210708\\_1~f104919225.en.html](https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/pr/date/2021/html/ecb.pr210708_1~f104919225.en.html)

<sup>2730</sup> Council gives green light to first recovery disbursements, Council of the EU and European Council (Brussels) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/07/13/council-gives-green-light-to-first-recovery-disbursements/>

<sup>2731</sup> Speech by President von der Leyen at the Rome W20 Summit, Council of the EU and European Council (Rome) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech\\_21\\_3684](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_21_3684)

<sup>2732</sup> European Green Deal: Commission proposes transformation of EU economy and society to meet climate ambitions, European Commission (Brussels) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3541](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3541)

On 19 July 2021, the EIB provided EUR15 million to Agricover Credit IFN to support farmers in Romania.<sup>2733</sup> These funds are in addition to EUR7.5 million already made available which is intended to provide “loan support to medium and small farmers, expanding its financing to facilitate the sustainable growth of agriculture and farm businesses.”

On 19 July 2021, the EESC announced its support for the new trade strategy launched by the European Commission in February 2021 as a way of improving market access and levelling the playing field.<sup>2734</sup> The EESC welcomes the trade agenda, however, believes the agenda lacks the involvement of bodies like the expert group on free trade agreements (FTAs). The EESC also argues that Domestic Advisory Groups, which monitor pillars of modern FTAs, should be reinforced.

On 22 July 2021, the EIB approved financing for high-impact investment across Europe.<sup>2735</sup> The EIB approved EUR10.2 billion of financial support which included EUR3.8 billion for corporate innovation and small business financing, EUR2.4 billion for renewable energy and energy networks, and EUR796 million for sustainable transport among other priorities. The funds are allocated for projects across Europe which support the goals of the allocation.

On 26 July 2021, the EIB and BNP Paribas Leasing Services announced a collaboration to support SMEs and invest in climate change.<sup>2736</sup> The EIB and BNP Paribas Leasing Services announced a EUR200 million loan to assist financing for SMEs in Poland with a minimum of 20 per cent of the loan portfolio being marked for climate action. The loans will encourage investment in cohesion districts with low gross domestic product per capita, reducing economic disparity. Additionally, 20 per cent of the loan will go towards fighting climate change by investing in green infrastructure.

On 27 July 2021, Delta AM completed its first closing of the SME senior secured fund with EU support.<sup>2737</sup> Delta AM raised EUR75 million from the European Investment Fund (EIF), backed by the Investment Plan for Europe along with other investors. The program supports French SME growth strategies while considering environmental, social and governance criteria based on companies’ philosophies on climate, job creation and social inclusion. The EIF commitment is supported by the “Private Credit Tailored for SMEs” programme.

On 29 July 2021, the European Union and its Member States, as Team Europe, pledged EUR1.7 billion to the Global Partnership for Education.<sup>2738</sup> The money the EU and Team Europe pledged is going towards three goals which focus on quality, equality, and equity. First, investing in well-trained and motivated teachers to equip students with skills for the future. The first goal includes recruiting 69 million teachers by 2030,

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<sup>2733</sup> Romania: Agricover Credit NFI Romania - EIB make €7.5 million of new funds available to agricultural SMEs, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 19 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-270-agricover-credit-nfi-romania-eib-make-eur7-5-million-of-new-funds-available-to-agricultural-smes>

<sup>2734</sup> EESC supports an open, sustainable and assertive EU trade policy, European Economic and Social Committee (Brussels) 19 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/news-media/news/eesc-supports-open-sustainable-and-assertive-eu-trade-policy>

<sup>2735</sup> EIB approves EUR 10.2 billion financing for private sector, energy, transport, health, housing and education, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 22 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-274-eib-approves-eur-10-2-billion-financing-for-private-sector-energy-transport-health-housing-and-education>

<sup>2736</sup> Poland: EIB and BNP Paribas Leasing Services join forces to support small and mid-sized companies and invest in climate action, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 26 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-276-poland-eib-and-bnp-paribas-leasing-services-join-forces-to-support-small-and-mid-sized-companies-and-invest-in-climate-action>

<sup>2737</sup> Delta AM completes first €75 million closing of its SME senior secured fund with EU support, European Commission (Brussels) 27 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3924](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3924)

<sup>2738</sup> Global Education Summit: Team Europe pledges leading contribution of €1.7 billion to the Global Partnership for Education, European Commission (Brussels) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 11 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3906](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3906)

including 17 million in Africa. The second goal aims to improve investment in girls education (aligned with the EU Gender Action Plan III) and leveraging digital innovation. The third goal promotes investment in skills to prepare students for the future, including professionals, business leaders, and decision makers for the green and digital transformation.

On 2 August 2021, the EIB announced it would guarantee a portion of Berenberg's portfolio, allowing the German bank to increase loans to SMEs.<sup>2739</sup> The EIB announced it would cover 75 per cent of a portfolio of up to EUR250 million under the Pan-European Guarantee Fund to help SMEs recover from the economic effects of COVID. The loan is important because banking has shifted to low-risk assets, making it hard for SMEs to obtain financing to restart at the end of the pandemic.

On 15 September 2021, Nordea and EIB Group signed an agreement to free up capital in Sweden and Finland for investments in green projects. The EIB Group will guarantee EUR1.8 billion of Nordea loans with attractive terms for SMEs pursuing certain green projects.<sup>2740</sup> The funding is supported by the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) under the European Commission as part of the Investment Plan for Europe. Swedish and Finnish SMEs which meet sustainability criteria are eligible for loans with lower than usual rates.

On 17 September 2021, under REACT-EU, Italy received funding to support the country's response to the pandemic and continue a sustainable socio-economic recovery.<sup>2741</sup> The European Commission granted EUR4.7 billion to Italy as a result of the modification of the European Social Fund and Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived. The money will support employment by increasing the number of young people and women hired, allowing workers to participate in training, and support tailor-made services for job seekers in addition to supporting SMEs in certain regions. Specifically, EUR2.7 billion will be used to reduce taxes paid by small businesses on social security contributions by 30 per cent in certain regions. Next, Italy will invest EUR200 million to reduce the social security contribution for employers who, in 2021 and 2022, hire people under the age of 36 with open-ended contracts. Additionally, EUR37.5 million will be used to incentivize employers who hire women, by reducing social security contributions. Furthermore, the 'New Skills Fund' will be supported with EUR1 billion by covering hours not worked assuming they are used by workers to attend training courses. In addition EUR500 million will be invested to reinforce and modernize the network of public employment services for implementing active labour market policies, making job centers more accessible for the unemployed.

On 22 September 2021, the ECB conducted a climate stress test which showed firms and banks could benefit from adopting green policies.<sup>2742</sup> The results of the stress test reveal firms and banks benefit from adopting green policies early on to encourage the transition to a zero-carbon economy. The tests also reveal the costs and the impact of climate risk is concentrated in regions and sectors most exposed to the physical risk of climate change which would affect their creditworthiness.

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<sup>2739</sup> Germany: EIB enables Berenberg Bank to expand their SME and mid-cap lending portfolio, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 2 August 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-276-poland-eib-and-bnp-paribas-leasing-services-join-forces-to-support-small-and-mid-sized-companies-and-invest-in-climate-action>

<sup>2740</sup> Nordea and EIB Group to offer new support for green SMEs in the Nordics, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 15 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-303-nordea-and-eib-group-to-offer-new-support-for-green-smes-in-the-nordics>

<sup>2741</sup> REACT-EU: €4.7 billion to support jobs, skills and people most in need in Italy, European Commission (Brussels) 17 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_4731](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4731)

<sup>2742</sup> Firms and banks to benefit from early adoption of green policies, ECB's economy-wide climate stress test shows, European Central Bank (Frankfurt) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/pr/date/2021/html/ecb.pr210922~59ade4710b.en.html>



On 23 September 2021, the European Investment Fund (EIF) made an investment in Fasanara European Alternative Crowdfunding Fund, under the Private Credit Tailored for SMEs Programme of the EFSI.<sup>2743</sup> The EIF contributed EUR20 million to jumpstart private investment. The Private Credit Tailored for SMEs programme is intended to court private institutional investment in support of market-based and tailor-made funding solutions for European SMEs. Fasanara Capital announced the fund target size is EUR250 million to support financing for European businesses, representing more than 100,000 jobs across Europe.

On 28 September 2021, the Council of the EU adopted a EUR5 billion Brexit adjustment reserve. The Brexit adjustment reserve is a fund designed to support firms such as SMEs and regional and local community organizations in response to disruption of trade flows, including new costs for custom checks and administrative procedures as a result of Britain leaving the EU.<sup>2744</sup>

On 29 September 2021, the Trade and Technology council established at the US-EU summit in June 2021 had their inaugural meeting where the two members worked on a variety of issues.<sup>2745</sup> The US and EU committed to closely coordinate on several issues including promoting SMEs access to digital tools, securing critical supply chains, and cooperating on emerging technology standards in addition to other areas. On the issue of technology, the members expressed a desire to drive the digital transformation that enables trade and investment, benefits workers, protects the environment and climate, strengthens technological and industrial leadership, sets high standards globally, boosts innovation, and protects and promotes critical and emerging technologies and infrastructure. They established a working group to address this issue. On the issue of trade, the members committed to work together in a working group to avoid new and unnecessary trade barriers maintain competitive, free, and fair transatlantic commerce in new and emerging technologies. The members also established a working group on Climate and Clean Tech to identify way to support technology development, transatlantic trade and investment in climate neutral technologies, products and services, including collaboration in third countries, research and innovation. Finally, the members committed to a working group on SMEs to facilitate outreach that will offer opportunities for SMEs and underserved communities, and their representatives, to express their needs, experience, strategies and best practices with policymakers with the intention of communicating barriers to digital empowerment.

On 6 October 2021, the EIB provided a loan to the Slovenian Regional Development Fund of EUR30 million for industries hardest hit by the pandemic.<sup>2746</sup> Funds will be used to improve infrastructure, environmental protection and energy efficiency and boost the knowledge economy in Slovenia.

On 7 October 2021, Rabobank and the EIB announced they would provide more funding for impact loans to fund sustainable entrepreneurship in the Netherlands. Rabobank will match the EUR250 million the EIB provided to the bank to support entrepreneurs and SMEs who hold sustainability labels which certify the business is committed to environmental and social sustainability.<sup>2747</sup>

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<sup>2743</sup> New Fasanara €250 million fintech fund anchored by the EIF to support SMEs across the EU, European Commission (Brussels) 23 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_4861](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4861)

<sup>2744</sup> Council adopts a €5 billion Brexit adjustment reserve, Council of the EU and European Council (Brussels) 28 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/09/28/council-adopts-a-5-billion-brexit-adjustment-reserve/>

<sup>2745</sup> EU-US Trade and Technology Council Inaugural Joint Statement, European Commission (Brussels) 29 September 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement\\_21\\_4951](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_21_4951)

<sup>2746</sup> Slovenia: EIB to provide €30 million to SRDF for faster COVID-19 recovery of SMEs, mid-caps and municipalities, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 6 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-325-eib-to-provide-eur30-million-to-slovenia-s-srdf-for-faster-covid-19-recovery-of-smes-mid-caps-and-municipalities>

<sup>2747</sup> Netherlands: Rabobank and EIB - €500m extra funding for sustainable Dutch entrepreneurs, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-329-rabobank-and-eib-eur500m-extra-funding-for-sustainable-dutch-entrepreneurs>

On 7 October 2021, the European Parliament issued its priorities for reforming the EU's policy on harmful tax policies.<sup>2748</sup> Problems in the EU's tax system arise because there is no set of common principles that should govern how countries use their tax regimes and policies to attract businesses and profits and legislation has not kept up with innovative tax schemes. MEPs have made several proposals to reform the tax system including asking the Commission to issue guidelines on how to design fair and transparent tax incentives, reform and replace tools to fight harmful tax policies, and assess the usefulness of patent boxes and intellectual property regimes. Finally, leaders proposed a reform to the Code of Conduct on Business Taxation, suggesting that the "criteria and scope [for judging outdated tax practices] should be broader and include an effective tax rate criterion in line with the internationally agreed minimum effective tax rate, as well as clear economic substance requirements."

On 8 October 2021, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen welcomed the agreement on global tax reform. In a speech she said the agreement "is a major step forward in making our global tax system fairer."<sup>2749</sup> Once the details of the agreement are finalized at the G20 Summit in Rome, President von der Leyen said "We will work closely with the Member States to ensure that the EU moves forward in a united manner" suggesting swift implementation of the agreement.

On 12 October 2021, the European Commission issued the first NextGenerationEU green bond, raising EUR12 billion to be used exclusively for green and sustainable investments across the EU.<sup>2750</sup> The bond was 11 times oversubscribed, with books exceeding EUR135 billion and interested a variety of investors. The bonds result from the adoption of the NextGenerationEU Green Bond framework earlier in September. The framework is compliant with the Green Bond Principles of the International Capital Market Association which reassures investors that the funds will be used for green investments. Funds will go towards financing green and sustainable projects under the Recovery and Resilience Facility.

On 13 October 2021, Commissioner Paolo Gentiloni expressed support for the "implementation of the historic global tax reform" endorsed by the G20 finance ministers.<sup>2751</sup> Once the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development finalizes the rules for Pillar 2, Gentiloni said the "Commission will swiftly put forward a directive for its implementation in the EU."

On 13 October 2021, Eurogroup President Paschal Donohoe gave a speech at the International Monetary Fund.<sup>2752</sup> In his speech, Mr. Donohoe discussed the European economic recovery from COVID-19 as well as the challenges Europe faces. One challenge Mr. Donohoe discussed was the asymmetric impacts of the recovery on labor-intensive occupations. He stressed the importance of finance ministers balancing tax and welfare systems which protect incomes of the most vulnerable while not alienating certain skill sets and

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<sup>2748</sup> EU must step up its game against harmful tax practices, says Parliament, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210930IPR13932/eu-must-step-up-its-game-against-harmful-tax-practices-says-parliament>

<sup>2749</sup> Statement by President von der Leyen following the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework meeting on the Global Agreement on International Taxation Reform, European Commission (Brussels) 8 October 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement\\_21\\_5166](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_21_5166)

<sup>2750</sup> NextGenerationEU: European Commission successfully issues first green bond to finance the sustainable recovery, European Commission (Brussels) 12 October 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_5207](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5207)

<sup>2751</sup> Statement by Commissioner Gentiloni on the G20's endorsement of the agreement on international taxation reform, European Commission (Brussels) 13 October 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement\\_21\\_5247](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_21_5247)

<sup>2752</sup> Speech by the Eurogroup President, Paschal Donohoe, at the IMF Governor Talk on "Euro area recovery from Covid-19 – economic policy reflections and challenges ahead", 12 October 2021, Council of the EU and European Council (Brussels) 13 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/10/13/speech-by-the-eurogroup-president-paschal-donohoe-at-imf-annual-meetings-conference-on-euro-area-recovery-from-covid-19-economic-policy-reflections-and-challenges-ahead-12-october-2021/>

occupations. Finally, he emphasized the need to provide retraining and reskilling programs for individuals with new work arrangements.

On 14 October 2021, the European Innovation Council announced new start-up and SME champions of innovation.<sup>2753</sup> Of the applicants, 65 start-ups and SMEs were selected to receive EUR363 million in funding for developing and scaling breakthrough innovations.

On 19 October 2021, the European Commission adopted the 2022 Work Programme, setting a bold and transformative agenda towards a Europe that is greener, fairer, more digital, and more resilient.<sup>2754</sup> The agenda includes several actions to make European technology more competitive and accessible. To address the supply of semi-conductors, the Commission will adopt a European Chips Act to develop new markets for revolutionary technology and promote an advanced ecosystem. Additionally, the Commission will establish common cybersecurity standards by proposing a European Cyber Resilience Act. Finally, actions will be taken to encourage the adoption of digital skills in schools and higher education. In addition to technology, the Commission will follow up on the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan to encourage quality jobs, fair working conditions and a better work-life balance. In addition, the Commission will strengthen social safety nets by creating an initiative on minimum income. Finally, once a new international corporate tax framework is finalized, the Commission will assist in its swift and consistent implementation across the EU.

On 20 October 2021, leaders of the EU met virtually at the Tripartite Social Summit to discuss “transforming Europe’s recovery into long-term sustainable growth supporting more and better jobs.”<sup>2755</sup> At the Summit, leaders echoed each other, suggesting a need to “invest in skills and implement active labour market policies” including the “right skills to adapt to changing career paths and find new jobs in an evolving labour market.” Prime Minister of Slovenia Janez Janša emphasized learning programs to help Europeans to help ensure “green and digital transitions, even during the post-pandemic recovery, take place in a society that is able to face the challenges of the future in a sustainable way.”

On 21 October 2021, the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) called on policymakers to implement a comprehensive and holistic strategy for balanced, cohesive, equitable and sustainable rural and urban development.<sup>2756</sup> ESC President Christa Schweng noted “we need to ensure that no areas or citizens are left behind in the just transition to a climate-neutral, sustainable and prosperous European Union.” The press release argued the challenges rural communities face (including the digital divide, low incomes, limited access to certain services, the need for better employment prospects, and specific impacts of climate change) need to be addressed holistically and with the needs of the community in mind. Solutions to make rural areas attractive places to live include good-quality services, housing, energy, leisure, education and training, lifelong learning and healthcare systems.

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<sup>2753</sup> European Innovation Council announces new wave of start-up champions, European Commission (Brussels) 14 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_5225](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5225)

<sup>2754</sup> 2022 Commission Work Programme: Making Europe stronger together, European Commission (Brussels) 19 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_5246](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5246)

<sup>2755</sup> Main messages from the Tripartite Social Summit, 20 October 2021, Council of the EU and European Council (Brussels) 20 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/10/20/main-messages-from-the-tripartite-social-summit-20-october-2021/>

<sup>2756</sup> Dealing with sustainable and balanced rural and urban development the key to EU citizens' well-being, says EESC, European Economic and Social Committee (Brussels) 21 October 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2021. <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/news-media/press-releases/dealing-sustainable-and-balanced-rural-and-urban-development-key-eu-citizens-well-being-says-eesc>

From 21 October to 22 October 2021, EU leaders met for a European Council summit where leaders had a “strategic discussion on EU trade policy.”<sup>2757</sup> European Council President Charles Michel noted exchanges reflected the importance of transparency in trade negotiations and using trade to increase prosperity and jobs by promoting important standards especially on climate and social matters. Leaders also discussed Europe’s digital transformation and its impacts on economic growth, job creation and competitiveness, emphasizing “inclusive and sustainable digital policies, particularly in terms of digital skills and education.”

On 22 October 2021, the European Commission adopted a framework to increase the inclusiveness and diversity of the Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps programmes for the period 2021-2027.<sup>2758</sup> The framework improves equity and inclusion in the European Education Area, upholding the first pillar of the European Pillar of Social Rights which contends everyone has a right to an inclusive and quality education. The framework includes: increased financial support for people with fewer opportunities to cover any additional expenses or needs, the opportunity to benefit from linguistic support, preparatory visits or reinforced mentorship for example before, during and after their project or mobility, additional help for organizations involved in inclusive projects, wider array of project and mobility opportunities of different duration and formats, priority to quality projects involving participants with fewer opportunities and addressing the themes of inclusion and diversity, and availability of more user-friendly, accessible and multilingual documents and materials.

From 25 October to 28 October 2021, the European Parliament held the European Gender Equality Week. During this event, committees and delegations hosted discussions and hearings related to gender equality.<sup>2759</sup> The agenda includes the Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee holding a public hearing on how the recovery can be designed to protect women and promote gender equality and the Women’s Rights and Gender Equality Committee hosting a Conference on the Future of Europe side-event on “building an inclusive economy for women in the green and digital transformation,” among other events.

On 26 October 2021, the European Commission announced a second call for large-scale projects under the Innovation Fund, to demonstrate low-carbon technologies, financed by revenues from the auction of emission allowances from the EU’s Emissions Trading System.<sup>2760</sup> The Commission is investing EUR1.5 billion to finance breakthrough technologies for renewable energy, energy-intensive industries, energy storage and carbon capture, use and storage. The Commission aims to finance projects which avoid greenhouse gas emissions, their innovation potential, their financial and technical maturity, their potential for scaling up and their cost efficiency.

On 27 October 2021, the European Commission released a report on Implementation and Enforcement of EU Trade Agreements which suggested EU exports increased as a result of effective implementation and enforcement of agreements.<sup>2761</sup> The report highlights the removal of 33 trade barriers resulting in EUR4

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<sup>2757</sup> European Council conclusions on COVID-19, energy, trade and external relations, 21 October 2021, Council of the EU and European Council (Brussels) 21 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021.

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/10/22/european-council-conclusions-on-covid-19-energy-trade-and-external-relations-21-october-2021/>

<sup>2758</sup> The Commission makes Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps more inclusive, European Commission (Brussels) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_5402](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5402)

<sup>2759</sup> Parliament to hold its second European Gender Equality Week, says Parliament, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20211014IPR14936/parliament-to-hold-its-second-european-gender-equality-week>

<sup>2760</sup> Boosting Europe’s green transition: Commission invests €1.5 billion in innovative clean tech projects, European Commission (Brussels) 26 October 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_5473](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5473)

<sup>2761</sup> EU exports boosted thanks to stronger implementation and enforcement of trade deals and global rules, European Commission (Brussels) 27 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_5545](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5545)

billion more of exports. Additionally, the report notes the Access to Markets online platform was successful in supporting 584,000 SMEs in making the process of exporting easier and faster.

On 28 October 2021, the EIB loaned Bank Ochrony Środowiska money to invest in climate action taken by SMEs.<sup>2762</sup> The EIB loaned EUR75 million to increase financing for SMEs with 50 per cent of the financing going towards projects with a focus on climate action including developing energy efficiency and renewable energy.

On 28 October 2021, the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) released a statement saying a sustainable industrial strategy for the EU must be inclusive of civil society and consider social impacts.<sup>2763</sup> In a report on the updates to the industrial strategy for the EU, the EESC said trade unions, industry and SMEs, and public authorities must be included to shape Europe's future. The EESC also said indicators measuring the industrial strategy must measure inclusion, working conditions, and environmental sustainability. The EESC called on indicators besides investment such as wellbeing, sustainable growth, assess the shift to a "no-waste" circular economy, and how well one can access "decent work" must be included in performance indicators to make Europe's industries sustainable.

On 29 October 2021, the EU Aid for Trade Progress Report 2021 was released and highlighted the EU's support for reducing poverty and boosting inclusive and sustainable economic growth through trade, building trade capacity and infrastructure investment in partner countries.<sup>2764</sup> The report found the EU and its Member States were the largest Aid for Trade (AfT) provider providing EUR17.9 billion in 2019. The aid benefited 140 countries and territories eligible for Official Development Assistance (Africa received the largest share of aid), and focused on women's economic empowerment, environment and biodiversity protection, and digitalization. The EU's aid is combined with investments and market access through Free Trade Agreements and Generalized Scheme of Preferences. Additionally, the EU launched global and regional initiatives for trade that promote gender equality, protect the environment, and foster decent work and digitalization, such as the Digital for Development Hub in 2020.

On 2 November 2021, US President Joe Biden, European Commission President von der Leyen and UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced a commitment to address climate change through infrastructure development.<sup>2765</sup> President Biden, President von der Leyen, and Prime Minister Johnson endorsed five principles for infrastructure development. The first principle the leaders endorsed states "infrastructure should be climate resilient and developed through a climate lens." This principle commits the leaders to build low- and zero-carbon infrastructure systems that are aligned with net-zero emissions targets by 2050. Second, leaders agreed that "strong and inclusive partnerships between host countries, developed country support, and the private sector are critical to developing sustainable infrastructure." The intention is to develop infrastructure that lasts longer, is more inclusive, and generates greater and more sustainable development impacts. Third, the leaders resolved to finance, construct, develop, operate and maintain projects with high standards in accordance with G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investments as the baseline. Fourth, leaders agreed to usher in a "new paradigm of climate finance" to raise the capital needed to develop

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<sup>2762</sup> Poland: EIB loan to Bank Ochrony Środowiska focuses on climate action by small and medium-sized businesses, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 28 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-355-poland-eib-loan-to-bank-ochrony-srodowiska-focuses-on-climate-action-by-small-and-medium-sized-businesses>

<sup>2763</sup> The EESC says a sustainable industrial strategy for the EU must be inclusive and consider social impacts to succeed, European Economic and Social Committee (Brussels) 28 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/news-media/news/eesc-says-sustainable-industrial-strategy-eu-must-be-inclusive-and-consider-social-impacts-succeed>

<sup>2764</sup> Aid for Trade: European Union remains the world's leading provider with €17.9 billion, European Commission (Brussels) 29 October 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_5641](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5641)

<sup>2765</sup> US President Biden, European Commission President von der Leyen and UK Prime minister Johnson announce Commitment to addressing climate crisis through infrastructure development, European Commission (Brussels) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement\\_21\\_5767](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_21_5767)

investment. Finally, leaders agreed that “climate-smart infrastructure development should play an important role in boosting economic recovery and sustainable job creation, where infrastructure development should contribute to equitable, inclusive and sustainable economic development worldwide.”

On 8 November 2021, the Council of the EU hosted a dialogue focused on the economic outlook and digital transformation.<sup>2766</sup> At the meeting leaders agreed that digital technology presents an opportunity for productivity and growth; however, workers need to have access to upskilling and reskilling opportunities to ensure inclusive growth.

On 9 November 2021, the Council of the EU released conclusions on the future of the European Semester in the context of the Recovery and Resilience Facility. The Council underlined that the European Semester and the Recovery and Resilience Facility should continue to “strengthen economic resilience and sustainable, dynamic and inclusive long-term growth.”<sup>2767</sup> The Council also stressed continued surveillance of fiscal, financial, economic and employment policies, paying particular attention to the green and digital transition and promote sustainable economic growth, well-functioning labour markets and social inclusion.

On 9 November 2021, the CDC Group, the EBRD, and the EIB collaborated to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment in climate finance investments under the framework of the 2X Climate Finance Task Force at COP 26.<sup>2768</sup> On behalf of the 2X Collaborative, they introduced the Gender-Smart Climate Finance Guide a global industry body for gender-lens investing.

On 11 November 2021, the European Parliament announced a draft law to establish minimum requirements to protect wages across the EU by either establishing a minimum wage or the right for all workers to negotiate their wage with their employer.<sup>2769</sup> The draft law states Member States must evaluate whether statutory minimum wages are sufficient by using criteria to put in place decent working and living conditions and include elements such as purchasing power and the poverty rate. Additionally, Member States where collective bargaining is rare should actively promote it and are forbidden to undermine collective bargaining or collective wage setting agreements.

On 16 November 2021, the European Parliament and European Council reached a provisional agreement on the 2022 EU Budget.<sup>2770</sup> Included in the budget is an increase Erasmus+ by EUR35 million. Also included in the budget is money for SMEs and climate action.

On 16 November 2021, the EESC organized a seminar where the priorities for the recovery and reconstruction of Europe after the pandemic were discussed.<sup>2771</sup> One theme of the seminar was the need to

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<sup>2766</sup> Macroeconomic dialogue at political level on 8 November 2021, Council of the EU and European Council (Brussels) 8 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/11/08/macroeconomic-dialogue-at-political-level-on-8-november-2021/>

<sup>2767</sup> The future of the European Semester in the context of the Recovery and Resilience Facility - Council conclusions, Council of the EU and European Council (Brussels) 9 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/11/09/the-future-of-the-european-semester-in-the-context-of-the-recovery-and-resilience-facility-council-conclusions/>

<sup>2768</sup> EIB and international partners promote gender equality: New guide for gender-smart climate finance on Gender Day at COP26, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 9 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-388-eib-and-international-partners-promote-gender-equality-new-guide-for-gender-smart-climate-finance-on-gender-day-at-cop26>

<sup>2769</sup> New rules for fair minimum wages in the EU, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 11 November 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20211107IPR16808/new-rules-for-fair-minimum-wages-in-the-eu>

<sup>2770</sup> EU Budget 2022 deal: investing more for a strong recovery, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 16 November 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20211115IPR17306/eu-budget-2022-deal-investing-more-for-a-strong-recovery>

reform EU budgetary rules to meet social and environmental goals while maintaining financial responsibilities.

On 18 November 2021, the EIB and the Instituto de Crédito Oficial (ICO) announced they would provide funds to promote export activities and international expansion of Spanish SMEs.<sup>2772</sup> The EIB would provide EUR300 million to the ICO and ICO will match the EIB's funding, providing EUR600 million between the two for SMEs. Specifically, the funding will go towards SMEs recovering their production capacity to strengthen their exports and expansion.

On 18 November 2021, the European Investment Fund (EIF) backed Keen Venture Partners with financing of EUR30 million to support SMEs across the EU.<sup>2773</sup> The money came from the EFSI which supports the European Commission's Investment Plan for Europe and will support European SMEs their early growth stage focused on technology.

On 23 November 2021, the Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee adopted the Digital Markets Act (DMA) proposal, setting rules on what companies with "gatekeeper" status can and cannot do in the EU. In the proposal, lawmakers outline which companies are considered gatekeepers, what they can and cannot do to ensure fair market access and prevent acquisitions which may damage the market. The law proposes enforcement by the European High-Level Group of Digital Regulators, a body which will facilitate coordination between the Commission and Member States.<sup>2774</sup>

On 24 November 2021, the European Commission launched the calls for proposals under Erasmus+, a program which provides opportunities for study periods abroad, traineeships, apprenticeships and staff exchanges and cross border cooperation projects in different areas of education and training, youth and sport.<sup>2775</sup> The program provides opportunities for "high-quality and inclusive digital education and the adaptation of education and training systems to the green transition," in addition to third countries having the opportunity to participate in targeted projects and exchanges, especially in the fields of vocational education, training and sport.

On 24 November 2021, Ecobank Group, the leading pan-African banking group, secured a long-term credit facility from the EIB to fund SMEs.<sup>2776</sup> Ecobank Group secured EUR100 million long-term credit facility over 9 years with the EIB to support business investment across Africa. The loan will also contain technical assistance under the EIB program titled African Women Rising Initiative, focusing on training and capacity building for lending to women entrepreneurs.

On 24 November 2021, the European Commission launched the 2022 European Semester cycle of economic policy coordination. The package outlines how the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) will be better

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<sup>2771</sup> A new vision for a new Europe: prosperous, inclusive and sustainable, European Economic and Social Committee (Brussels) 17 November 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2021. <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/news-media/press-releases/new-vision-new-europe-prosperous-inclusive-and-sustainable>

<sup>2772</sup> Spain: EIB and ICO provide €600 million to promote exports and international expansion of SMEs, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-411-spain-eib-and-ico-provide-eur600-million-to-promote-exports-and-international-expansion-of-smes>

<sup>2773</sup> Keen Venture Partners gets boost from EIF to support European technology SMEs, European Commission (Brussels) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_6109](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6109)

<sup>2774</sup> Digital Markets Act: ending unfair practices of big online platforms, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 23 November 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20211118IPR17636/digital-markets-act-ending-unfair-practices-of-big-online-platforms>

<sup>2775</sup> Erasmus+: nearly €3.9 billion in 2022 for mobility and cooperation in education, training, youth and sport, European Commission (Brussels) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_6180](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6180)

<sup>2776</sup> The Ecobank Group secures €100 million credit facility from EIB to fund SMEs, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-420-le-groupe-ecobank-obtient-une-facilite-de-credit-de-100-millions-d-euros-pour-financer-des-pme>

integrated into the European Semester cycle and avoid unnecessary administrative hurdles for Member States.<sup>2777</sup> The RRF embeds EU priorities and will support Member States successfully pursuing green and digital transitions and building a more resilient EU economy. The Annual Sustainable Growth Survey outlines how SDGs will be further integrated into the European Semester to fully update and maintain consistent SDG reporting. Also included in the package is the Joint Employment Report, which indicates that the COVID-19 crisis disproportionately affected young people, workers in non-standard forms of employment, the self-employed and third-country nationals. Additionally, the report noted that consistent with labor shortages, businesses are emerging with financial difficulties, and some jobs may disappear while others will be created through the green and digital transition. Furthermore, participation in adult learning is not the standard practice throughout the EU and has been impacted by the pandemic, with wide differences across Member States.

On 24 November 2021, the European Commission launched a call for projects for the Interregional Innovation Investment Instrument (I3).<sup>2778</sup> The I3 seeks to grant EUR570 million to support the commercialization and scaling up of interregional innovation projects which have two components. The first component is “financial and advisory support for investments in interregional innovation projects.” This strand is focused on partnerships to help accelerate market uptake and scale-up of innovative solutions in priority areas, as well as to develop a portfolio of investment projects especially in SMEs and start-ups. Secondly, investment focuses on “financial and advisory support to the development of value chains in less developed regions.” This strand focuses on increasing the capacity of regional innovation ecosystems especially in less developed regions to enable them to participate in global value chains, as well as the capacity to participate in partnerships with other regions. Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms Elisa Ferreira called this project an opportunity to “combine investment support in key European priorities like the green and digital transition with the strongest areas of innovation of each European region.”

On 25 November 2021, the Council of the EU agreed to their approach on the Digital Market Act (DMA).<sup>2779</sup> The goal of the DMA is to ensure a competitive and fair digital sector by promoting “innovation, high-quality digital products and services, fair prices, and high quality and choice” in the digital sector. The DMA will achieve its goals by creating a level playing field by outlining rights and obligations for large platforms to promote competition. The conclusion of this step provides the Council President with a mandate for future discussion with the European Parliament which will take place in 2022.

On 25 November 2021, the EIB provided EUR185 million in additional funding for climate projects by Benelux SMEs, in conjunction with the EUR370 million provided in loans to climate-conscious SMEs in the Benelux.<sup>2780</sup>

On 25 November 2021, the European Commission adopted measures to improve companies’ abilities to raise capital across the EU and ensure Europeans receive the best deals for their savings and investments.<sup>2781</sup> Proposals include access to company trading data, increasing transparency and safety of cross-border trades,

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<sup>2777</sup> European Semester Autumn Package: rebounding stronger from the crisis and making Europe greener and more digital, European Commission (Brussels) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_6105](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6105)

<sup>2778</sup> Commission launches the €570 million interregional innovation investment instrument, European Commission (Brussels) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_6129](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6129)

<sup>2779</sup> Regulating ‘big tech’: Council agrees on enhancing competition in the digital sphere, Council of the EU and European Council (Brussels) 25 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/11/25/regulating-big-tech-council-agrees-on-enhancing-competition-in-the-digital-sphere/>

<sup>2780</sup> DLL and EIB: €370 million in extra funding for climate projects by Benelux SMEs, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 25 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-426-dll-and-eib-eur370-million-in-extra-funding-for-climate-projects-by-benelux-smes>

<sup>2781</sup> Capital Markets Union: Commission proposes new measures to boost Europe's capital markets, European Commission (Brussels) 25 November 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_6251](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6251)



increasing integration and broadening opportunity. The Commission also adopted a proposal on the European Single Access Point (ESAP) consolidating public financial and sustainability-related information about EU companies and EU investment products, increasing potential sources of funding. ESAP is important for small companies in small capital markets, increasing their visibility to the EU and international investors. Sustainability-related information released by companies supports objectives of the European Green Deal.

On 1 December 2021, the EIB provided EXIMBANKA SR with funding to help SMEs sustain jobs, maintain liquidity, and continue to invest to maintain competitiveness.<sup>2782</sup> The EIB provided EXIMBANKA SR with EUR30 million for export-oriented companies to address disruptions in their value chains. This funding will aid Slovakia's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic by helping 99.9 per cent of businesses in the country and improve access to financing and come with favorable terms for SMEs.

On 2 December 2021, leaders from the EU and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) held a virtual meeting and agreed to several items which promote growth.<sup>2783</sup> First, leaders announced EUR3.4 billion would be available through the NDICI-Global Europe (2021-2027) for LAC to support sustainable long-term recovery from the pandemic. The program will include the European Fund for Sustainable Development Plus (EFSD+), leveraging more than EUR12 billion of investment in the region and EUR800 million will support the Caribbean's implementation of the Post-Cotonou agreement. Second, leaders said they look forward to launching an EU-LAC Digital Alliance in 2022 to promote digital innovation and converge digital rules and standards to foster human-centric digitalization. Third, leaders encouraged the use of trade associations and agreements as a driver of economic recovery, job creation and business, and investment opportunities. Finally, at the meeting leaders discussed cooperation to confront rising inequality and promote social cohesion. During this discussion, the EU announced the launch of a new Team Europe Initiative in 2022 focusing on "addressing structural challenges, such as building resilient social protection systems, reshaping fiscal policies and promoting inclusive public policy design."

On 6 December 2021, the Council of the EU agreed to its position on a draft law on pay transparency.<sup>2784</sup> The purpose of the law is to decrease pay discrimination and promote closing the gender pay gap. Specifically, the law mandates employers provide "objective and gender-neutral criteria used to define their pay and career progression" and gives employees the right to request information on the "pay level and the average pay levels for workers doing the same work or work of equal value, broken down by sex."

On 8 December 2021, the EIB Group and Deutsche Bank announced a collaboration to help SMEs during the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>2785</sup> The EIB Group provided a guarantee of EUR75 million allowing Deutsche Bank to loan EUR300 million to SMEs to relieve liquidity shortages caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The loan is funded by the EFSI.

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<sup>2782</sup> Slovakia: EIB provides €30 million to EXIMBANKA SR to accelerate COVID-19 recovery of SMEs and mid-caps, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 1 December 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-431-eib-provides-eur30-million-to-eximbanka-sr-to-accelerate-covid-19-recovery-of-smes-and-mid-caps>

<sup>2783</sup> EU-Latin America & Caribbean Leaders' Meeting: Joining forces for a sustainable post-COVID recovery - Press release by Presidents Michel and von der Leyen, Council of the EU and European Council (Brussels) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/12/02/eu-latin-america-caribbean-leaders-meeting-joining-forces-for-a-sustainable-post-covid-recovery/>

<sup>2784</sup> Council agrees on common position to tackle gender pay gap, Council of the EU and European Council (Brussels) 6 December 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/12/06/council-agrees-on-common-position-to-tackle-gender-pay-gap/>

<sup>2785</sup> Germany: EIB Group and Deutsche Bank join forces to support small and medium-sized companies during the COVID-19 crisis, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-442-germany-eib-group-and-deutsche-bank-join-forces-to-support-small-and-medium-sized-companies-during-the-covid-19-crisis>

On 8 December 2021, the EIB and Tesi co-invested in innovative SMEs affected by the COVID-19 pandemic whose growth was hampered by the pandemic and don't have easy access to venture capital.<sup>2786</sup> Both the EIB and Tesi invested EUR50 million each to aid Finnish SMEs grow and innovate despite effects of the pandemic. The European Guarantee Fund (EGF) was established by a package passed by the EU to provide funding to parts of the EU economy affected by the pandemic. In this case, the EGF protects companies who are affected by the pandemic by providing funds for the EIB and EIF to make loans, guarantees, asset-backed securities, equity, and other financial instruments available to mostly SMEs.

On 9 December 2021, the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) asked the European Commission to be more ambitious in directing the European economy to be more sustainable.<sup>2787</sup> The EESC proposed a series of new indicators be developed which integrates the European Green Deal and EU economic governance framework, revising and better tracking the 'greening' of finance. The EESC also recommended sustainability factors should be considered in financial sector risk management and rules on capital provisions and implement measures to prevent loopholes allowing companies to greenwash. The EESC embraces the European Green Bond Standard to directing investors towards investments in projects benefiting the environment.

On 9 December 2021, Vice President of the EIB Ricardo Mourinho Félix announced a series of deals totaling EUR63 million to strengthen its support for entrepreneurship, innovation and social infrastructure in Tunisia.<sup>2788</sup> Included in the deal is EUR45 million for the public transport authority Transtu to support more inclusive and sustainable mobility. The deal is co-financed by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development for an overall amount of EUR90 million. A EUR9 million deal was signed by the Vice President Felix with Enda Tamweel to strengthen the EIB's support for Tunisian micro-entrepreneurs. The money goes towards financing OneTech Group's investments in research, development and innovation, while strengthening its production capacity. The initial loan has already helped create 1,300 jobs, 50 per cent of which are held by women.

On 14 December 2021, the European Parliament confirmed the decision to organize youth-focused and youth-centric activities and initiatives across all Member States in line with the 2022 European Year of Youth.<sup>2789</sup> Designating 2022 the Year of Youth means efforts will be made to include youth priorities in relevant policy and consult leading youth organizations in the policy process. Leaders in the European Parliament added EUR8 million for the Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps programmes. This initiative is supported by the European Parliaments' Culture and Education chair Sabine Verheyen who suggested that you be engaged in issues including but not limited to pensions, attractiveness of rural areas, digitization or climate change. Chair Verheyen emphasized the need to engage youth on issues of entrepreneurship and economic development because "young professionals in particular need to be

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<sup>2786</sup> Finland: EIB and Tesi - €100 million in new financing for SMEs, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-441-eib-and-tesi-eur100-million-in-new-financing-for-finnish-smes>

<sup>2787</sup> EESC asks the European Commission to be more ambitious in efforts to steer the EU economy and finance toward sustainability, European Economic and Social Committee (Brussels) 9 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2021. <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/news-media/press-releases/eesc-asks-european-commission-be-more-ambitious-efforts-steer-eu-economy-and-finance-toward-sustainability>

<sup>2788</sup> Tunisia: EIB mobilises €63 million to strengthen its support for entrepreneurship, innovation and social infrastructure, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 9 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-444-tunisie-la-bei-mobilise-63-millions-d-euros-pour-renforcer-son-soutien-a-l-entreprenariat-a-l-innovation-et-aux-infrastructures-sociales>

<sup>2789</sup> European Year of Youth 2022 to empower young people, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20211210IPR19216/european-year-of-youth-2022-to-empower-young-people>

empowered to create space for bold young innovations and forward-looking start-ups.”<sup>2790</sup> Finally, she stressed the challenges that youth face in school and entering the labor market and underlined the need for lawmakers and youth to work together to find solutions to these problems.

On 15 December 2021, Team Europe, EIB and the European Commission announced a collaboration to modernize vocational education. An EIB loan of EUR58 million to finance the construction, renovation and upgrade of existing vocational education and training (VET) school will be provided to the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine.<sup>2791</sup> The EU’s Neighbourhood Investment Platform (NIP) will provide an additional investment of EUR8.5 million grant for technical assistance. The loan supplements implementation of the EU4Skills: Better Skills for Modern Ukraine programme of the European Union, co-funded with the governments of Germany, Finland, Poland and Estonia. The loan supports the reform and modernization of Ukraine’s educational system and green and sustainable social and economic growth. Modernized VET infrastructure will allow Ukrainians to develop in demand skills desired by the local job market, reducing unemployment, accelerate economic growth, and increase the competitiveness of local companies with a skilled workforce.

On 15 December 2021, the EIB and Alitheia IDF announced a deal to close the investment gap between male and female entrepreneurs to encourage African women as producers, distributors and consumers.<sup>2792</sup> It is estimated that African women receive less than five per cent of all investment on the continent even though over 40 per cent of SMEs in Africa are women-led. The EIB invested EUR24.6 million to make Alitheia IDF the largest gender-lens private equity fund by value in Africa. All together Alitheia IDF was able to create a EUR100 million fund to support women entrepreneurs in Africa.

On 21 December 2021, the European Investment Fund and its parent, the European Investment Bank, signed a securitization transaction with Santander Leasing S.A. that will help Santander Bank Polska group.<sup>2793</sup> Under the deal, the EIB Group will provide a First Loss Piece (FLP) guarantee EUR74 million in a synthetic securitization of a EUR591 million granular portfolio of leasing and loan receivables originated by Santander Leasing S.A., a member of Santander Bank Polska group. EIB Group’s FLP tranche exposure is backed by the EGF and the senior tranche will be retained by the originator. The money is intended to address working capital and liquidity needs, and the investment constraints of SMEs in the context of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the recovery. Santander Bank Polska will make EUR44 million of new lending available to Polish SMEs on favorable terms.

On 21 December 2021, the EIB and Carbios announced a loan agreement supported by the European Commission InnovFin Energy Demonstration Programme.<sup>2794</sup> The EIB is providing a loan of EUR30 million to support high potential innovative projects developed by companies aiming to achieve transformative

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<sup>2790</sup> Year of European Youth in 2022: CULT chair Verheyen congratulates Commission’s proposal, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 15 September 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210915IPR12628/year-of-european-youth-in-2022-verheyen-congratulates-commission-s-proposal>

<sup>2791</sup> Ukraine: Team Europe - EIB and the European Commission join forces to modernise vocational education, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-461-ukraine-team-europe-eib-and-the-european-commission-join-forces-to-modernise-vocational-education>

<sup>2792</sup> EIB-supported gender lens investment fund Alitheia IDF announces final close at \$100 million, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-455-eib-supported-gender-lens-investment-fund-alitheia-idf-announces-final-close-at-usd100-million>

<sup>2793</sup> Poland: EIB Group and Santander Bank Polska group agree new financing for SMEs under the European Guarantee Fund, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-481-poland-eib-group-and-santander-bank-polska-group-agree-new-financing-for-polish-smes-under-the-european-guarantee-fund>

<sup>2794</sup> France: The EIB, with the support of the European Commission, is financing a €30m loan for Carbios’ enzymatic recycling technology to support the circular economy, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-476-the-eib-with-the-support-of-the-european-commission-is-financing-a-eur30m-loan-for-carbios-enzymatic-recycling-technology-to-support-the-circular-economy>

changes aligned with the EU Climate goals and contribute to the EU industry's leadership in the development of sustainable technologies. Carbios will use the loan to support the strategic industrial and commercial development of PET[1] enzymatic recycling aiming at transforming post-consumer PET plastic and polyester fibers to their original building blocks (monomers) through a biological enzymatic depolymerization process. The technology would allow PET plastic producers to replace petrochemicals with monomers from PET plastic waste, resulting in 100 per cent recycled PET content in new products.

On 23 December 2021, the EIB supported Ercros' innovation, decarbonization, and modernization strategy with EUR40 million.<sup>2795</sup> The money will help Ercros reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 39 per cent by 2050 and strengthen its competitive position. Ercros will focus on improving energy efficiency and extending the use of renewable energy to achieve emissions reduction. Money for Ercros comes from the EFSI. Specifically, loan will support investments to increase safety of facilities, develop more efficient production processes with lower emissions, and promote the development of new biodegradable products and products that use recycled materials in their composition.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to promote strong, resilient, sustainable, balanced, and inclusive growth. The EU has fully complied with its commitment to build resilience and sustainability by incorporating environmental considerations into economic policymaking and allocating funds towards the improvement of infrastructure. Additionally, the EU has fully complied with facilitating reallocation and boosting productivity growth for all by supporting investment and innovation in SMEs. Lastly, the EU has partially complied with its commitment to support people in transition by taking steps to improve access to unemployment insurance programs, promote educational policies designed to upskill and reskill workers, develop work-based education for youth and reduce financial barriers to adult learning programs.

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

*Analyst: Julia Rychlik*

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<sup>2795</sup> Spain: EIB supports Ercros' innovation, decarbonisation and modernisation strategy with EUR 40 million, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 23 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-486-spain-eib-supports-ercros-innovation-decarbonisation-and-modernisation-strategy-with-eur-40-million>

## 21. International Cooperation: Research Transparency

“Collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges and drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity.”

*2021 Open Societies Statement*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France		0	
Germany		0	
Italy		0	
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average		+0.38 (69%)	

### Background

Scientific innovation and collaboration on global issues have been consistent priorities of the G7. More recently, intergovernmental organizations have acknowledged the damage that misconduct in research has on scientific advancement, economic competitiveness, health, national security and the motivation of public officials.<sup>2796</sup> Additionally, the recent COVID-19 pandemic has shown how international collaboration can result in rapid scientific advances that can save lives.<sup>2797</sup> Given the diversity of global challenges faced, the G7 recognizes the importance of collaboration between nations and of the ambition that drives innovation.

The 1978 Bonn Summit marked the first time G7 leaders highlighted the need to conduct joint and coordinated research to address a global problem.<sup>2798</sup> Leaders specifically addressed the development of renewable energy and aimed to discover and innovate new energy sources and find more efficient uses of existing sources through research.

At the 1985 Bonn Summit, G7 leaders emphasized that international cooperation in research and technology in major projects should be enhanced to maximize scientific potential.<sup>2799</sup> Thus, they committed to ensuring that shared participation, responsibility, and adequate rules concerning access to the results achieved, the transfer of technology, and the use of technologies involved would be present in future scientific projects.

At the 1990 Houston Summit, G7 leaders agreed that successfully integrating environmental and economic goals required decision-makers in government and industry to have expanded cooperative scientific and economic research and analysis on the environment.<sup>2800</sup> Thus, the G7 leaders supported accelerated scientific research, analysis on the potential impacts of climate change, and potential responses of various countries.

<sup>2796</sup> Best Practices for Ensuring Scientific Integrity and Preventing Misconduct, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 28 November 2007. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/science/inno/40188303.pdf>

<sup>2797</sup> Data for international health emergencies: governance, operations and skills, Royal Society of Canada (Ottawa) 31 March 2021. Access Date: 26 October 2021. [https://rsc-src.ca/sites/default/files/DES7289\\_3\\_S7%20Statement\\_Data\\_EN\\_FINAL.pdf](https://rsc-src.ca/sites/default/files/DES7289_3_S7%20Statement_Data_EN_FINAL.pdf)

<sup>2798</sup> Declaration, G7 Information Centre Group (Toronto) 17 July 1978. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1978bonn/communique.html>

<sup>2799</sup> The Bonn Economic Declaration: Towards Sustained Growth and Higher Employment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 4 May 1985. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1985bonn/communique.html>

<sup>2800</sup> Houston Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 July 1990. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1990houston/declaration.html>

The leaders also discussed the launching of the Human Frontier Science Program, which they hoped would make positive contributions to the advancement of basic research in life sciences for the benefit of all people.

At the 1995 Halifax Summit, G7 leaders discussed the challenges of the upcoming 21st century and asked for closer international cooperation in safeguarding the financial system.<sup>2801</sup> They agreed on the deepening of cooperation among regulators and supervisory agencies to ensure an integrated approach to enhancing the transparency necessary to monitor and contain risks. The leaders also agreed that transparent and accountable governance, investment in people, and environmental protection are the foundations of sustainable development and are essential to reinforcing national efforts.

At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, G8 leaders agreed to promote global innovation by developing the “knowledge triangle,” consisting of education, research, and innovation.<sup>2802</sup> They acknowledged that as scientific progress becomes increasingly global, international collaboration is essential to find solutions to global challenges, and called for improved scientific research and exchanges between states. The leaders also committed to involving scientists from developing countries in efforts to further develop the Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise and welcomed the Government of Russia’s initiative to involve Eastern European and Central Asian countries in its activities through the establishment of a regional coordination mechanism.<sup>2803</sup>

At the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, G8 leaders agreed on innovation as one of the crucial drivers of economic growth and agreed to promote innovation, research, and development.<sup>2804</sup> They also recognized the need for innovation to be protected worldwide and identified Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) as a precondition for innovation.

At the 2012 Camp David Summit, G8 leaders committed to the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition as part of a shared commitment to achieve global food security.<sup>2805</sup> As part of the Alliance, G8 leaders pledged to share relevant agricultural data available from G8 countries with African partners, explore approaches that could expand African access to nutritional technologies developed by national research institutions, and develop a policy research agenda.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders committed to taking concrete actions for advancing global health as elaborated in the G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health and emphasized promoting research and development in other health areas.<sup>2806</sup> The leaders also recognized that innovation was critical for an effective global response to the climate challenge and committed to playing a leading role in Mission Innovation. Additionally, G7 leaders pledged support for scientific work to enhance global ocean observation and assessment for the science-based and sustainable use of marine resources.

At the 2020 US Virtual Summit G7 leaders recognized that the challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic need a coordinated international approach based on scientific evidence, consistent with democratic values and utilizing the strengths of private enterprise through encouraging cooperative research and

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<sup>2801</sup> Halifax Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 June 1995. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1995halifax/communique/index.html>

<sup>2802</sup> Education for Innovation Societies in the 21st Century, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 2006. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/education.html>

<sup>2803</sup> Fight Against Infectious Disease, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 2006. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/education.html>

<sup>2804</sup> Chair’s Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2007. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-summary.pdf>

<sup>2805</sup> Fact Sheet: G8 Action on Food Security and Nutrition, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 May 2012. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2012campdavid/g8-food-security-factsheet.html>

<sup>2806</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

collaboration in scientific and technological fields.<sup>2807</sup> They also agreed to increase coordinated research efforts through voluntary support for the global alliance Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness and Innovation (CEPI).

### **Commitment Features**

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders committed to “collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges and drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity.” This commitment can be broken down into two parts and to receive full compliance, G7 members must take action in both. These parts are: “Collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges,” and “drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity.”

“Collaborate” is understood to mean a coordinated, synchronous activity that is the result of a continued attempt to construct and maintain a shared conception of a problem.<sup>2808</sup> Compliance can be achieved by two or more G7 members working to solve the same issue and consistently sharing data and/or creating joint initiatives to implement positive changes until the next summit. G7 members that collaborate with non-G7 members would only count for partial compliance, unless the G7 member collaborates with non-members in addition to working with other G7 members.

In the context of the commitment, “science-based responses” refers to decisions made using knowledge about or study of the natural world based on facts learned through experiments and observation.<sup>2809</sup> This includes, but is not limited to, empirical data, geographic measurements and analyzed lab experiments.

“Global challenges” are understood to mean any major trend, shock or development that has the potential for serious global impacts.<sup>2810</sup> Examples of current global challenges include the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change, both of which continue to have negative impacts on the health and security of people and the global economy.

“Drive” is understood to mean urging relentlessly to continuous exertion.<sup>2811</sup> In the context of the commitment, it refers to urging continuous exertion to innovate.

“Innovation” is understood as the embodiment of an idea in a technology, product or process that is new and creates value.<sup>2812</sup> An innovation is the implementation of a new or significantly improved product (good or service), or process which derives from creative ideas, technological progress, a new marketing method, a new organizational method in business practices, workplace organization or external relations. Innovation covers a wide range of domains with science and technology as the core.

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<sup>2807</sup> G7 Leaders’ Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html>

<sup>2808</sup> PISA 2015 Collaborative Problem-Solving Framework, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) July 2017. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/pisa/pisaproducts/Draft%20PISA%202015%20Collaborative%20Problem%20Solving%20Framework%20.pdf>

<sup>2809</sup> Science, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/science>

<sup>2810</sup> Global Challenges and their Impact on International Humanitarian Action, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (New York) January 2010. Access Date: 26 October 2021. <https://www.unocha.org/sites/unocha/files/Global%20challenges%20and%20their%20impact%20on%20international%20humanitarian%20action.pdf>

<sup>2811</sup> Drive, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 26 October 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/drive>

<sup>2812</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 26 October 2021 [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

“Calling on” is understood to mean promoting or motioning others to associate with the mentioned requirement.<sup>2813</sup> In the context of the commitment, “others” refers to every nation and the “mentioned requirement” refers to increasing their research transparency and integrity.

“Increase” refers to something becoming progressively greater in amount, number, or intensity.<sup>2814</sup> In the context of the commitment, it refers to research transparency and integrity becoming greater.

“Transparency” is understood to mean something being open, frank and candid.<sup>2815</sup> In the context of the research, it can refer to the obligation to make data, analysis, methods and the researcher’s interpretive choices visible in a way that allows others to evaluate them.<sup>2816</sup>

“Integrity” is understood to mean the consistent alignment of, and adherence to, shared ethical values, principles, and norms for upholding and prioritising the public interest over private interests in the public sector.<sup>2817</sup> Calling on increased research integrity is often closely linked to transparency, and can include calling on increased accountability of research errors, open communication of findings and the respect of all research participants.

Full compliance, or a score of +1, for this commitment requires G7 members to satisfy both commitment targets. They must take strong actions to “collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges” and “drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity.” As well, this commitment is subject to a depth analysis which includes both domestic and international actions. Examples of strong domestic actions include, but are not limited to, allocating money towards science-based research to impact issues such as climate change and global hunger and creating programs or governmental departments dedicated to specific research. Examples of strong international action can include, but are not limited to, ratifying treaties whose purpose is to encourage scientific innovation and/or encourage transparency in that research.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members if one of the following scenarios takes place: the member satisfies only one of the commitment targets, either collaborating on science-based responses to global challenges with other G7 members or making efforts to drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity, or the member takes only weak action on both parts of the commitment. Examples of weak action include, but are not limited to, attending a meeting that discusses the importance of scientific collaboration and/or research transparency, and verbally reaffirming the commitment but taking no strong steps to achieve any part of it.

Non-compliance, or a score of –1, will be assigned to G7 members who satisfy neither of the commitment targets by neither collaborating on science-based responses to global challenges with other G7 members nor making efforts to drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency.

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<sup>2813</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 26 October 2021 [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>2814</sup> Increase, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 26 October 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/increase>

<sup>2815</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2021 [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>2816</sup> Transparency in Qualitative Research, Princeton University (Princeton) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.princeton.edu/~amoravcs/library/TransparencyinQualitativeResearch.pdf>

<sup>2817</sup> OECD Recommendation on Public Integrity, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/gov/ethics/recommendation-public-integrity/>



**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	The G7 member has not taken any or has taken insufficient steps to collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges with other G7 members NOR made any efforts to drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity.
0	The G7 member has taken strong steps to collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges with other G7 members OR made efforts to drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity, OR the G7 member has only taken partial action on both components.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong steps to collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges with other G7 members AND made efforts to drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity.

*Compliance Director: Sofia Shatrova*

*Lead Analyst: Madison Skoblo*

**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges and drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity.

On 15 June 2021, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) announced its partnership with the US National Science Foundation.<sup>2818</sup> The partnership will allow both countries to collaborate on science and emerging technology research to promote economic well-being and technological creativity.

On 25 June 2021, NSERC and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research of Germany (BMBF) jointly selected ten projects to deepen both countries' collaborative hydrogen research.<sup>2819</sup> The projects aim to lead to findings that advance hydrogen as a major renewable source worldwide, putting Canada and Germany at the forefront of the new green hydrogen economy and fight against climate change. These projects also set a precedent for future joint activities, as agreed at the Cornwall G7 summit between Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel.

On 29 June 2021, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities Catherine McKenna announced Canada's entry into the Coalition on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure.<sup>2820</sup> The Coalition promotes the resilience of infrastructure systems to better resist climate change, and allows climate experts around the world to advance innovative and sustainable climate change solutions.

<sup>2818</sup> New US-Canada partnership announced for collaboration in research and innovation, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (Ottawa) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. [https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Media-Media/NewsDetail-DetailNouvelles\\_eng.asp?ID=1271](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Media-Media/NewsDetail-DetailNouvelles_eng.asp?ID=1271)

<sup>2819</sup> Strong impetus for the German-Canadian hydrogen cooperation, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Berlin) 25 June 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/sharedocs/pressemitteilungen/de/starke-impulse-fuer-die-deutsche-wasserstoffkooperation.html>

<sup>2820</sup> Government of Canada joins the Coalition on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, Infrastructure Canada (Ottawa) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 19 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/06/government-of-canada-joins-the-coalition-on-disaster-resilient-infrastructure.html>

On 6 July 2021, Health Canada published improved Development Safety Update Reports alongside the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency.<sup>2821</sup> The report aims to improve the safety of patients in clinical trials globally to increase trial transparency and thus improve the quality of international research.

On 12 July 2021, the Government of Canada released new National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships.<sup>2822</sup> The Guidelines will require Canadian researchers to complete security risk assessment before submitting grant applications for projects involving collaboration with foreign countries. This requirement aims to preserve Canada's scientific collaboration with other countries while protecting Canadian intellectual property against foreign theft and interference. The guidelines aim to promote research openness and transparency in Canada and the countries with which it collaborates.<sup>2823</sup>

On 6 August 2021, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry François-Philippe Champagne announced that the National Research Council of Canada (NRC) would provide 114 research projects with more than CAD23 million in funding.<sup>2824</sup> The funds will allow NRC scientists to collaborate with international academics on projects to improve virus diagnosis and environmental sustainability.

On 3 November, Minister Champagne met with US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo to outline a plan to increase cross-border COVID-19 collaboration between the US and Canada.<sup>2825</sup> Under the plan, Secretary Raimondo and Minister Champagne agreed to share approaches on enhancing security of software supply chains and expand work on net-zero industrial transformation and renewable energy sources.

On 14 January 2022, Minister of Health Jean-Yves Duclos announced the creation of the Centre for Research on Pandemic Preparedness and Health Emergencies with an ongoing investment of CAD18.5 million per year.<sup>2826</sup> The Research Center collaborates with federal departments and agencies and domestic and international stakeholders to enhance Canada's capacity to research and mobilize knowledge to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from existing and future pandemics and public health emergencies.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges and drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity. Canada has taken strong action to collaborate on scientific research with G7 members by creating partnerships and guidelines and allocating funds. Canada has also created guidelines that encourage international research transparency.

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<sup>2821</sup> MHRA releases guidance in collaboration with Health Canada to improve patient safety in clinical trials through improving the quality of Development Safety Update Reports, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (London) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 23 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mhra-releases-guidance-in-collaboration-with-health-canada-to-improve-patient-safety-in-clinical-trials-through-improving-the-quality-of-development-s>

<sup>2822</sup> Government of Canada takes action to protect Canadian research and intellectual property, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 12 July 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/07/government-of-canada-takes-action-to-protect-canadian-research-and-intellectual-property.html>

<sup>2823</sup> How can I assess risks in partnerships? Executive Summary of *National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships*, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 July 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. [https://science.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/h\\_98256.html](https://science.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/h_98256.html)

<sup>2824</sup> Government of Canada funding research collaborations for breakthrough technologies, National Research Council Canada (Ottawa) 6 August 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/national-research-council/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-funding-research-collaborations-for-breakthrough-technologies.html>

<sup>2825</sup> Joint Readout on Cooperation between the U.S. Department of Commerce and Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada, U.S. Department of Commerce (Washington, D.C.) 3 November 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/11/joint-readout-cooperation-between-us-department-commerce-and-innovation>

<sup>2826</sup> Government of Canada creates Centre for Research on Pandemic Preparedness and Health Emergencies, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Ottawa) 14 January 2022. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/institutes-health-research/news/2022/01/government-of-canada-creates-centre-for-research-on-pandemic-preparedness-and-health-emergencies.html>

Thus, Canada has received a score of +1.

*Analyst: Qianai Cheng*

### **France: 0**

France has partially complied with its commitment to collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges and drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity.

On 6 July 2021, Minister for Higher Education, Research and Innovation Frédérique Vidal announced the 2nd National Plan for Open Science.<sup>2827</sup> The plan aims to triple the budget for open science from EUR5 million to EUR15 million, with a target of 100 per cent open access publications by 2030. This plan has an international component by contributing to France's commitments to transparency of public action within the framework of the Open Government Partnership, which involves more than 70 countries worldwide, including United Kingdom, United States, Canada, Germany and Italy.<sup>2828</sup>

On 9 August 2021, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change published its Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which French scientists co-authored alongside 250 scientists from over 60 countries.<sup>2829</sup> The report outlined climate change trends and reaffirmed the need to globally reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

On 3 September 2021, France hosted the International Union for Conservation of Nature World Conservation Congress.<sup>2830</sup> 1500 members representing more than 160 states, government agencies, economic development agencies, scientific and university institutions, businesses, civil society and indigenous peoples met in support of biodiversity research and conservation efforts.<sup>2831</sup>

On 15 September 2021, France, Germany, and the United Kingdom announced they were extending their partnership in neutron research.<sup>2832</sup> The three states signed an agreement that extends their longstanding cooperation as the sponsors of the Laue-Langevin Institute from 2024 to 2033. In this new period, the three signatory G7 members expect a total of EUR1 billion in contributions. The extended partnership will continue to grant experts access to world-class neutron radiation research, which has wide-ranging applications in understanding and treating COVID-19, Alzheimer's, and improving batteries for electric cars.

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<sup>2827</sup> INRAE committed to open science, National Institute of Agricultural Research (Paris) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 19 March 2022. <https://www.inrae.fr/en/inrae-committed-open-science>

<sup>2828</sup> The Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, Frédérique Vidal, announces a 2<sup>nd</sup> National Plan for Open Science, Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation (Paris) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 19 March 2022. <https://www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/fr/la-ministre-de-l-enseignement-superieur-de-la-recherche-et-de-l-innovation-frederique-vidal-annonce-48548>

<sup>2829</sup> France welcomes the publication of the first volume of the IPCC's Sixth Assessment Report - Press release (9 August 2021), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 9 August 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/climate-and-environment/news/article/france-welcomes-the-publication-of-the-first-volume-of-the-ipcc-s-sixth>

<sup>2830</sup> World Conservation Congress, International Union for Conservation of Nature (Gland) n.d. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.iucn.org/about/world-conservation-congress>.

<sup>2831</sup> IUCN Director General's statement for the UN Biodiversity Conference, International Union for Conservation of Nature (Gland) 11 October 2021. Access Date: 22 December 2021. <https://www.iucn.org/news/secretariat/202110/iucn-director-generals-statement-un-biodiversity-conference>

<sup>2832</sup> Germany, France, and the United Kingdom extend their partnership in neutron research, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Berlin) 15 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 December 2021. <https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/shareddocs/pressemitteilungen/de/2021/09/150921-Neutronenforschung.html>

On 28 September 2021, French pharmaceutical company Sanofi announced the halt of its own mRNA-based COVID-19 vaccine development due to the challenges of competing with BioNTech.<sup>2833</sup> Instead, Sanofi will collaborate with British company GlaxoSmithKline to bring another COVID-19 vaccine to the market.

On 2 November 2021, Director of Sustainable Development of the French Space Agency Laurence Monnoyer-Smith and Chief Executive of the UK Space Agency Paul Bate announced MicroCarb, a joint British and French satellite mission intended to monitor atmospheric carbon dioxide.<sup>2834</sup> MicroCarb will become operational in 2023, and will collect data essential to monitoring international efforts to meet Paris Agreement climate targets.

On 18 November 2021, the Ministry of Research of France and the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research launched a series of Franco-German joint projects to strengthen both states' knowledge, technology transfer and cutting-edge research in the field of artificial intelligence (AI).<sup>2835</sup> France and Germany will provide funding worth around EUR12 million to 20 projects that pool research strengths and create the foundation for developing cutting-edge technologies in the two countries. German Federal Minister of Education and Research Anja Karliczek said this was an important contribution to the “development of trustworthy AI made in Europe” and the strengthening of “technological sovereignty.”

On 25 November 2021, France attended the Sixth Ministerial Meeting of the East Mediterranean Gas Forum and committed to engaging governments, businesses, and the private sector to use financing and technologies to reduce carbon emissions.<sup>2836</sup> Ministers present at the meeting also committed to working together to develop joint initiatives for climate action before the 27th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

France has partially complied with its commitment to collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges and drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity. France has demonstrated strong leadership in issues of climate change, the COVID-19 pandemic, biodiversity preservation and green energy initiatives in close collaboration with G7 and foreign countries. However, France has not taken action to call on nations to increase research transparency.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Xiaolong (James) Wang*

### **Germany: 0**

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges and drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity.

On 18 June 2021, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development announced that they will support the Institut Pasteur in Senegal by providing EUR20 million to finance the production of

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<sup>2833</sup> Sanofi ditches mRNA COVID-19 vaccine after rivals' success, Reuters (London) 28 September 2021. Access Date: 24 December 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/business/healthcare-pharmaceuticals/frances-sanofi-announces-positive-update-mrna-based-covid-19-vaccine-candidate-2021-09-28/>

<sup>2834</sup> UK and France reach new agreement on climate change mission, UK Space Agency (Swindon) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 23 December 2021. <https://www.ukspace.org/uk-and-france-reach-new-agreement-on-climate-change-mission/>

<sup>2835</sup> Karliczek: Together with France, we are promoting trustworthy “AI made in Europe”, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Berlin) 18 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 22 December 2021. <https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/shareddocs/pressemitteilungen/de/2021/11/181121-Deu-Frz-KI-Projekte.html>

<sup>2836</sup> 6th EMGF Ministerial Meeting – November 25th, 2021, East Mediterranean Gas Forum (Cairo) 25 November 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. [https://emgf.org/gva\\_event/6th-emgf-ministerial-meeting-november-25th-2021/](https://emgf.org/gva_event/6th-emgf-ministerial-meeting-november-25th-2021/)

COVID-19 vaccines.<sup>2837</sup> The funding will help the Institut utilize science-based approaches to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic by increasing domestic vaccine production potential.

On 25 June 2021, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research of Germany (BMBF) and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada jointly selected ten projects to deepen both countries' collaborative hydrogen research.<sup>2838</sup> The projects aim to lead to findings that advance hydrogen as a major renewable source worldwide, putting Canada and Germany at the forefront of the new green hydrogen economy and fight against climate change. These projects also set a precedent for future joint activities, as agreed at the Cornwall G7 summit between Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Chancellor Angela Merkel.

On 30 June 2021, Germany and the United Kingdom issued a joint declaration of intent on German-British foreign policy cooperation.<sup>2839</sup> Both states agreed on a shared global responsibility to deepen their cooperation on artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, climate change and COVID-19. Germany and the United Kingdom committed to promoting a multilateral approach to address these global issues, primarily by using international organizations and agreements as the "leading and coordinating authority."

On 16 July 2021, the Government of Germany contributed to the drafting of a proposal adopted by the European Commission for a "Council Recommendation on 'A Pact for Research and Innovation in Europe.'"<sup>2840</sup> The Pact will update policy coordination and monitoring for EU Member States regarding the best practices for exchanging research.

On 21 July 2021, Germany and the United States launched the German-American Climate and Energy Partnership.<sup>2841</sup> The partnership seeks to encourage close collaboration on research and action plans to reduce domestic emissions and aid emerging countries in their energy transition efforts. Particularly, the German-American partnership aims to support Central and Eastern European countries in tackling climate change. Both states pledged investments of at least USD1 billion in Ukraine to promote renewables, facilitate the development of hydrogen-powered energy, accelerate coal phase-out and support carbon neutrality.

On 25 August 2021, Finance Minister Olaf Scholz announced the federal government's intention to create an international climate club.<sup>2842</sup> The club aims to give the implementation of the Paris Agreement an additional boost internationally by ensuring states commit to ambitious climate goals and take appropriate measures. The club would define minimum standards and promote coordinated climate protection between states. This initiative also serves as an invitation to scientists across borders to get involved in the club's design.

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<sup>2837</sup> Minister Müller and Institut Pasteur give the go-ahead for setting up corona vaccine production in Africa, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 18 June 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 March 2022. <https://www.bmz.de/de/aktuelles/archiv-aktuelle-meldungen/aufbau-einer-corona-impfstoffproduktion-in-afrika-84088>

<sup>2838</sup> Strong impetus for the German-Canadian hydrogen cooperation, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Berlin) 25 June 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 15 December 2021.

<https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/shareddocs/pressemitteilungen/de/starke-impulse-fuer-die-deutsch-adische-wasserstoffkooperation.html>

<sup>2839</sup> Joint declaration of intent by Foreign Minister Heiko Maas and British Foreign Minister Dominic Raab on German-British foreign policy cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Berlin) 30 June 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/gbr-joint-declaration/2468906>

<sup>2840</sup> Commission adopts proposals for a Pact for Research and Innovation in Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 8 March 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-adopts-proposal-pact-research-and-innovation-europe-2021-jul-16\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-adopts-proposal-pact-research-and-innovation-europe-2021-jul-16_en)

<sup>2841</sup> Joint statement of USA and Germany in support of Ukraine, European energy security and our climate goals, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Berlin) 21 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/gemeinsame-erklaerung-usa-und-deutschland/2472074>

<sup>2842</sup> Federal government wants to found international climate club, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 25 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 December 2021.

<https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Pressemitteilungen/Finanzpolitik/2021/08/20210825-bundesregierung-will-internationalen-klimaclub-gruenden.html>

On 23 September 2021, Foreign Minister Heiko Maas called on all members of the Alliance for Multilateralism to promote a strong, inclusive and effective multilateral system to tackle global health and climate challenges.<sup>2843</sup> Minister Maas stressed the advantages of cooperation in the fight against the pandemic and urged other states to participate in international mechanisms like the World Health Organization's COVAX and the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator.

On 27 September 2021, the Foreign Ministry hosted the Third Berlin Conference on Climate and Security.<sup>2844</sup> With the participation of eight Foreign Ministers and State Secretaries, the 2021 Berlin Climate and Security Conference served as a platform to strengthen collaboration, research, and innovation between states to address climate change and its related drivers of conflict and instability.<sup>2845</sup> Foreign Ministers, State Secretaries and partner organizations shared best practices to inform multilateral, regional, and local approaches to forward-looking and preventive policymaking.

On 15 September 2021, Germany, France, and the United Kingdom announced they were extending their partnership in neutron research.<sup>2846</sup> The three states signed an agreement that extends their longstanding cooperation as the sponsors of the Laue-Langevin Institute from 2024 to 2033. In this new period, the three signatory G7 members expect a total of EUR1 billion in contributions. The extended partnership will continue to grant experts access to world-class neutron radiation research, which has wide-ranging applications in understanding and treating COVID-19, Alzheimer's, and improving batteries for electric cars.

On 2 November 2021, the Federal Foreign Office hosted a digital conference on climate, peace and security.<sup>2847</sup> The conference was a high-level side event at COP26 that built multilateral momentum to establish principles for climate action to advance peace and stability.<sup>2848</sup> Speakers highlighted the importance of "cross-border, cross-sector, and multilateral projects" and stressed the need to accelerate "agricultural innovation and forecast-based financing." State Secretary of the Federal Foreign Office Miguel Berger announced a substantive multilateral initiative to bring together experts and drive forward research, innovation and joint action on climate, peace and stability.<sup>2849</sup>

On 8 November 2021, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development announced more robust support for climate change adaptation in developing countries following the COP26 in Glasgow.<sup>2850</sup> Germany committed a total of EUR150 million, of which EUR100 million will be devoted to the Global

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<sup>2843</sup> #Multilateralism Matters: Ministerial meeting of the Alliance for Multilateralism, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Berlin) 23 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 22 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/aussenpolitik/-/2484204>

<sup>2844</sup> Welcome address by Foreign Minister Heiko Maas at the opening of the Third Berlin Conference on Climate and Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Berlin) 27 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/-/2483630>

<sup>2845</sup> Summary: Berlin Climate and Security Conference 2021, Berlin Climate and Security Conference (Berlin) 8 October 2021. Access Date: 16 December 2021. <https://berlin-climate-security-conference.de/>

<sup>2846</sup> Germany, France, and the United Kingdom extend their partnership in neutron research, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Berlin) 15 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 December 2021. <https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/shareddocs/pressemitteilungen/de/2021/09/150921-Neutronenforschung.html>

<sup>2847</sup> World Climate Conference: The security policy effects of climate change in focus, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Berlin) 31 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/aussenpolitik/themen/klima/cop26/2493334>

<sup>2848</sup> Climate, Peace and Stability: Weathering Risk Through COP and Beyond, Weathering Risk (Berlin) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 16 December 2021. <https://weatheringrisk.org/en/event/climate-peace-and-stability-weathering-risk-through-cop-and-beyond>

<sup>2849</sup> World Climate Conference: The security policy effects of climate change in focus, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Berlin) 31 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/aussenpolitik/themen/klima/cop26/2493334>

<sup>2850</sup> Germany is supporting the Adaptation Fund with €50 million, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 8 November 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. [https://www.international-climate-initiative.com/en/news/article/germany\\_is\\_supporting\\_the\\_adaptation\\_fund\\_with\\_eur50\\_million](https://www.international-climate-initiative.com/en/news/article/germany_is_supporting_the_adaptation_fund_with_eur50_million)

Environment Facility fund for least developed countries and EUR50 million to the Adaptation Fund. Development Minister Gerd Müller stated that “Germany is leading the way” and other countries “must now follow suit,” including G7 members.

On 18 November 2021, the BMBF and the Ministry of Research of France launched a series of Franco-German joint projects to strengthen both states’ knowledge, technology transfer and cutting-edge research in the field of artificial intelligence (AI).<sup>2851</sup> Germany and France will provide funding worth around EUR12 million to 20 projects that pool research strengths and create the foundation for developing cutting-edge technologies in the two countries. Minister Karliczek said this was an important contribution to the “development of trustworthy AI made in Europe” and the strengthening of “technological sovereignty.”

On 23 November 2021, Minister Maas highlighted Germany’s pursuit of multilateral solutions as a cornerstone of the country’s foreign policy.<sup>2852</sup> Minister Maas stressed Germany’s significant contribution to the vaccination program COVAX, now totalling EUR2.2 billion and 100 million vaccine doses, making Germany the second-largest supporter worldwide of this initiative.

On 1 December 2021, the BMBF announced the beginning of research at the International Green Hydrogen Future Laboratory.<sup>2853</sup> Minister Karliczek stressed the importance of green hydrogen as an alternative renewable energy source to tackle climate change. The Laboratory will bring together researchers from Europe, North America, South America and Australia for up to three years to develop technologies for the clean production of green hydrogen.

On 20 December 2021, Chancellor Olaf Scholz announced a joint plan of action between Germany and Italy to deepen bilateral relations with respect to COVID-19, climate change, digitalization, and security.<sup>2854</sup> The plan for bilateral cooperation emphasizes the imperative of collaboration between both states to achieve high vaccination rates, investment in modern technologies, successful digitalization and economic strength and competitiveness.

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges and drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity. While Germany has taken actions to collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges – such as COVID-19, climate change, and security – with other G7 members, it has fallen short in driving innovation by calling on other states to increase their research transparency and integrity.

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Daniel Corredor Llorente*

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<sup>2851</sup> Karliczek: Together with France, we are promoting trustworthy “AI made in Europe”, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Berlin) 18 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 22 December 2021.

<https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/shareddocs/pressemitteilungen/de/2021/11/181121-Deu-Frz-KI-Projekte.html>

<sup>2852</sup> Opening speech by Foreign Minister Heiko Maas at the Berlin Foreign Policy Forum of the Körber Foundation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Berlin) 23 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 December 2021.

<https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/maas-koerber/2497280>

<sup>2853</sup> Karliczek: International future laboratory researches new climate-neutral technologies for the production of green hydrogen, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Berlin) 1 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 22 December 2021. <https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/shareddocs/pressemitteilungen/de/2021/12/011221-IZGW.html>

<sup>2854</sup> “We are firmly committed to fighting the coronavirus pandemic together,” The Federal Government (Berlin) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 26 December 2021. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/bk-scholz-italy-1992640>

## Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges and drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity.

On 31 October 2021, Italy and the United Kingdom co-hosted the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) as part of a Presidency Partnership.<sup>2855</sup> The conference refined the UN's 2030 agenda and the Paris Agreement for all participating countries.<sup>2856</sup> Participating countries also committed to accelerating the transition to zero emission vehicles and called on all developed countries to improve collaboration to facilitate a global transition to these vehicles.

On 25 November 2021, the Italian Ambassador in Cairo Giampaolo Cantini attended the 6th Ministerial Meeting for the East Mediterranean Gas Forum (EMGF).<sup>2857</sup> The ministers endorsed the EMGF 2022 budget and agreed to work together towards co-developing joint initiatives for climate action. The meeting was also attended by the Cypriot, Egyptian, Greek, Israeli, Jordanian and Palestinian Ministers of Energy, as well as French Director General for Global Affairs, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne as heads of delegations of the EMGF member countries. The European Union and United States attended as observers.<sup>2858</sup>

On 26 November 2021, Italy and France signed space cooperation and energy agreements as part of the Enhancement Cooperation Treaty.<sup>2859</sup> The treaty aims to strengthen cooperation in the energy, technology and space fields.<sup>2860</sup>

On 3 December 2021, Prime Minister Mario Draghi attended the Rome Med-Mediterranean Dialogues.<sup>2861</sup> Draghi urged Mediterranean countries to form a “joint energy policy” and promote the development of renewables including wind and solar power by using their extensive gas reserves. He also encouraged Mediterranean countries to “go beyond bilateral relations” and increase collaboration to address climate change.

On 20 December 2021, Prime Minister Draghi met with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz to discuss the COVID-19 pandemic, economic recovery and climate change.<sup>2862</sup> Both parties agreed to boost cooperation in

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<sup>2855</sup> The UK-Italy Partnership, UN Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (London) n.d. Access Date: 15 January 2022.

<https://ukcop26.org/pre-cop/>

<sup>2856</sup> COP26 Declaration on Accelerating The Transition To 100% Zero Emission Cars And Vans, UN Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (London) 11 October 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://ukcop26.org/cop26-declaration-on-accelerating-the-transition-to-100-zero-emission-cars-and-vans/>

<sup>2857</sup> 6th EMGF Ministerial Meeting, East Mediterranean Gas Forum (Cairo) 25 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. [https://emgf.org/gva\\_event/6th-emgf-ministerial-meeting-november-25th-2021/](https://emgf.org/gva_event/6th-emgf-ministerial-meeting-november-25th-2021/)

<sup>2858</sup> Speech of Eng. Tarek El Molla, Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, at the Sixth Ministerial Meeting of the East Mediterranean Gas Forum (EMGF), Ministry of Petroleum & Mineral Resources (Cairo) 25 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. [https://www.petroleum.gov.eg/en/media-center/news/news-pages/Pages/mop\\_25112021\\_01.aspx](https://www.petroleum.gov.eg/en/media-center/news/news-pages/Pages/mop_25112021_01.aspx)

<sup>2859</sup> Joint press statements by PM Draghi and President Macron, Italian Government (Rome) 26 November 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/joint-press-statements-pm-draghi-and-president-macron/18669>

<sup>2860</sup> Italy and France sign agreement on space launchers, Reuters (London) 27 November 2021. Access Date: 29 November 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/lifestyle/science/italy-france-sign-agreement-space-launchers-2021-11-26/>

<sup>2861</sup> Prime Minister Draghi's address at the 'Rome Med-Mediterranean Dialogues' opening ceremony, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 3 December 2021. Access Date: 24 December 2021. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/prime-minister-draghi-s-address-rome-med-mediterranean-dialogues-opening-ceremony/18732>

<sup>2862</sup> PM Draghi meets with Chancellor Scholz, introduction by Prime Minister Draghi, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 24 December 2021. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/pm-draghi-meets-chancellor-scholz-introduction-prime-minister-draghi/18863>



science, technology and research in fields such as “hydrogen, microelectronics and batteries for electric cars” to fight against climate change and promote digital transition.

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges and drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity. Italy collaborated with G7 members and Mediterranean countries on research relating to the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change. As a co-host of COP26, Italy also expressed its willingness to cooperate with foreign countries on sustainability issues. However, Italy did not call on nations to increase their research transparency and integrity.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Xiaolong (James) Wang*

### **Japan: 0**

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges and drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity.

On 22 June 2021, Minister of Economy, Trade, and Industry Hiroshi Kajiyama announced the launch of the Asia carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS) Network.<sup>2863</sup> This platform will allow for the sharing of knowledge across industry, academia and government for the use of CCUS methods across Asia.

On 8 July 2021, the Government of Japan and the International Atomic Energy Agency signed a Terms of Reference (TOR) regarding the management of Advanced Liquid Processing System treated water from Tokyo Electric Power Company’s Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station.<sup>2864</sup> The TOR are intended to increase the transparency of water treatment for the international community based on environmental monitoring and review missions.

On 11 August 2021, Director General of the Trade Policy Bureau Matsuo Takehiko and Director General of the Trade and Economic Cooperation Bureau Iida Yoichi signed a memorandum of cooperation with Thailand’s Ministry of Digital Economy and Society’s Digital Economy Promotion Agency and the Ministry of Industry’s Department of Industrial Promotion.<sup>2865</sup> The memorandum confirms cooperation for promoting Lean IoT Plant Management and Execution, a human resource development project that improves productivity through technology and increases Thailand’s manufacturing capacity through sustainable methods.

On 27 October 2021, the Ministry of Environment and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) established a new ASEAN-Japan climate action agenda.<sup>2866</sup> The agenda aims to make climate change a core aspect of ASEAN climate action and increase cooperation. The agenda is based on the use of transparency, mitigation, and adaptation, for decarbonization.

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<sup>2863</sup> “Asia CCUS Network” has launched, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0622\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0622_001.html)

<sup>2864</sup> The Government of Japan signed on IAEA's support for handling of ALPS treated water at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0709\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0709_001.html)

<sup>2865</sup> METI and Thailand's Ministry of Industry and Ministry of Digital Economy and Society Sign a Memorandum of Cooperation toward Promoting LIPE, Which Will Help Achieve Thailand 4.0, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 11 August 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0811\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0811_001.html)

<sup>2866</sup> Outcome of the Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting on Environmental Cooperation, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 27 October 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. <https://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2547.html>

On 10 November 2021, the Ministry of the Environment and the United States Office of Special Presidential Envoy for Climate announced an initiative for Global Subnational Zero Carbon promotion.<sup>2867</sup> The project aims for both countries to cooperate to promote climate action globally for a decarbonized society.

On 10 January 2022, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Hagiuda Koichii announced the ASIA-Japan Investing for the Future Initiative.<sup>2868</sup> The initiative aims to enhance economic cooperation within Asia through future investment for the post-pandemic era. It also aims to increase the importance of sustainability in rural and urban areas and promote innovation to address climate change and urbanization.

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges and drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity. Japan has collaborated with other countries on science-based responses to global challenges, such as climate change, by entering into bilateral agreements aimed at meeting climate targets. However, Japan has failed to drive innovation through increased transparency and integrity.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Fiorella Maria Gaveglione-Fernandez*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges and drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity.

On 18 June 2021, the UK's Centre for the Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas) committed to providing marine pollution expertise to Sri Lanka following the X-Press Pearl container vessel fire.<sup>2869</sup> Cefas will collaborate with Sri Lankan emergency response teams to analyze the consequences for marine and coastal habitats and help prepare them to avoid future incidents. This collaboration will allow for the protection of the marine environment and mitigation of the fire's short-term impacts.

On 30 June 2021, the UK and Germany issued a joint declaration of intent on German-British foreign policy cooperation.<sup>2870</sup> Both states agreed on a shared global responsibility to deepen their cooperation on artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, climate change and COVID-19. The UK and Germany committed to promoting a multilateral approach to address these global issues, primarily by using international organizations and agreements as the "leading and coordinating authority."

On 6 July 2021, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency published improved Development Safety Update Reports alongside Health Canada.<sup>2871</sup> The report aims to improve the safety of

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<sup>2867</sup> Announcement of launch of "Global Subnational Zero Carbon Promotion Initiative" by Japan and United States of America, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 19 November 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. <https://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2558.html>

<sup>2868</sup> ASIA-Japan Investing for the Future Initiative Announced, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 10 January 2022. Access Date: 16 January 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/0110\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/0110_001.html)

<sup>2869</sup> UK Government marine experts to support Sri Lanka with X-press Pearl pollution response, Centre for Environment Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Lowestoft) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-marine-experts-to-support-sri-lanka-with-x-press-pearl-pollution-response>

<sup>2870</sup> Joint declaration of intent by Foreign Minister Heiko Maas and British Foreign Minister Dominic Raab on German-British foreign policy cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Berlin) 30 June 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/gbr-joint-declaration/2468906>

<sup>2871</sup> MHRA releases guidance in collaboration with Health Canada to improve patient safety in clinical trials through improving the quality of Development Safety Update Reports, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (London) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 23 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mhra-releases-guidance-in-collaboration-with-health-canada-to-improve-patient-safety-in-clinical-trials-through-improving-the-quality-of-development-s>

patients in clinical trials globally to increase trial transparency and thus improve the quality of international research.

On 15 September 2021, Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced the launch of AUKUS, a security partnership with the UK, Australia and the United States.<sup>2872</sup> The partnership aims to enhance technology sharing, promote integration of defense-related science, technology and supply chains.

On 15 September 2021, the UK, France, and Germany announced they were extending their partnership in neutron research.<sup>2873</sup> The three states signed an agreement that extends their longstanding cooperation as the sponsors of the Laue-Langevin Institute from 2024 to 2033. In this new period, the three signatory G7 members expect a total of EUR1 billion in contributions. The extended partnership will continue to grant experts access to world-class neutron radiation research, which has wide-ranging applications in understanding and treating COVID-19, Alzheimer's, and improving batteries for electric cars.

On 16 September 2021, Prime Minister Johnson established a Partnership for the Future with the Prince of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan.<sup>2874</sup> The partnership will promote sustainable prosperity through agreements among oil and energy companies for decarbonization and the exchange of technologies and knowledge.

On 29 October 2021, the UK Intellectual Property Office launched a consultation on how the copyright and patent system should deal with Artificial Intelligence (AI).<sup>2875</sup> The consultation seeks to create a framework that encourages innovation in AI, while preserving intellectual property rights.

From 31 October to 13 November 2021, the UK and Italy co-hosted the United Nations Climate Change Conference as part of a Presidency Partnership.<sup>2876</sup> The conference refined the UN's 2030 agenda and the Paris Agreement for all participating countries.<sup>2877</sup> Participating countries also committed to accelerating the transition to zero emission vehicles and called on all developed countries to improve collaboration to facilitate a global transition to these vehicles.

On 2 November 2021, the UK Space Agency provided funding for MicroCarb, a joint British and French satellite mission intended to monitor atmospheric carbon dioxide.<sup>2878</sup> The UK will commit a further GBP3.9 million to measure greenhouse gas emissions caused by human activity.

On 2 November 2021, Prime Minister Johnson and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Green Grids Initiative.<sup>2879</sup> The initiative aims to accelerate the transition towards renewable energy sources

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<sup>2872</sup> UK, US and Australia launch new security partnership, Prime Minister's Office (London) 15 September 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-us-and-australia-launch-new-security-partnership>

<sup>2873</sup> Germany, France, and the United Kingdom extend their partnership in neutron research, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Berlin) 15 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 December 2021. <https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/shareddocs/pressemitteilungen/de/2021/09/150921-Neutronenforschung.html>

<sup>2874</sup> United Kingdom – United Arab Emirates Joint Communiqué: a Partnership for the Future, Prime Minister's Office (London) 16 September 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/united-kingdom-united-arab-emirates-joint-communique-a-partnership-for-the-future>

<sup>2875</sup> Artificial Intelligence and IP: Consultation on copyright and patents legislation, Intellectual Property Office (Newport) 29 October 2021. Access Date: 23 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/artificial-intelligenceand-ip-consultation-on-copyright-and-patents-legislation>

<sup>2876</sup> The UK-Italy Partnership, UN Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (London) n.d. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://ukcop26.org/pre-cop/>

<sup>2877</sup> COP26 Declaration on Accelerating The Transition To 100% Zero Emission Cars And Vans, UN Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (London) 11 October 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://ukcop26.org/cop26-declaration-on-accelerating-the-transition-to-100-zero-emission-cars-and-vans/>

<sup>2878</sup> UK and France reach new agreement on climate change mission, UK Space Agency (Swindon) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 23 December 2021. <https://www.ukspace.org/uk-and-france-reach-new-agreement-on-climate-change-mission/>

and increase the interconnectivity of electricity grids worldwide. The initiative will bring together governments and businesses who will collaborate to provide global access to sustainable energy.

On 2 November 2021, Foreign Secretary Liz Truss announced GBP110 million of financial support to the ASEAN Catalytic Green Finance Facility.<sup>2880</sup> The funds will provide Southeast Asian countries with the necessary infrastructure to develop sustainable infrastructure projects such as renewable energy and clean transportation.

On 4 November 2021, the UK signed a joint statement of intent with the United States to increase collaboration on quantum science and technologies.<sup>2881</sup> The statement outlined priorities for joint research and noted the ability of quantum technologies to revolutionize medical diagnosis, drug discovery and cyber security.

On 4 November 2021, Minister for Africa Vicky Ford and Zambian Minister for Foreign Affairs Stanley K. Kakubo signed the Green Growth Compact.<sup>2882</sup> The compact will drive investment and trade between the UK and Zambia and will create the opportunity for collaboration among regarding research and innovation for renewable energy, urban planning and development.

On 8 November 2021, Minister for Asia Amanda Milling announced that the UK would be providing GBP274 million to the Climate Action for Resilient Asia (CARA) programme.<sup>2883</sup> CARA aims to help people adapt to climate change and funds projects that conserve biodiversity. Minister Milling emphasized that climate change “does not respect borders” and discussed collaboration with governments to promote low carbon growth and resilience to climate change.

On 15 November 2021, International Trade Secretary Marie Trevelyan announced that the UK would provide over GBP217 million to Turkey’s largest solar facility.<sup>2884</sup> Once completed, the facility will deliver clean energy to over 2 million Turkish households and will aid Turkey in its transition towards green energy.

On 29 November 2021, the Central Digital and Data Office launched an “algorithmic transparency standard” for government departments and public sector organizations.<sup>2885</sup> The standard aims to strengthen the UK’s position as a leader in trustworthy AI by managing the potential for bias in algorithmic decision making and supports other UK organizations in advocating for AI transparency and trustworthiness.

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<sup>2879</sup> UK and India launch new grids initiative to deliver clean power to the world, Prime Minister's Office (London) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-india-launch-new-grids-initiative-to-deliver-clean-power-to-the-world>

<sup>2880</sup> Truss announces major investment in clean infrastructure in Asia, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/truss-announces-major-investment-in-clean-infrastructure-in-asia>

<sup>2881</sup> New joint statement between UK and US to strengthen quantum collaboration, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-joint-statement-between-uk-and-us-to-strengthen-quantum-collaboration>

<sup>2882</sup> Green Growth Compact agreement between the UK and Zambia, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 5 November 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/green-growth-compact-agreement-between-the-uk-and-zambia>

<sup>2883</sup> UK announces £274m boost to climate resilience across Indo-Pacific, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 8 November 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-274m-boost-to-climate-resilience-across-indo-pacific>

<sup>2884</sup> UK to provide £217 million for Turkish solar project, UK Export Finance (London) 15 November 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-provide-217-million-for-turkish-solar-project>

<sup>2885</sup> UK government publishes pioneering standard for algorithmic transparency, Central Digital and Data Office (London) 29 November 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-publishes-pioneering-standard-for-algorithmic-transparency>

On 8 December 2021, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport announced the UK's collaboration with the United States on a bilateral innovation prize challenges to advance privacy-enhancing technologies.<sup>2886</sup> The challenge aims to build on the innovation already existing in this area and use the power of emerging technologies to deal with global issues such as COVID-19 while protecting “privacy, accountability, and transparency.”

On 21 December 2021, the UK signed an agreement with the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) to address the information gap for space-related climate actions.<sup>2887</sup> The agreement aims to facilitate coherence of activities using space for climate action, such as satellites measuring carbon emissions and deforestation and strengthening the space sector's contribution to climate change.

On 12 January 2022, the Alan Turing Institute, supported by the British Standards Institution and the National Physical Laboratory, was selected to launch the AI Standards Hub.<sup>2888</sup> The Hub aims to shape global AI technical standards and increasing the UK's contribution to those standards, which will help the UK harness the power of AI and use it to support innovation.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges and drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity. The UK has collaborated with G7 members and African and East Asian countries on initiatives addressing climate and health issues. The UK has also shown its commitment to transparency and integrity in innovation through regulation of rapidly emerging technologies including AI.

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

*Analyst: Fiorella Maria Gaviglio-Fernández*

### **United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges and drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity.

On 15 June 2021, the US National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) agreed to renew its cooperation with the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC).<sup>2889</sup> The NIST and JRC will work together over the next five years in eight fields including environment and climate, food safety and healthcare measurements to implement objectives that will help various nations face future challenges.

On 21 July 2021, the US and Germany launched the German-American Climate and Energy Partnership.<sup>2890</sup> The partnership seeks to encourage close collaboration on research and action plans to reduce domestic emissions and aid emerging countries in their energy transition efforts. Particularly, the German-American

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<sup>2886</sup> US and UK to partner on prize challenges to advance Privacy-Enhancing Technologies, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 23 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/us-and-uk-to-partner-on-prize-challenges-to-advance-privacy-enhancing-technologies>

<sup>2887</sup> UNOOSA and United Kingdom sign agreement to map global space-related climate action efforts, United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (Vienna) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 29 January 2022. <https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/informationfor/media/2021-unis-os-563.html>

<sup>2888</sup> New UK initiative to shape global standards for Artificial Intelligence, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 12 January 2022. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-initiative-to-shape-global-standards-for-artificial-intelligence>

<sup>2889</sup> New arrangement boosts EU-US science cooperation to support innovation, European Commission (Brussels) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/news/new-arrangement-boosts-eu-us-science-cooperation-support-innovation>

<sup>2890</sup> Joint statement of USA and Germany in support of Ukraine, European energy security and our climate goals, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Berlin) 21 July 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/gemeinsame-erklaerung-usa-und-deutschland/2472074>

partnership aims to support Central and Eastern European countries in tackling climate change. Both states pledged investments of at least US\$1 billion in Ukraine to promote renewables, facilitate the development of hydrogen-powered energy, accelerate coal phase-out and support carbon neutrality.

On 15 September 2021, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced the launch of AUKUS, a security partnership with United Kingdom, Australia and the United States.<sup>2891</sup> The partnership aims to enhance technology sharing, promote integration of defense-related science, technology and supply chains.

On 3 November, Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo met with Canada's Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry François-Philippe Champagne to outline a plan to increase cross-border COVID-19 collaboration between the US and Canada.<sup>2892</sup> Under the plan, Raimondo and Champagne agreed to share approaches on enhancing security of software supply chains and expand work on net-zero industrial transformation and renewable energy sources.

On 3 November 2021, European Union Commissioner for Agriculture Janusz Wojciechowski and United States Secretary of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced a joint statement on a newly created transatlantic collaboration platform on agriculture.<sup>2893</sup> In the statement, the two members reaffirmed EU-U.S. collaboration to address global challenges by developing sustainable and climate-smart agricultural production.

On 4 November 2021, the US government issued a joint statement with the UK addressing cooperation between the NIST and UK National Physical Laboratory on quantum science and technology.<sup>2894</sup> The two nations aim to increase their collaboration on quantum technologies, which have the potential to "revolutionize everything" and protect the changing environment.

On 10 November 2021, the US Office of Special Presidential Envoy for Climate and Japan's Ministry of the Environment announced an initiative for Global Subnational Zero Carbon promotion.<sup>2895</sup> The project aims for both countries to cooperate to promote climate action globally for a decarbonized society.

On 6 January 2022, the US government signed a defense collaboration deal with Japan.<sup>2896</sup> The deal aims to counter emerging defense threats to space and cyber through joint investments and innovation by the US and Japan. Scientists and engineers from both countries will be able to collaborate to address defense issues.<sup>2897</sup>

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<sup>2891</sup> UK, US and Australia launch new security partnership, Prime Minister's Office (London) 15 September 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-us-and-australia-launch-new-security-partnership>

<sup>2892</sup> Joint Readout on Cooperation between the U.S. Department of Commerce and Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada, U.S. Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 3 November 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/11/joint-readout-cooperation-between-us-department-commerce-and-innovation>

<sup>2893</sup> U.S., EU Launch Collaboration Platform on Agriculture, Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 3 November 2021. Access Date: 19 December 2021. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2021/11/03/us-eu-launch-collaboration-platform-agriculture>

<sup>2894</sup> The United States and United Kingdom Issue Joint Statement to Enhance Cooperation on Quantum Information Science and Technology, The White House (Washington D.C.) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/news-updates/2021/11/04/the-united-states-and-united-kingdom-issue-joint-statement-to-enhance-cooperation-on-quantum-information-science-and-technology/>

<sup>2895</sup> Announcement of launch of "Global Subnational Zero Carbon Promotion Initiative" by Japan and United States of America, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 19 November 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. <https://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2558.html>

<sup>2896</sup> Joint Statement of the U.S.-Japan Security Consultative Committee ("2+2"), U.S. Department of Defense (Washington D.C.) 6 January 2022. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/2891314/joint-statement-of-the-us-japan-security-consultative-committee-22/>

<sup>2897</sup> US, Japan to Launch New Defense Research and Development Agreement, Voice of America (Washington D.C.) 6 January 2022. Access Date: 30 January 2022. <https://www.voanews.com/a/us-japan-to-launch-new-defense-research-and-development-agreement-/6386408.html>

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges and drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity. The US has taken strong actions to collaborate on scientific-based research to solve global issues with G7 members. However, the US has not called on other countries to increase their research transparency and integrity.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Qianai Cheng*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges and drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity.

On 14 June 2021, the European Commission launched 11 new European partnerships to boost investments in research and innovation and make Europe the first climate-neutral continent.<sup>2898</sup> The partnerships feature a “twin green and digital transition” to advance digitalization alongside decarbonization and receive EUR22 billion from private partners and EU member states. The partnerships will “tackle emissions from energy-intensive industries” and develop and supply “high-performance batteries, sustainable fuels, artificial intelligence tools, data technologies, robotics and more.”

On 16 June 2021, the European Commission adopted the roadmap of Horizon Europe for the 2021-2022 period.<sup>2899</sup> The roadmap outlines the objectives and specific topic areas that will receive EUR14.7 billion in funding for research and development. EUR5.8 billion will be invested in research and innovation to support the European Green Deal; EUR4 billion will be invested in digital tools and research to maximize innovations in healthcare, green energy and food production; EUR1.9 billion will be directed to the modernization of healthcare systems and the improvement of research capacities for COVID-19 vaccine development. The roadmap also dedicates actions to deepen the EU’s cooperation with other states through multilateral initiatives in biodiversity preservation, ocean research and global health.

On 15 July 2021, the European Parliament Committee on Industry, Research and Energy Committee adopted new rules to boost data sharing across the EU.<sup>2900</sup> The new rules in the EU Data Governance Act aim to increase trust in data sharing and facilitate the re-use of data held by public institutions, including certain health, agricultural and environmental data previously unavailable. According to Members of the European Parliament (MEPs), enhanced data sharing can help create new products and innovations in the EU, unlocking the potential of research centres, start-ups and businesses in fields like artificial intelligence, climate change and healthcare.

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<sup>2898</sup> Commission and industry invest €22 billion in new European Partnerships to deliver solutions to major societal challenges, European Commission (Brussels) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 19 December 2021.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_2943](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_2943)

<sup>2899</sup> Commission to invest €14.7 billion from Horizon Europe for a healthier, greener and more digital Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 16 June 2021. Access Date: 19 December 2021.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_2993](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_2993)

<sup>2900</sup> Data governance: new rules to boost data sharing across the EU, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210708IPR08014/data-governance-new-rules-to-boost-data-sharing-across-the-eu>

On 16 July 2021, the European Commission adopted a proposal for a “Council Recommendation on ‘A Pact for Research and Innovation in Europe.’”<sup>2901</sup> The Pact will update policy coordination and monitoring for EU Member States regarding the best practices for exchanging research.

On 22 July 2021, the European Commission announced EUR120 million in research funding for projects tackling COVID-19 and its variants.<sup>2902</sup> The Commission short-listed 11 projects involving 312 research teams from 40 countries, including 38 participants from 23 countries outside the EU. The projects will support clinical trials for new treatments and vaccines, develop a network of experts within and outside of Europe, widen access to research infrastructure and share data, expertise and resources across borders. The projects will also “maximize synergies” at all levels of government and avoid the “duplication of research efforts,” enabling the EU and other countries to better tackle the ongoing pandemic and anticipate future ones.

On 15 September 2021, the European Parliament extended the mandate of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control.<sup>2903</sup> The renewed mandate asks that EU member states “develop national preparedness and response plans, and provide timely, comparable and high-quality data.” According to MEPs, this legislative initiative strengthens the EU’s crisis prevention, preparedness, and response to ongoing and future cross-border health threats. It also calls for increased cooperation and the exchange of information, expertise and best practices between member states in addressing global health challenges.

On 28 September 2021, the Council of the European Union adopted a global approach to research and innovation.<sup>2904</sup> Ministers of all EU member states agreed on the importance of rules-based multilateral cooperation and dialogue to address social, environmental, health, digital and economic challenges. Ministers also identified openness and international cooperation with third countries as “essential factors” in driving forward research and innovation. Ministers committed to mobilizing science, technology and innovation and tailoring the EU’s bilateral cooperation in research and innovation in an open manner.

On 29 September 2021, the European Commission launched five collaborative missions to tackle global health and climate challenges.<sup>2905</sup> The missions support research and innovations to deliver on the Commission’s main priorities by 2030 and are funded by Horizon Europe’s EUR95.5 billion budget.<sup>2906</sup> The Adaptation to Climate Change mission aims to support at least 150 European regions to become climate resilient, the Cancer mission aims to improve the lives of more than 3 million people via prevention and treatment, the Restore our Oceans and Waters mission aims to protect Europe’s marine ecosystems, the Climate-neutral and smart cities mission aim to deliver 100 climate-positive European cities and the Soil Deal for Europe mission aims to secure healthy soils in Europe via 100 living labs and lighthouses.

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<sup>2901</sup> Commission adopts proposals for a Pact for Research and Innovation in Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 8 March 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-adopts-proposal-pact-research-and-innovation-europe-2021-jul-16\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-adopts-proposal-pact-research-and-innovation-europe-2021-jul-16_en)

<sup>2902</sup> Coronavirus: Commission steps up research funding with €120 million for 11 new projects to tackle the virus and its variants, European Commission (Brussels) 22 July 2021. Access Date: 19 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3803](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3803)

<sup>2903</sup> European Health Union: better disease prevention and cross-border cooperation, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 15 September 2021. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210910IPR11907/european-health-union-better-disease-prevention-and-cross-border-cooperation>

<sup>2904</sup> Council agrees on a global approach to research and innovation, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 28 September 2021. Access Date: 19 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/09/28/council-agrees-on-a-global-approach-to-research-and-innovation/>

<sup>2905</sup> Commission launches EU missions to tackle major challenges, European Commission (Brussels) 29 September 2021. Access Date: 19 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_4747](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4747)

<sup>2906</sup> Horizon Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 29 April 2021. Date Access: 19 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en)



On 14 October 2021, the European Commission’s Innovation Council announced funding for start-ups working on breakthrough innovations that address global challenges.<sup>2907</sup> The Council selected 65 start-ups and small and medium-sized enterprises from 16 countries. Together, these companies will receive EUR363 million in funding to develop and scale up breakthrough innovations in healthcare, digital technologies, energy, biotechnology and space. These companies were selected under the guidelines of Horizon Europe—the EU program for research and innovation—and the European Innovation Council Accelerator.

On 21 October 2021, the European Parliament demanded more transparent COVID-19 vaccine policies in the EU.<sup>2908</sup> In a new resolution, the European Parliament called for legislation to make the “process of researching, purchasing and distributing COVID-19 vaccines more transparent.” According to MEPs, more transparency could help counter vaccine hesitancy and disinformation in the continent, which are obstacles in the fight against COVID-19.

On 28 October 2021, the European Parliament adopted new legislation to address cybersecurity threats, which are the fastest-growing form of crime worldwide.<sup>2909</sup> The new legislation requires EU countries to “meet stricter supervisory and enforcement measures” and “harmonize their actions regimes.” The directive serves as a framework for better cooperation and information sharing between EU member states and authorities on cybersecurity.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to collaborate on science-based responses to global challenges and drive innovation by calling on every nation to increase their research transparency and integrity. The EU has launched partnerships, missions, and enacted legislation to invest in research, development and innovation in cooperation with member states and non-member states. International cooperation has primarily focused on climate change, digitalization, global health and security. The EU has also repeatedly called on its 27 members to increase their research efforts, as well as their transparency and integrity, at the European Parliament, the European Commission and the European Council.

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

*Analyst: Daniel Corredor Llorente*

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<sup>2907</sup> European Innovation Council announces new wave of start-up champions, European Commission (Brussels) 14 October 2021. Access Date: 19 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_5225](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5225)

<sup>2908</sup> COVID-19: Parliament wants more transparent EU vaccine policies, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 21 October 2021. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20211014IPR14927/covid-19-parliament-wants-more-transparent-eu-vaccine-policies>

<sup>2909</sup> Cybersecurity: MEPs strengthen EU-wide requirements against threats, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 28 October 2021. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20211022IPR15610/cybersecurity-meps-strengthen-eu-wide-requirements-against-threats>

## 22. International Cooperation: Research and Knowledge Sharing

“As our nations and communities start to recover from the pandemic and build resilience for future shocks, we will continue to work with our research and business communities to remove barriers to the open and rapid sharing of knowledge, data and tools, to the greatest extent possible, recognising the importance of research security in particular in cutting-edge fields.”

*G7 2021 Research Compact*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union		0	
Average		+0.75 (88%)	

### Background

The COVID-19 pandemic that started in the beginning of 2020 has prompted global leaders to pledge their fullest efforts in finding COVID-19 prevention and mitigation measures to address the world-wide public health challenge.<sup>2910</sup> As the G7 leaders stated in their G7 Research Compact, “the global response to COVID-19 has demonstrated the progress that arises from long-term collaboration which puts science at the heart of prevention, preparedness, response, recovery and resilience.”<sup>2911</sup>

The G7 leaders have long acknowledged the need for a coordinated response to infectious diseases and global health challenges. At the 1996 Lyon Summit, G7 leaders made their first commitment to promote “international cooperation among research teams,” and “encourage the scientific community in its search for remedies” for diseases including human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS).<sup>2912</sup>

At the 1997 Denver Summit, G8 leaders committed to “work to provide the resources necessary to accelerate AIDS vaccine research, and ... [to]enhance international scientific cooperation and collaboration.”<sup>2913</sup>

At the 1998 Birmingham Summit, G8 leaders committed “to enhance mutual cooperation on infectious and parasitic diseases and support the World Health Organization’s efforts in those areas” of which AIDS and Malaria was highlighted.<sup>2914</sup>

<sup>2910</sup> G7 Leaders’ Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 29 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html>

<sup>2911</sup> G7 Research Compact, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 29 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-research.html>

<sup>2912</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance 1975-2020, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 July 2020.

Access Date: 16 January 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>

<sup>2913</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance 1975-2020, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 July 2020.

Access Date: 16 January 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>

<sup>2914</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance 1975-2020, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 July 2020.

Access Date: 16 January 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, G8 leaders committed to “strengthening cooperation in the area of basic research and development of new drugs, vaccines and other international public health goods” with particular emphasis on HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis.<sup>2915</sup>

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, G8 leaders affirmed their “commitment to strong and effective intellectual property rights protection as a necessary incentive for the research and development of life-saving drugs.”<sup>2916</sup>

At the 2003 Evian Summit, the G8 leaders reiterated their commitment to fight against AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria through actions including research activities.<sup>2917</sup> Additionally, G8 leaders committed to improve international coordination against the new severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) pandemic.<sup>2918</sup> In response to persistent public health concerns in developing countries at the time, G8 leaders committed to support developing and least-developed countries in their own research and development of protections against infectious diseases, including the creation of “incentives and regulatory systems to support ethical and safe clinical trials.”<sup>2919</sup>

At the 2004 Sea Island Summit, the G8 leaders coordinated a meeting with stakeholders to encourage their collaboration in HIV vaccine development.<sup>2920</sup>

At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, to contribute to the need for knowledge diffusion from developed nations to developing nations, G8 leaders supported the “intensification of scientific research and exchanges in the area of infectious diseases, with attention given to involving scientists from developing countries in international scientific research programs” and aimed “to increase scientific cooperation with developing countries, encourage partnerships between experts and laboratories of developing and developed countries, and increase the scientific potential in countries of all income levels.”<sup>2921</sup>

At the 2009 L’Aquila Summit, the G8 leaders acknowledged the benefits of an international Intellectual Property Rights system for promoting innovations that address public health challenges.<sup>2922</sup>

The subsequent years saw the G7 continue their focus in eradicating polio, providing prevention and treatment to AIDS and enhancing surveillance capacity for infectious diseases with less emphasis on collaborative research activities until the 2014 Ebola outbreak. At the subsequent 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit, G7 leaders renewed their commitment to contribute to the coordination of research and development efforts and committed to engage in: basic research, research on epidemiology, development of new antibiotics, alternative therapies and vaccines.<sup>2923</sup> The response to the Ebola outbreak inspired a new

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<sup>2915</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance 1975-2020, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 16 January 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>

<sup>2916</sup> G7/8 Summit Compliance Data Sets by Issue, 1985-2013: Health, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 April 2015. Access Date: 29 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/compliance/dataset/health.html>

<sup>2917</sup> Health: A G8 Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2 June 2003. Access Date: 25 October 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/health\\_en.html](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/health_en.html)

<sup>2918</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance 1975-2020, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 16 January 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>

<sup>2919</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance 1975-2020, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 16 January 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>

<sup>2920</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance 1975-2020, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 16 January 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>

<sup>2921</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance 1975-2020, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 16 January 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>

<sup>2922</sup> Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 29 September 2021. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.html>

<sup>2923</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance 1975-2020, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 16 January 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>

focus on “faster and targeted development of easily usable and affordable” drugs, vaccines and point-of-care technologies.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders continued their commitment to promoting research collaboration by committing to “explore the feasibility of partnerships such as the Vaccine Innovation for Pandemic Preparedness Partnership to conduct coordinated vaccine research and development.”<sup>2924</sup>

The G7 emphasis on public health emergency preparedness and coordination in infectious disease control persisted with no explicit commitment on research collaboration until the emergence of COVID-19 as a new threat to global public health. At the 2020 US Virtual Summit, the G7 leaders committed to “marshalling the full power of [their] governments to: encourage science, research, and technology cooperation.”<sup>2925</sup> In particular, the leaders emphasized: real-time information sharing, pooling epidemiologic data, increasing coordinated research efforts, the launch of joint research projects and the sharing of facilities towards the objective of “improving prevention strategies and mitigation measures” and “rapid development, manufacture and distribution of treatments and a [COVID-19] vaccine.”

### **Commitment Features**

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders made the following commitment: “as our nations and communities start to recover from the pandemic and build resilience for future shocks, we will continue to work with our research and business communities to remove barriers to the open and rapid sharing of knowledge, data and tools, to the greatest extent possible, recognising the importance of research security in particular in cutting-edge fields.”<sup>2926</sup>

“Recover” means “to return to a normal state after an unpleasant or unusual experience or a period of difficulty.”<sup>2927</sup>

“Resilience” means “the ability of a system to anticipate, absorb, recover from, and adapt to a wide array of systemic threats”<sup>2928</sup>

“Shock” means something that causes “a disturbance in the equilibrium or permanence of something”<sup>2929</sup>

“Continue” is understood to mean that the commitment is “established and implemented.”<sup>2930</sup> To achieve full compliance, G7 members must take new actions that build upon existing efforts.<sup>2931</sup>

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<sup>2924</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance 1975-2020, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 16 January 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>

<sup>2925</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance 1975-2020, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 16 January 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>

<sup>2926</sup> G7 Research Compact, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 29 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-research.html>

<sup>2927</sup> Recover, Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries (Oxford) n.d. Access Date: 26 October 2021. <https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/recover>

<sup>2928</sup> A systemic resilience approach to dealing with Covid-19 and future shocks, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (France) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 26 October 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/coronavirus/policy-responses/a-systemic-resilience-approach-to-dealing-with-covid-19-and-future-shocks-36a5bdfb/>

<sup>2929</sup> Shock, Merriam-Webster’s Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 26 October 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/shock>

<sup>2930</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 29 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>2931</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 29 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

G7 members have identified “work[ing] with [their] research and business communities” as the means to achieve greater research cooperation. “Work with” means the action or process of working together to the same end. “Research” refers to systematic activities in natural sciences, engineering, social sciences, humanities and interdisciplinary fields that increases the stock of knowledge and the use of this knowledge to devise new applications.<sup>2932</sup> “Research community” refers to research practitioners, collaborators and institutions such as universities, hospitals and laboratories. “Business” means “companies that buys and sells goods and services.”<sup>2933</sup> “Business community” refers to firms and industry associations in the private sector. If the G7 member reduces barriers to research cooperation but does not work with either the research or business communities, this is beyond the scope of the commitment and should only count towards partial compliance if the barrier removed is intended to benefit either the research or business community.

The objective of this commitment is to “remove barriers to the open and rapid sharing of knowledge, data and tools” in a way that contribute to recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic and building resilience for future shocks.

“Remove” means to take away something from a place.<sup>2934</sup>

“Barriers” means social, legal, regulatory and administrative hindrances.<sup>2935</sup> This indicates that full compliance requires not merely the act of sharing knowledge, data and tools but structural changes that enable open and rapid sharing of knowledge, data and tools.

“Open” means “to be available and ready to use.”<sup>2936</sup>

“Rapid” means “happening quickly or in a short period of time.”

“Knowledge, data and tools” include any input that facilitates research processes.<sup>2937</sup> This may be expanded to include: “software, code, and other research resources.”

The G7 2021 Research Compact states that the efficient sharing of research data can be achieved through “improving the availability, sustainability, usability and interoperability of research data, technologies, infrastructure and services.”<sup>2938</sup> Some examples may include: establishing collaborative research platforms, streamlining data sharing procedures, removing rules that restrict the sharing of research outcome and creating incentives that recognize and reward research collaborations.

“To the greatest extent possible” is understood to mean that the leaders commit to strong actions that fully utilize their ability to share knowledge, data and tools.<sup>2939</sup>

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<sup>2932</sup> Glossary of Statistical Terms, Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (Paris) 12 March 2003. Access Date: 2 January 2022. <https://stats.oecd.org/glossary/detail.asp?ID=2312>

<sup>2933</sup> Business, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) 2022. Access Date: 2 January 2022. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/business>

<sup>2934</sup> Remove, Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries (Oxford) n.d. Access Date: 26 October 2021. [https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/remove\\_1?q=remove](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/remove_1?q=remove)

<sup>2935</sup> G7 Research Compact, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 29 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-research.html>

<sup>2936</sup> Open, Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries (Oxford) n.d. Access Date: 26 October 2021. [https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/open\\_1?q=open](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/open_1?q=open)

<sup>2937</sup> G7 Research Compact, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 29 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-research.html>

<sup>2938</sup> G7 Research Compact, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 29 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-research.html>

<sup>2939</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 29 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

To complement their commitment to sharing knowledge, data and tools, G7 members added the consideration to “recognize the importance of research security.”

“Recognize” means to acknowledge formally.<sup>2940</sup>

The G7 2021 Research Compact elaborated on “research security” to mean “effectively ensure the security and integrity of the research ecosystem, ... preventing the theft, misuse and inappropriate exploitation of our intellectual property and personal data, and other forms of misconduct.”<sup>2941</sup> Therefore, “research security” refers to the protection of intellectual property, personal data and other aspects of research integrity. The recognition of research security should be evaluated holistically with the primary objective of this commitment to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools. The latter should not compromise the protection of research security and recognizing research security should not result in restricting research cooperation. Actions that compromise one of these two principles should only be counted as partial compliance.

“In particular” means “deserving of special mention, to a higher degree than is usual or average.”<sup>2942</sup>

“Cutting-edge” means “the newest, most advanced stage in the development of something.”<sup>2943</sup> Some examples may include Artificial Intelligence,<sup>2944</sup> engineering robotics and synthetic biology.<sup>2945</sup> This statement means that the importance of research security is to be emphasized in the newest research fields, but recognizing research security in all research activities would be counted towards compliance actions.

The depth dimension, or the strength of the action required to demonstrate compliance, is qualified by the phrase “continue to work,” meaning the G7 members are building on already existing work and the phrase “to the greatest extent possible,” meaning the G7 members commit to undertake strong actions.

Full compliance, or a score of +1, is assigned to G7 members that take strong action to work with both the research and business communities to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security. The G7 member should demonstrate substantial action that improves the structures that enable the sharing of knowledge, data and tools. These actions must involve collaboration with both the research and the business communities to achieve full compliance.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, is assigned if the G7 member only work strongly with either the research or business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security. Partial compliance is also assigned if the G7 member work less than strongly with both the research and the business community. Less than strong actions include one-off actions to share knowledge, data and tools without strengthening long-term collaborative platforms or expressing support for research collaboration without committing programs, resources or frameworks for structural change.

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<sup>2940</sup> Recognize, Merriam-Webster’s Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 29 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/recognize>

<sup>2941</sup> G7 Research Compact, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 29 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-research.html>

<sup>2942</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 29 September 2021. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>2943</sup> Cutting edge, Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries (Oxford) n.d. Access Date: 19 September 2021. [https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/american\\_english/cutting-edge](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/american_english/cutting-edge)

<sup>2944</sup> STI Policy and the COVID-19 crisis, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) n.d. Access Date: 26 October 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/sti/science-technology-innovation-outlook/STIP-and-COVID-19-crisis/>

<sup>2945</sup> OECD Science, Technology and Innovation Outlook, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) n.d. Access Date: 26 October 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/sti/science-technology-innovation-outlook/>

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, is assigned if the G7 member only work less than strongly with either business or research community or not at all with both communities to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member work less than strongly with EITHER the research or the business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security OR the G7 member work with NEITHER the research or the business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security.
0	The G7 member work strongly with EITHER the research community or the business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security OR the G7 member work less than strongly with BOTH the research and the business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security.
+1	The G7 member work strongly with BOTH the research community and the business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security.

*Compliance Director: Chan Wai Suet Gi Gi  
Lead Analyst: Sara Teme*

### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to work strongly with both the research community and the business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security.

On 15 June 2021, Canada and the United States signed the Memorandum of Understanding between the National Science Foundation (NSF) of the United States of America and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) of Canada concerning Research Cooperation.<sup>2946</sup> This first formal partnership between the NSERC of Canada and NSF paves the way for collaborations in cutting-edge technology and knowledge-sharing between the two countries' research communities.

On 23 June 2021, Canada announced an investment of CAD5.25 million under Canada's Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) that will create a new national training platform based at Université Laval.<sup>2947</sup> The SPOR National Training Entity platform will centralize and streamline training activities, promote knowledge-sharing and coaching and mentoring for new researchers.

On 24 June 2021, Canada and the United States signed a Memorandum of Understanding on energy cooperation as part of the Roadmap for a Renewed US-Canada Partnership.<sup>2948</sup> The partnership increases bilateral cooperation, including knowledge sharing on nuclear energy policies.

On 28 June 2021, the Standards Council of Canada published the Canadian Data Governance Standardization Roadmap which identifies 35 areas and gaps within data governance to assess for

<sup>2946</sup> New US-Canada partnership announced for collaboration in research and innovation, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (Ottawa) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022. [https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Media-Media/NewsDetail-DetailNouvelles\\_eng.asp?ID=1271](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Media-Media/NewsDetail-DetailNouvelles_eng.asp?ID=1271)

<sup>2947</sup> Government of Canada creates national training platform for patient-oriented research, Canadian Institutes for Health (Ottawa) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/institutes-health-research/news/2021/06/government-of-canada-creates-national-training-platform-for-patient-oriented-research.html>

<sup>2948</sup> Canada Strengthens Energy Partnership With the United States, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/06/canada-strengthens-energy-partnership-with-the-united-states.html>

standardization.<sup>2949</sup> The Canadian Data Governance Standardization Collaborative involved 220 experts across society to streamline the data sharing process with a more secure digital infrastructure founded on quality, trust and ethics.

On 29 June 2021, Canada joined the Coalition on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, a global and multilateral partnership group involving both the public and private sector.<sup>2950</sup> Canada committed to participating in the knowledge-sharing coalition to ensure resilient investments and mitigate future climate risks.

On 30 June 2021, Canada led the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI) Council meeting to emphasize the possibility for international collaboration on projects and policies to address the socio-ethical impacts of AI.<sup>2951</sup> The GPAI involved AI experts from diverse sectors to inform governments on the potential applications of AI to address global challenges.

On 5 July 2021, Minister of Health Patty Hajdu and Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry François-Philippe Champagne announced an investment of CAD4.95 million in a new research training platform, the Implementing Smart Cities Interventions to Build Healthy Cities Training Platforms (SMART).<sup>2952</sup> As a component of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research Healthy Cities Research Initiative, SMART aims to deliver interdisciplinary training to new generations of researchers and build resilience and health in Canadian cities.

On 12 July 2021, Minister Champagne, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Bill Blair and Minister Hajdu released new National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships to integrate national security considerations into the development, evaluation and funding of international research partnerships.<sup>2953</sup> These guidelines were developed in collaboration with research communities, such as the NSERC and the Government of Canada-Universities Working Group.

On 16 July 2021, Minister Champagne and the Minister of Canadian Heritage Steven Guilbeault launched a public consultation to ensure that the modern copyright framework for artificial intelligence and the Internet of Things can respond to future challenges.<sup>2954</sup> The Government called for stakeholders to provide input on 'Technological Protection Measures' adequacy and potential challenges in dealing with the digital economy, including the repair and interoperability of technological measures.

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<sup>2949</sup> Minister Champagne marks the launch of the Canadian Data Governance Standardization Collaborative Roadmap, Innovation, Science and Economic Development (Ottawa) 28 June 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/06/minister-champagne-marks-the-launch-of-the-canadian-data-governance-standardization-collaborative-roadmap.html>

<sup>2950</sup> Government of Canada joins the Coalition on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, Infrastructure Canada (Ottawa) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/06/government-of-canada-joins-the-coalition-on-disaster-resilient-infrastructure.html>

<sup>2951</sup> Minister Champagne presents Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence priorities for 2021, Innovation, Science and Economic Development (Ottawa) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/06/minister-champagne-presents-global-partnership-on-artificial-intelligence-priorities-for-2021.html>

<sup>2952</sup> Investing in science-based solutions to improve health and well-being in urban areas, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Ottawa) 5 July 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/institutes-health-research/news/2021/07/investing-in-science-based-solutions-to-improve-health-and-well-being-in-urban-areas.html>

<sup>2953</sup> Government of Canada takes action to protect Canadian research and intellectual property, Innovation, Science and Economic Development (Ottawa) 12 July 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/07/government-of-canada-takes-action-to-protect-canadian-research-and-intellectual-property.html>

<sup>2954</sup> The Government of Canada Launches Consultation on a Modern Copyright Framework for AI and the Internet of Things, Innovation, Science and Economic Development (Ottawa) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/07/the-government-of-canada-launches-consultation-on-a-modern-copyright-framework-for-ai-and-the-internet-of-things.html>



On 20 July 2021, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada launched a series of virtual roundtables with principal stakeholders in Canada's quantum research and business communities.<sup>2955</sup> This public consultation on a collaborative platform advances the sharing of vital insights from the Canadian quantum industry to further inform the National Quantum Strategy.

On 20 July 2021, Natural Resources Canada signed a new Cooperative Research and Development Agreement with the US Environmental Protection Agency to enhance and update the ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager, a free platform for institutional and commercial building owners to monitor and compare energy performance for potential upgrades and improvements.<sup>2956</sup> The agreement deepens the two countries' cooperation in energy efficiency through the sharing of tools.

On 28 July 2021, Minister Champagne and Minister Hajdu launched the Biomanufacturing and Life Sciences Strategy to strengthen the life science sector and to ensure resilience to future pandemics.<sup>2957</sup> The government committed CAD2.2 billion over seven years to invest into foundational research and research infrastructure of post-secondary institutions and affiliated research, streamline regulations to support health innovations, and create mechanisms for international and public-private partnerships.<sup>2958</sup>

On 8 August 2021, the National Research Council of Canada (NRC) announced funding of more than CAD23 million on research projects under its Ideation Fund initiatives, Challenge programs and the Supercluster support programs.<sup>2959</sup> These investments will advance NRC scientists' collaboration with academics, industries, and non-profit organizations to generate innovative technological solutions to Canada's pressing challenges.

On 12 August 2021, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Infrastructure and Communities Andy Fillmore called any legal entities validly incorporated or registered in Canada to submit proposals under the Research and Knowledge Initiative (RKI).<sup>2960</sup> RKI aims to facilitate collaboration and partnership among key public infrastructure actors and stakeholders, and support data, research and knowledge-sharing activities.

On 12 August 2021, the Government committed CAD61.5 million for the next phase of the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA).<sup>2961</sup> The CLSA is a collaboration between 160 researchers located at 26 Canadian institutions that monitor the health outcomes of over 50,000 Canadians for 20 years. The

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<sup>2955</sup> Government of Canada launches public consultations on National Quantum Strategy, Innovation, Science and Economic Development (Ottawa) 20 July 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/07/government-of-canada-launches-public-consultations-on-national-quantum-strategy.html>

<sup>2956</sup> Canada-U.S. Sign New Cooperative Research and Development Agreement on Energy Efficiency, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 20 July 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/07/canada-us-sign-new-cooperative-research-and-development-agreement-on-energy-efficiency.html>

<sup>2957</sup> The Government of Canada announces biomanufacturing and life sciences strategy, Innovation, Science and Economic Development (Vancouver) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/07/the-government-of-canada-announces-biomanufacturing-and-life-sciences-strategy.html>

<sup>2958</sup> Canada's Biomanufacturing and Life Sciences Strategy, Innovation, Science and Economic Development (Ottawa) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/151.nsf/eng/00019.html>

<sup>2959</sup> Government of Canada funding research collaborations for breakthrough technologies, National Research Council Canada (Ottawa) 6 August 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/national-research-council/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-funding-research-collaborations-for-breakthrough-technologies.html>

<sup>2960</sup> Government of Canada announces a call for proposals to strengthen community-level data and research projects related to public infrastructure, Infrastructure Canada (Ottawa) 10 August 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-announces-a-call-for-proposals-to-strengthen-community-level-data-and-research-projects-related-to-public-infrastructure.html>

<sup>2961</sup> Government of Canada renews investment in largest Canadian study on aging, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Ottawa) 12 August 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/institutes-health-research/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-renews-investment-in-largest-canadian-study-on-aging.html>

investment ensures the continuation of data collection for global researchers to access CLSA data for health insights.

On 13 August 2021, Minister Champagne and Minister Hajdu launched the application process for the Strategic Science Fund, an initiative to support third-party science and research organizations through a transparent and merit-based federal funding process.<sup>2962</sup>

On 3 November 2021, Minister Champagne and US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo outlined a work plan to increase cross-border collaboration and advance post-COVID-19 economic recovery efforts, building upon the Roadmap for a Renewed US-Canada Partnership.<sup>2963</sup> Through the work plan, Minister Champagne and US Secretary Raimondo agreed to cooperate on enhancing resiliency for advanced network technologies and deepen collaboration on emerging technologies.

On 11 November 2021, Minister Champagne attended the second annual plenary of the GPAI in Paris alongside leading international AI experts and 18 representatives from member countries and the European Union.<sup>2964</sup> The Paris Summit encouraged all members to leverage the proposals and recommendations of GPAI experts to ensure a responsible and ethical development of AI.

On 22 November 2021, the Government of Canada partnered with the European Commission to examine the use of digital credentials.<sup>2965</sup> Their partnership resulted in a series of workshops and a report entitled "Canada and the European Union Joint Workshop Series for Enabling Interoperability and Mutual Support for Digital Credentials." Future work involves addressing recommendations from the report to collaborate on digital credentials research and innovation, focusing on interoperability and mutual support while protecting privacy and personal data.

On 29 November 2021, Canada, alongside fellow G7 Health Ministers, released a joint statement reaffirming the importance of supporting research and development related to COVID-19 vaccines.<sup>2966</sup> Additionally, ministers expressed support for information sharing via an international pathogen surveillance network.

On 13 December 2021, Minister of Health Jean-Yves Duclos tabled the annual report on Canada's public health, "A Vision to Transform Canada's Public Health System" in parliament.<sup>2967</sup> Under the Pan-Canadian Health Data Strategy, the report aims to modernize health data collection, sharing and interoperability, and

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<sup>2962</sup> Government of Canada opens Strategic Science Fund application process, Innovation, Science and Economic Development (Ottawa) 10 August 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. [canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-opens-strategic-science-fund-application-process.html](https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-opens-strategic-science-fund-application-process.html)

<sup>2963</sup> Joint readout: Minister François-Philippe Champagne meets with Secretary Gina Raimondo of the United States, Innovation, Science and Economic Development (Washington D.C.) 3 November 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/11/joint-readout-minister-francois-philippe-champagne-meets-with-secretary-ginaraimondo-of-the-united-states.html>

<sup>2964</sup> Minister Champagne attends the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence Paris Summit, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 11 November 2021. Access Data: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/11/minister-champagne-attends-the-global-partnership-on-artificial-intelligence-paris-summit.html>

<sup>2965</sup> Government of Canada announces partnership with the European Commission to examine the use of digital credentials, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 22 November 2021. Access Data: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/11/government-of-canada-announces-partnership-with-the-european-commission-to-examine-the-use-of-digital-credentials.html>

<sup>2966</sup> G7 joint statement on the Omicron variant, G7 UK 2021 (London) 29 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. <https://www.g7uk.org/g7-joint-statement-on-the-omicron-variant/>

<sup>2967</sup> Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada on the CPHO Annual Report 2021: A Vision to Transform Canada's Public Health System, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 13 December 2021. Access Data: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2021/12/statement-from-the-chief-public-health-officer-of-canada-on-the-cpho-annual-report-2021-a-vision-to-transform-canadas-public-health-system.html>

address gaps in public health surveillance and data systems in an ethical and secure manner. In addition, the report emphasizes the need to modernize collaboration structures to mobilize all of society with clear and measurable indicators to approach complex health challenges.

On 14 December 2021, Minister Duclos announced the release of the sixth “Report on Human Biomonitoring of Environmental Chemicals” in Canada based on data from the Canadian Health Measures Survey.<sup>2968</sup> The reported human biomonitoring information contributes to the availability of data to all Canadians through the Open Government portal and the CHMS biomonitoring site.

On 15 December 2021, the Special Advisory Committee on the Epidemic of Opioid Overdoses acknowledged the significance of improving data sharing and comparability to inform evidence-based policies and to expand data collection on the broader factors that contribute to substance-related harms in various Canadian population groups.<sup>2969</sup>

On 13 January 2022, Canada recognized the research effort from the Council of Canadian Academies and the Expert Panel on Disaster Resilience in a Changing Climate.<sup>2970</sup> Their report, “Building a Resilient Canada,” urged an integrated response and collaboration on climate change-related extreme weather events. Canada affirmed its commitment to knowledge sharing and collaboration with stakeholders through the development of a National Risk Profile and National Adaptation Strategy to strengthen communities’ resilience.

On 13 January 2022, the Canada Research Coordinating Committee released its 2020–21 progress report “Collective Response” summarizing the efforts of federal research funding organizations during the pandemic.<sup>2971</sup> The report outlined six strategic priorities for Canadian research, including enhancing interagency operation on international research, supporting Canada’s research response to COVID-19, and engagement in interdisciplinary, international, high-risk, rapid-response research.

On 14 January 2022, the Government created the Centre for Research on Pandemic Preparedness and Health Emergencies with an ongoing investment of CAD18.5 million per year.<sup>2972</sup> The Research Centre focuses on growing Canada’s capacity to mobilize knowledge in the recovery of the current pandemic and resilience to future pandemics through collaboration with domestic and international stakeholders. The Research Centre has already supported COVID-19 research initiatives that equip decision-makers with research evidence and address the wider impacts of the pandemic.

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<sup>2968</sup> Government of Canada announces the release of the latest results from the Canadian Health Measures Survey, Health Canada (Ottawa) 14 December 2022. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2021/12/government-of-canada-announces-the-release-of-the-latest-results-from-the-canadian-health-measures-survey.html>

<sup>2969</sup> Joint Statement from the Co-Chairs of the Special Advisory Committee on the Epidemic of Opioid Overdoses – Latest Modelling Projections on Opioid Related Deaths and National Data on the Overdose Crisis, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2021/12/joint-statement-from-the-co-chairs-of-the-special-advisory-committee-on-the-epidemic-of-opioid-overdoses--latest-modelling-projections-on-opioid-re.html>

<sup>2970</sup> Government of Canada welcomes Council of Canadian Academies’ report Building a Resilient Canada, Public Safety Canada (Ottawa) 13 January 2022. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2022/01/government-of-canada-welcomes-council-of-canadian-academies-report-building-a-resilient-canada.html>

<sup>2971</sup> Canada Research Coordinating Committee releases 2020–21 progress report, Canada Research Coordinating Committee (Ottawa) 13 January 2022. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/research-coordinating-committee/news/2022/01/crcc-releases-2020-21-progress-report.html>

<sup>2972</sup> Government of Canada creates Centre for Research on Pandemic Preparedness and Health Emergencies, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Ottawa) 14 January 2022. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/institutes-health-research/news/2022/01/government-of-canada-creates-centre-for-research-on-pandemic-preparedness-and-health-emergencies.html>

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to work strongly with both the research community and the business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security. Canada has taken action to work with the research community through the Canadian Data Governance Standardization Collaborative to streamline data sharing process, the Biomanufacturing and Life Sciences Strategy that support public-private partnerships, and the Ideation Fund initiative that invest in collaborative research projects. Canada has worked with the business community by hosting a series of roundtables to consult them on Canada's National Quantum Strategy. Canada also recognized research security, particularly in its release of the National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Serena Honekin*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to work strongly with both the research community and the business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security.

On 10 November 2021, President Emmanuel Macron met with US Vice President Kamala Harris to establish the "US-France Comprehensive Dialogue on Space" to collaborate on civil, fiscal, national and space security.<sup>2973</sup> This agreement seeks to strengthen existing collaborative strategies to technological advancement and future pandemic preparedness.<sup>2974</sup>

On 29 November 2021, France, alongside fellow G7 Health Ministers, released a joint statement reaffirming the importance of supporting research and development related to COVID-19 vaccines.<sup>2975</sup> Additionally, ministers expressed support for information sharing via an international pathogen surveillance network.

On 7 December 2021, France attended the sixth annual United States - France Joint Committee Meeting (JCM) on Science and Technology Cooperation in Washington D.C.<sup>2976</sup> The JCM brought together government and research organization representatives from France and the United States to discuss the advancements in their environmental, climate sciences, health research and emerging technology sectors. Representatives agreed to deepen cooperation in research, knowledge sharing, health affairs, climate crises, and pandemic responses.

On 8 December 2021, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, Research and Innovation, and the Ministry of Finance announced approximately EUR142 million to support 17 beneficiaries through the fifth annual Investments for the Future Program.<sup>2977</sup> Through the National Research Agency, these pledges

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<sup>2973</sup> U.S. VP Harris announces expanded cooperation on space issues after meeting Macron, Reuters (Paris) 11 November 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/us-vp-harris-announces-expanded-cooperation-space-issues-after-meeting-macron-2021-11-10/>

<sup>2974</sup> Vice President Kamala Harris's Meeting with President Emmanuel Macron of France, White House Briefing Room (Washington D.C.) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/11/10/statement-by-senior-advisor-and-chief-spokesperson-symone-sanders-on-vice-president-kamala-harris-meeting-with-president-emmanuel-macron-of-france/>

<sup>2975</sup> G7 joint statement on the Omicron variant, G7 UK 2021 (London) 29 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. <https://www.g7uk.org/g7-joint-statement-on-the-omicron-variant/>

<sup>2976</sup> Joint Statement on U.S. - France Science and Technology Cooperation, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.state.gov/us-france-science-technology-cooperation>

<sup>2977</sup> Investments for the future: 17 new winners and 142 million for the fifth call for projects "University hospital research in health", Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation (Paris) 8 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/fr/investissements-d-avenir-17-nouveaux-laureats-et-142-meu-pour-le-cinquieme-appel-projets-recherche-82567>

support innovative research partnerships in academia, technological and healthcare industries. This will promote diverse projects that work towards sustainable growth, research incentivization and multi-sectoral network building domestically.

On 9 December 2021, President Macron cited digital transformation as a key priority for France's upcoming presidency of the EU.<sup>2978</sup> France will focus on digital transformation, through the Digital Services Act and the Digital Market, that will seek to provide additional regulations, security, and accountability on digital platforms used within the EU.

France has fully complied with its commitment to work strongly with both the research community and the business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security. France worked with research communities through the US-France in Joint Committee Meeting that brings research representatives to share cutting-edge knowledge and deepen collaboration on research. France has also worked with business communities through the Investments for the Future program that support research partnerships between academia and industries.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Theresa Jones*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to work strongly with both the research community and the business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security.

On 15 July 2021, the Ministry of Health announced that it would contribute an additional EUR260 million to the World Health Organization (WHO) to aid in the global response against the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>2979</sup> This sum will go towards the global cooperation platform the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator, which aims to accelerate the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 1 September 2021, Chancellor Angela Merkel, along with the WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus inaugurated the Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence based in Berlin.<sup>2980</sup> The Hub aims to assist data science innovation for public health surveillance and response, and share expertise globally. Moreover, Germany announced an initial investment of USD100 million in the WHO Hub, which seeks to connect technology, data, tools and communities through broad partnerships across professional disciplines in order to ensure that actionable data and intelligence are widely available for the common good.

On 6 September 2021, the Federal Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education and Research announced EUR150 million to support six coordinating German companies in their joint effort to develop COVID-19 related medicine and pharmaceuticals.<sup>2981</sup> The government funding will support: AdrenoMed AG,

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<sup>2978</sup> The French Presidency of the Council of the European Union, Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation (Paris) 10 December 2021. Translated by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/fr/la-presidence-francaise-du-conseil-de-l-union-europeenne-82627>

<sup>2979</sup> Germany supports the global COVID-19 response, World Health Organization (Geneva) 1 September 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.who.int/about/funding/contributors/deu>

<sup>2980</sup> WHO, Germany open Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence in Berlin, World Health Organization (Berlin) 1 September 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.who.int/news/item/01-09-2021-who-germany-open-hub-for-pandemic-and-epidemic-intelligence-in-berlin>

<sup>2981</sup> Spahn/Karliczek: Further impetus for the development and manufacture of supply-related drugs against COVID-19, Federal Ministry of Health(Berlin) 6 September 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/presse/pressemitteilungen/2021/3-quartal/arzneimittel-gegen-covid-19.html>

Apogenix AG, Atriva Therapeutics GmbH, CORAT Therapeutics GmbH, InflaRX GmbH and the DRK Baden-Württemberg-Hessen gGmbH.

On 29 November 2021, Germany, alongside fellow G7 Health Ministers, released a joint statement reaffirming the importance of supporting research and development related to COVID-19 vaccines.<sup>2982</sup> Additionally, ministers expressed support for information sharing via an international pathogen surveillance network.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to work strongly with both the research community and the business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security. Germany has worked with the research community by investing in the WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence. Additionally, Germany has engaged with its business community by investing in six German pharmaceutical companies' joint effort to develop medicines against COVID-19.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Ceylan E. Borgers*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to work strongly with both the research community and the business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security.

On 18 June 2021, the Institute of Public Health published a report declaring the need to improve and develop new medical technologies to assist those living with disabilities and those whose health has been affected by COVID-19.<sup>2983</sup>

On 24 November 2021, Italy adopted the Strategic Program for Artificial Intelligence 2022-24.<sup>2984</sup> This program includes policies to strengthen the Italian research ecosystem in AI and foster collaboration between academic, industry and public actors. Additionally, the program will finance national platforms for data sharing and software. It also aims to create more accessible data infrastructures and support start-ups with AI solutions to address problems in the public sector.

On 29 November 2021, Italy, alongside fellow G7 Health Ministers, released a joint statement reaffirming the importance of supporting research and development related to COVID-19 vaccines.<sup>2985</sup> Additionally, ministers expressed support for information sharing via an international pathogen surveillance network.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to work strongly with both the research community and the business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security. Italy has worked with its research community through the Strategic Program for Artificial Intelligence. Additionally, Italy has collaborated with business communities by adopting policies to strengthen the research environment and encourage collaboration between academia, industry and the government.

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<sup>2982</sup> G7 joint statement on the Omicron variant, G7 UK 2021 (London) 29 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. <https://www.g7uk.org/g7-joint-statement-on-the-omicron-variant/>

<sup>2983</sup> Technologies to support frailty, disability and rare diseases: development and submission of a survey during the pandemic emergency COVID-19, Higher Institute of Health (Rome) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. [https://www.iss.it/web/iss-en/rapporti-iss-covid-19/-/asset\\_publisher/0JjjK4TivXZp/content/id/5828712](https://www.iss.it/web/iss-en/rapporti-iss-covid-19/-/asset_publisher/0JjjK4TivXZp/content/id/5828712)

<sup>2984</sup> Artificial Intelligence: Italy launches the national strategy, Minister for technological innovation and digital transition (Rome) 24 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 February 2022. <https://innovazione.gov.it/notizie/comunicati-stampa/intelligenza-artificiale-l-italia-lancia-la-strategia-nazionale/>

<sup>2985</sup> G7 joint statement on the Omicron variant, G7 UK 2021 (London) 29 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. <https://www.g7uk.org/g7-joint-statement-on-the-omicron-variant/>

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Ceylan E. Borgers*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to work strongly with both the research community and the business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security.

On 14 June 2021, the International Cooperation Agency signed a Record of Discussions with the Government of Peru under the Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS).<sup>2986</sup> This program aims to facilitate knowledge sharing between Japan and Peru and aid in the development of strategies to mitigate the impacts of climate, health and geo-political crises upon local infrastructure in the Lima Metropolitan Area.<sup>2987</sup>

On 16 June 2021, the Science and Technology Agency along with the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology hosted an online symposium to recognize the establishment of the COI-NEXT platform, which seeks to connect industry leaders with post-secondary institutions in advancing UN Sustainable Development Goals through research and development.<sup>2988</sup> The symposium brought key stakeholders in academia, technological industries and local governments together to discuss the goals and potential outcomes of the program.

On 1 September 2021, the Government of Japan established the Digital Agency that aims to enhance digital literacy and connectivity for all Japanese citizens.<sup>2989</sup> The Agency will seek to advance strategies, legislation and investments to promote user-friendly platforms and services that facilitate knowledge sharing and capacity building across sectors.<sup>2990</sup>

On 28 September 2021, the National Center of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity launched the ‘Cybersecurity for All’ initiative to ensure that cybersecurity is guaranteed to all “people, business sectors, and local regions” that live and work through cyberspace.<sup>2991</sup> This strategy will work with the Digital Agency to strengthen the technological networks and cyber infrastructure shared between foreign governments, business leaders and post-secondary institutions.<sup>2992</sup>

On 21 October 2021, the Cabinet Secretariat for the National Center of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity hosted the 14th annual ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Policy Meeting virtually.<sup>2993</sup> Key priorities of the meeting included enhancing collaboration on cybersecurity between member states of the Association

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<sup>2986</sup> Signing of Records of Discussions, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 16 June 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2021/20210616\\_30.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2021/20210616_30.html)

<sup>2987</sup> About SATREPS, Japan Science and Technology Agency (Tokyo) Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.jst.go.jp/global/english/about.html>

<sup>2988</sup> COI-NEXT Kick-Off Symposium, Japan Science and Technology Industry (Tokyo) 16 June 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. [https://www.jst.go.jp/report/2021/210726\\_e.html](https://www.jst.go.jp/report/2021/210726_e.html)

<sup>2989</sup> What is the Digital Agency?, Digital Agency of Japan (Tokyo) 1 September 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.digital.go.jp/en>

<sup>2990</sup> National Data Strategy, National Strategy Office of IT, Cabinet Secretariat (Tokyo) 6 June 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. [https://cio.go.jp/sites/default/files/uploads/documents/digital/20210901\\_en\\_05.pdf](https://cio.go.jp/sites/default/files/uploads/documents/digital/20210901_en_05.pdf)

<sup>2991</sup> Commitment to a Free, Fair, and Secure Cyberspace - About NISC (Tokyo) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.nisc.go.jp/eng/index.html>

<sup>2992</sup> Cybersecurity Strategy, The Government of Japan (Tokyo) 28 September 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.nisc.go.jp/eng/pdf/cs-senryaku2021-en.pdf>

<sup>2993</sup> Outcomes of the 14th ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Policy Meeting, The National Center of Incident Readiness and Cybersecurity (Tokyo) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. [https://www.nisc.go.jp/eng/pdf/AMSJ\\_CPM\\_20211021\\_eng\\_r2.pdf](https://www.nisc.go.jp/eng/pdf/AMSJ_CPM_20211021_eng_r2.pdf)

of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) through trilateral dialogue between government, academia and industry to facilitate cybersecurity exercises, cyber-infrastructure protection workshops and capacity building initiatives.

On 29 November 2021, Japan, alongside fellow G7 Health Ministers, released a joint statement reaffirming the importance of supporting research and development related to COVID-19 vaccines.<sup>2994</sup> Additionally, ministers expressed support for information sharing via an international pathogen surveillance network.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to work strongly with both the research community and the business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security. Japan has worked with both research and business community through the Cybersecurity for All initiative that aims to strength cyber infrastructure shared between businesses and post-secondary institutions and the 14th ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Policy Meeting that planned to facilitate cybersecurity capacity building initiatives between government, academia and industry

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Theresa Jones*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to work strongly with both the research community and the business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security.

On 20 July 2021, the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy published the guideline “National Security and Investment Act” which stated that prior approval from the government is required before research on 17 specified sensitive areas of the UK economy can be done, and that government intervention can only be taken under extreme conditions.<sup>2995</sup>

On 22 July 2021, the Secretary of State published the Innovation Strategy for the UK with the vision of the UK becoming a world-class innovation hub in 15 years.<sup>2996</sup> The policy actions include forming a Business Innovation Forum to implement this strategy, investing EUR25 million through the Connecting Capability Fund to drive university-business innovation and create new Prosperity Partnerships to set up business-led projects for transformational technologies.

On 9 August 2021, the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (DSTL), an executive agency of the Ministry of Defence, announced that it had sponsored and collaborated with academia to support innovative development, including the defence and security research programme operated by the Alan Turing

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<sup>2994</sup> G7 joint statement on the Omicron variant, G7 UK 2021 (London) 29 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. <https://www.g7uk.org/g7-joint-statement-on-the-omicron-variant/>

<sup>2995</sup> National Security and Investment Act: guidance for the higher education and research-intensive sectors, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 20 July 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-security-and-investment-act-guidance-for-the-higher-education-and-research-intensive-sectors>

<sup>2996</sup> UK Innovation Strategy: leading the future by creating it, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 22 July 2021. Access Date: 10 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-innovation-strategy-leading-the-future-by-creating-it/uk-innovation-strategy-leading-the-future-by-creating-it-accessible-webpage#secretary-of-states-foreword>



Institute.<sup>2997</sup> The DSTL will increase its budget to GBP6.6 billion to fund research and development, in which GBP1 billion will be spent on science and technology.<sup>2998</sup>

On 26 August 2021, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport published instructions for the UK manual to undertake assessments in international data transfers.<sup>2999</sup> The statement announced that UK adequacy, a status that allows the UK to freely transfer personal data elsewhere, is granted by the Secretary of State to remove data-related barriers between UK organizations and their international partners.<sup>3000</sup>

On 28 November 2021, the National Security Technology and Innovative Exchange, a government-led science, technology and innovation (ST&I) partnership, held a two-day annual event called the International Security Expo in Olympia, London that promoted the connection between government, industry and academia, and facilitated coherence and efficiency across the ST&I ecosystem to enhance research on national security.<sup>3001</sup>

On 29 November 2021, the United Kingdom organised an urgent meeting alongside other G7 members' health ministers as part of its 2021 G7 presidency to evaluate the developments of the uprising COVID-19 variant, Omicron.<sup>3002</sup> Ministers expressed support for information sharing via an international pathogen surveillance network.<sup>3003</sup>

On 8 December 2021, the Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation (CDEI) published an independent report on its roadmap for building an effective artificial intelligence (AI) ecosystem in the UK.<sup>3004</sup> The report stated that the CDEI has developed a reliable and trustworthy AI assurance system to support AI governance, business operations, and addressing the spread of misinformation on social media platforms.

On 17 December 2021, the DSTL issued a guideline for AI and robotics system developers to follow to ensure autonomous systems are used properly to aid humans in dangerous and difficult jobs.<sup>3005</sup> The DSTL will continue to monitor the AI industry to ensure that AI, autonomy, and robotics are used safely and ethically.

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<sup>2997</sup> AI and data science: defence science and technology capability, Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (London) 9 August 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ai-and-data-science-defence-science-and-technology-capability>

<sup>2998</sup> Dstl research and funding priorities, Defence Science and Technology Laboratory, Ministry of Defence, and Defence and Security Accelerator (London) 12 August 2021. Access Date: 30 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/dstl-research-and-funding-priorities>

<sup>2999</sup> UK approach to international data transfer, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 26 August 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-approach-to-international-data-transfers>

<sup>3000</sup> International data transfers: building trust, delivering growth and firing up innovation, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 26 August 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-approach-to-international-data-transfers/international-data-transfers-building-trust-delivering-growth-and-firing-up-innovation>

<sup>3001</sup> Industry event: International Security Expo, National Security Technology and Innovative Exchange (London) 12 October 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/industry-event-international-security-expo>

<sup>3002</sup> Government takes decisive action against new COVID-19 variant, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 28 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-takes-decisive-action-against-new-covid-19-variant>

<sup>3003</sup> G7 joint statement on the Omicron variant, G7 UK 2021 (London) 29 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. <https://www.g7uk.org/g7-joint-statement-on-the-omicron-variant/>

<sup>3004</sup> Independent report: The roadmap to an effective AI assurance ecosystem, Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation (London) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-roadmap-to-an-effective-ai-assurance-ecosystem>

<sup>3005</sup> Robotics and autonomous systems: defence science and technology capability, Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (London) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/robotics-and-autonomous-systems-defence-science-and-technology-capability>

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to work strongly with both the research community and the business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security. The UK has worked with its research community through the Open Innovation Team and the National Security Technology and Innovative Exchange. The UK has worked with the business community through its Innovation Strategy which established a Business Innovation Forum and invested in university-business innovative collaborations.

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

*Analyst: Kelly Chan*

### **United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to work strongly with both the research community and the business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security.

On 15 June 2021, the United States signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the National Science Foundation of the United States of America and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada.<sup>3006</sup> The memorandum “paves the way for new opportunities between members of the research community in both countries to build diverse and inclusive collaborations at the frontiers of science and emerging technologies.”

On 10 August 2021, Science Advisor to the President and Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy Eric Lander announced that his office will work with the National Science and Technology Council on the government’s implementation plan for the National Security Presidential Memorandum-33 (NSMP-33).<sup>3007</sup> The implementation guidance will address policy concerning conflicts of interest, oversight and enforcement for disclosure violations and research security requirements for federally funded research organizations.

On 11 August 2021, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy and the National Science Foundation sponsored a community forum with representatives from university and scientific associations to gain advice for the implementation of NSMP-33.<sup>3008</sup>

On 4 October 2021, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases released Data Management and Sharing Guidelines in which they endorsed the rapid release of both experimental, clinical and other metadata associated with genomic, omics and other data valuable to research.<sup>3009</sup>

On 26 October 2021, through an announcement on the Strategic Partnership between the US and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the US committed to provide up to USD40 million to

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<sup>3006</sup> Joint statement to Leaders from the United States’ Director of the White House Office of Science & Technology Policy and Canada’s Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, The White House (Washington D.C.) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/news-updates/2021/11/18/joint-statement-to-leaders-from-the-united-states-director-of-the-white-house-office-of-science-technology-policy-and-canadas-minister-of-innovation-science-and-industry-2/>

<sup>3007</sup> Clear Rules for Research Security and Researcher Responsibility, The White House (Washington D.C.) 10 August 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/news-updates/2021/08/10/clear-rules-for-research-security-and-researcher-responsibility/>

<sup>3008</sup> Readout of National Security Presidential Memorandum 33 Community Forum, The White House (Washington D.C.) 12 August 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/news-updates/2021/08/12/readout-of-national-security-presidential-memorandum-33-community-forum/>

<sup>3009</sup> Data Management and Sharing Guidelines, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (Bethesda) 4 October 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.niaid.nih.gov/research/data-sharing-guidelines>

“accelerate joint research, strengthen health system capacity, and develop the next generation of human capital in health through the US-ASEAN Health Futures initiative.”<sup>3010</sup>

On 29 November 2021, the US, alongside fellow G7 Health Ministers, released a joint statement reaffirming the importance of supporting research and development related to COVID-19 vaccines.<sup>3011</sup> Additionally, ministers expressed support for information sharing via an international pathogen surveillance network.

On 2 January 2022, Dr. Lander issued a statement regarding implementation guidance for NSPM-33.<sup>3012</sup> He directed federal research agencies to “develop model grant application forms and instructions that can be used by any federal research funding agency,” allowing researchers to clearly understand what to submit when applying for funding and improving consistency across agencies.

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to work strongly with both the research community and the business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security. The US has worked with its research community by consulting research institutions on the implementation of NSPM-33, simplifying grant applications and publishing Data Management and Sharing Guidelines. However, the US has failed to collaborate strongly with the business community.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Peter Mikulasb*

### **European Union: 0**

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to work strongly with both the research community and the business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security.

On 15 June 2021, the European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and President Joe Biden of the United States announced the formation of the EU-US Trade and Technology Council (TTC) at the US-EU Summit in Brussels.<sup>3013</sup> The TTC is a platform for EU and the US to cooperatively solve global economic and technology issues and support collaborative technological research. The TTC puts emphasis on the proper collection and usage of data, ICT security and preventing the misuse of technology that threatens security and human rights.

On 11 November 2021, President von der Leyen announced that the EU will join the other 27 Member States in the Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace, which aims at restoring a safe internet.<sup>3014</sup> She also announced the legislation of a European Cyber Resilience Act to establish common security standards for connected devices in European markets. President von der Leyen affirmed that the EU has been working

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<sup>3010</sup> Fact Sheet: New initiatives to Expand the U.S.-ASEAN Strategic Partnership, The White House (Washington D.C.) 26 October 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/10/26/fact-sheet-new-initiatives-to-expand-the-u-s-asean-strategic-partnership/>

<sup>3011</sup> G7 joint statement on the Omicron variant, G7 UK 2021 (London) 29 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. <https://www.g7uk.org/g7-joint-statement-on-the-omicron-variant/>

<sup>3012</sup> Guidance for U.S. Scientific Research Security That Preserves International Collaboration, The White House (Washington D.C.) 4 January 2022. Access Date: 15 January. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/news-updates/2022/01/04/guidance-for-u-s-scientific-research-security-that-preserves-international-collaboration/>

<sup>3013</sup> EU-US launch Trade and Technology Council to lead values-based global digital transformation, European Commission (Brussels) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_2990](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_2990)

<sup>3014</sup> Speech by President von der Leyen at the Paris Peace Forum, European Commission (Washington D.C.) 11 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/SPEECH\\_21\\_5977](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/SPEECH_21_5977)

closely with the US in the EU-US TTC to define shared principles for constructing a reliable and safe artificial intelligence (AI) system.

On 11 November 2021, the EU attended the second annual plenary of the GPAI in Paris alongside leading international AI experts and 18 representatives from member countries.<sup>3015</sup> The Paris Summit encouraged all members to leverage the proposals and recommendations of GPAI experts to ensure a responsible and ethical development of AI.

On 22 November 2021, the European Commission partnered with the Government of Canada to examine the use of digital credentials.<sup>3016</sup> Their partnership resulted in a series of workshops and a report entitled “Canada and the European Union Joint Workshop Series for Enabling Interoperability and Mutual Support for Digital Credentials.” Future work involves addressing recommendations from the report to collaborate on digital credentials research and innovation, focusing on interoperability and mutual support while protecting privacy and personal data.

On 24 November 2021, the European Research Council Executive Agency (ERCEA), an executive agency established by the European Commission to manage EU research programs, published a record explaining the changes in the transfer of personal data to third countries or international organizations.<sup>3017</sup> The Data Controller and the Data Protection Officer of the ERCEA will access and take actions to safeguard these personal data under extreme conditions.

On 29 November 2021, the EU, alongside fellow G7 Health Ministers, released a joint statement reaffirming the importance of supporting research and development related to COVID-19 vaccines.<sup>3018</sup> Additionally, ministers expressed support for information sharing via an international pathogen surveillance network.

On 30 November 2021, the European Commission released a statement to support the statisticians in collaboration with the Eurostat and national statistical authorities in the European Statistical System and establish guidelines on addressing the disturbance of the collection and data processing due to the pandemic.<sup>3019</sup>

On 2 December 2021, at the high-level conference on “Joining forces for the next generation of Better Regulation,” Vice-President of the European Commission for Interinstitutional Relations Maroš Šefčovič elaborated on the Better Regulation agenda that includes working with stakeholders to develop “agile and

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<sup>3015</sup> Minister Champagne attends the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence Paris Summit, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 11 November 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/11/minister-champagne-attends-the-global-partnership-on-artificial-intelligence-paris-summit.html>

<sup>3016</sup> Government of Canada announces partnership with the European Commission to examine the use of digital credentials, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 22 November 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/11/government-of-canada-announces-partnership-with-the-european-commission-to-examine-the-use-of-digital-credentials.html>

<sup>3017</sup> Record of Personal Data Processing, European Research Council Executive Agency (Brussels) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022.

[https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/58\\_Trasmision\\_of\\_personal\\_data\\_of\\_ERCEA\\_Staff\\_to\\_third\\_parties.pdf](https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/58_Trasmision_of_personal_data_of_ERCEA_Staff_to_third_parties.pdf)

<sup>3018</sup> G7 joint statement on the Omicron variant, G7 UK 2021 (London) 29 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. <https://www.g7uk.org/g7-joint-statement-on-the-omicron-variant/>

<sup>3019</sup> COVID-19: Support for Statisticians, European Commission (Luxembourg) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/metadata/covid-19-support-for-statisticians>

future-proof regulations” to take advantage of innovations while alleviating possible risks and adverse impact.<sup>3020</sup> He encouraged EU Member States to set up regulatory sandboxes for AI development and testing.

On 13 December 2021, the EU Science Hub announced that the European Commission’s Joint Research Centre (JRC) had successfully developed a new detection method for the Omicron variant.<sup>3021</sup> The JRC shared its findings with EU policymakers and other scientists to help leaders to monitor and suppress the further spread of the Omicron variant around the globe.

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to work strongly with both the research community and the business community to remove barriers in sharing knowledge, data and tools while recognizing research security. The EU has worked with its research community by publishing a methodological note on maintaining the data quality for the agricultural census and guidelines on addressing the distribution on data collection and processing. Additionally, the EU has committed to working with stakeholders to create agile and future-proof regulations. However, the EU has yet to commit to specific collaboration with the business community.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Kelly Chan*

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<sup>3020</sup> Speech by Vice-President Šefčovič at the high-level conference on ‘Joining forces for the next generation of Better Regulation’, European Commission (Brussels) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/SPEECH\\_21\\_6530](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/SPEECH_21_6530)

<sup>3021</sup> Efficient tracing of Omicron with new PCR test, EU Science Hub (Brussels) 13 December 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. <https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/news/efficient-tracing-omicron-new-pcr-test>