

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

2019 G7 Biarritz Summit Final Compliance Report

27 August 2019 — 1 November 2020

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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	5
Summary	7
The Final Compliance Score	7
Compliance by Member	7
Compliance by Commitment	7
The Compliance Gap Between Members	7
Future Research and Reports	8
Table A: 2019 Priority Commitments Selected for Assessment*	9
Table B: 2019 G7 Biarritz Final Compliance Scores	11
Table C: 2019 G7 Biarritz Final Compliance Scores by Member	12
Table D: 2019 G7 Biarritz Final Compliance Scores by Commitment	13
1. Digital Economy: Digital Infrastructure	14
2. Digital Economy: Digital Democracy	27
3. Digital Economy: Artificial Intelligence	48
4. Gender: Gender Equality	76
5. Gender: Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa	99
6. Gender: Women’s Entrepreneurship in Africa	121
7. Gender: STEM Education	148
8. Regional Security: Iran	165
9. Regional Security: G5 Sahel Security and Development	201
10. Regional Security: G5 Sahel Police	232
11. Development: G5 Sahel	261
12. Development: Sustainable Development Goals	287
13. Development: Entrepreneurship in Africa	335
14. Trade: World Trade Organization Reform	351
15. Trade: Tax Policy	362
16. Health: Primary Health Care	386
17. Health: Universal Health Coverage	408
18. Health: Mental Health	474
19. Environment: Biodiversity	499
20. Crime and Corruption: Procurement	529
21. Education: G5 Sahel	540

Introduction

In a year that has seen many plans disrupted, this report marks two unusual events in the history of the G7. First, as a result of the rapid global spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, G7 leaders planned to meet by videoconference on the dates they had been scheduled to meet in person at Camp David under the U.S. presidency on 10-12 June 2020. Then, on 30 May, just before the virtual summit was to take place, it was postponed indefinitely. President Donald Trump as host subsequently suggested that it might be held after the presidential election on 3 November.

This provided the G7 Research Group the opportunity to produce two interim compliance reports, the first as usual midway between the Biarritz Summit in August 2019 and the Camp David Summit scheduled for June 2020, and the second assessing compliance up to 3 June. This third and final report assesses compliance up to 1 November 2020, on the eve of the end of the U.S. 2020 presidency. A separate report, assessing compliance with the commitments made at the G7 leaders' emergency summit, held by videoconference on 16 March 2020 to respond to COVID-19, is being prepared for release before the 2021 summit, to be hosted by the United Kingdom.

Both the interim reports and this final report on the 2019 Biarritz Summit, as well as all previous compliance reports, are available at the G7 Information Centre website at <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance>.

The timing of the 2019 compliance reports on the priority commitments of the Biarritz Summit reflects key moments in an extraordinary year. The first report, released on 15 March 2020, covered G7 members' implementing actions up to 20 December 2019, just before the SARS-CoV-2 virus began to spread internationally and the United States assumed the G7 presidency on 1 January 2020. The second report extended the assessment period to 3 June 2020, and reflected the impacts of the first wave of the global pandemic. This final report allows a view of the effects of the sustained response and preparations for the recovery on G7 members' compliance with their 2019 commitments, up to 1 November — just before the first vaccines were approved for general use and just before the U.S. election. It thus covers most of Donald Trump's year as G7 host.

For these assessments, G7 Research Group researchers selected 21 priority commitments from the total of 71 commitments made at the Biarritz Summit, hosted by France on 24-26 August 2019. As always, researchers rely on publicly available information, documentation and media reports of actions taken between the day after the summit and a specific end date, in the case of the final report soon before the next summit.

The G7 Research Group has been producing these 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 always available to the general public and to policy makers, academics, civil society, the media and interested citizens 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 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 Meagan Byrd, chair of summit studies, and her team of compliance directors, lead analysts and analysts. It would also not be possible without the efforts of Brittaney Warren, director of compliance, Dr. Ella Kokotsis, director of accountability, and Madeline Koch, executive director, and Professor John Kirton, director of the G7 Research Group.

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 University of Toronto G7 Research Group's Final Compliance Report on the 2019 Biarritz Summit assesses the compliance of the G7 members with 21 priority commitments selected from the total of 71 made at their summit on 24-26 August in France (see Table A). It is based on members' implementing actions taken between 27 August 2019 and 1 November 2020, building on the first and second interim compliance reports. This selection of commitments reflects the breadth and focus of the summit agenda, including the host's priorities and the built-in issues. This analysis was intended to present the final findings for the period leading up to the G7 2020 summit under the U.S. presidency, originally scheduled to be hosted by President Donald Trump at Camp David on 10–12 June 2020. Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the summit was first reorganized to be held virtually. Then, after President Trump announced his intention to return to an in-person summit, it was postponed indefinitely, with a suggestion it would be held after the presidential election on 3 November. This report thus assesses G7 members' actions to fulfill their Biarritz commitments up to 1 November, and is released just as the G7 presidency transfers from the United States to the United Kingdom for 2021.

The first and second interim compliance reports are available at <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance>.

The Final 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.

As indicated in Table B, for the period of 27 August 2019 to 1 November 2020, average compliance for the 21 commitments assessed is +0.59 (79%). This is a moderate increase from the second interim score of +0.50 (75%), which measured compliance between 28 August 2019 and 3 June 2020, and was a more significant rise from the first interim score of +0.24 (62%) up to 20 December 2019.

Although compliance rose over the course of 2020, the final score for the Biarritz Summit is nonetheless a little lower than the final scores for the three previous summits. Table C contains the compliance scores from previous years.

Compliance by Member

For the full compliance period from the 2019 Biarritz Summit up to 1 November 2020, the highest complier was Germany at +0.86 (93%), followed by the United Kingdom at +0.81 (90%) and the European Union at +0.71 (86%). These same three G7 members were in the top three spots for both interim reports, but in a different order for each one. France, host of the 2019 summit, maintained its fourth-place ranking at +0.67 (84%). Italy's compliance, in last spot, rose to +0.19 (60%). Table C contains the scores by member.

Compliance by Commitment

As with the second interim compliance report, three commitments had compliance of +1.00 (100%): one on digital democracy, one on artificial intelligence and one on universal health coverage. They were followed now by four commitments at +0.88 (94%): one on gender equality, one on the Sustainable Development Goals, one on biodiversity, and one on security and development in the Sahel. The commitment on primary health care remained ranked lowest, but rose to -0.13 (44%). Table D contains all the scores by commitment.

The Compliance Gap Between Members

Although the individual scores for both countries and commitments changed and overall compliance did rise significantly over the whole assessment period, the gap between the highest and lowest compliance by member remained unchanged from the second interim compliance report, at 0.67, although smaller than the gap of 0.81 from the first report.

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 21 commitments for the period beginning immediately after the Biarritz Summit in August 2019 until 1 November 2020. 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.

Table A: 2019 Priority Commitments Selected for Assessment*

	Commitment
1	“Enabling the necessary digital infrastructure in order to reduce the digital gap and inequality, including in isolated countries and regions that are excluded or underserved.” (2019-37)
2	“We are determined to work collaboratively to reinforce our democracies against illicit and malign behavior and foreign hostile interference by state and non-state actors.” (2019-67)
3	“We will continue to explore ways to advance our work on AI [artificial intelligence] to understand and share on a regular basis, multidisciplinary research results on artificial intelligence issues and best practices, as well as bringing together international artificial intelligence initiatives.” (2019-71)
4	“Aside from our domestic commitments, we stand ready to support interested countries through our different expertise and development mechanisms to adopt, implement and monitor laws that remedy this and advance gender equality.” (2019-54)
5	“We support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative including through the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).” (2019-30)
6	“We will continue to support women’s entrepreneurship in Africa, including by supporting the removal of legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women’s full and free economic participation and empowerment.” (2019-35)
7	“[We] ... endeavor to work together with developing countries to promote inclusion, equity and access of girls and women to quality education, including access to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).” (2019-60)
8	“[We share an objective] to foster peace and stability in the region.” (2019-7)
9	“We [support the efforts of countries in the region, notably those in the G5, in coming together to address these security and development challenges and] remain committed to working with them to improve and better coordinate efforts to enhance their defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.” (2019-12)
10	“As the G7, we will work with the United Nations and INTERPOL in order to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.” (2019-16)
11	“We support facilitating increased access of G5 countries to all available public and private finance.” (2019-18)
12	“We are determined to work together to address global challenges, in line with Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda and taking into account the African Union Agenda 2063.” (2019-29)
13	“We reiterate our willingness to continue to develop entrepreneurship and private sector youth employment in Africa through multilateral initiatives, such as the G20 Compact with Africa and other bilateral initiatives supported by individual G7 members.” (2019-28)
14	“[Therefore, the G7 wishes to overhaul the WTO [World Trade Organization] to improve effectiveness with regard to eliminate unfair trade practices.” (2019-4)
15	“The G7 commits to reaching in 2020 an agreement to simplify regulatory barriers and modernize international taxation within the framework of the OECD [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development].” (2019-5)
16	“We commit to pursuing our efforts to strengthen quality primary health care in Sahel countries, with a specific focus on gender equality and women’s empowerment.” (2019-23)
17	“We recall our commitment to moving towards achieving universal health coverage according to national contexts and priorities, building resilient and sustainable health systems, in order to be able to reach the most affected communities.” (2019-25)
18	“We will continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims’ specific medical, psychological and social needs while making those responsible accountable.” (2019-56)
19	“Leaders endorsed the G7 Metz Charter on Biodiversity and committed to take swift action on biodiversity, either individually or jointly, in the run up to COP15 [15th Conference of the Parties] of the Convention on Biological Diversity.” (2019-61)

20	“We support enhancing public procurement transparency and standards, in order to improve the business and investment climate, transparency, accountability and debt sustainability through the constructive involvement of governments, businesses and civil society organization, thus contributing to the fight against corruption.” (2019-33)
21	“[We will encourage partner countries’ governments and other donors to join a collective effort in strengthening education systems, thus increasing our coordination and our political and financial support to education, including basic education.” (2019-22)

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

Table B: 2019 G7 Biarritz Final Compliance Scores

		Canada	France	Germany	Italy	Japan	United Kingdom	United States	European Union	Average	
1	Digital economy: Digital infrastructure	+1	0	+1	0	0	+1	0	+1	+0.50	75%
2	Digital economy: Digital democracy	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
3	Digital economy: Artificial intelligence	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
4	Gender: Gender equality	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.88	94%
5	Gender: Affirmative finance action for women in Africa	+1	0	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	0	+0.63	81%
6	Gender: Women's entrepreneurship in Africa	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	0	0	+0.63	81%
7	Gender: STEM education	+1	+1	+1	-1	-1	0	0	0	+0.13	56%
8	Regional security: Iran	0	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+0.75	88%
9	Regional security: G5 Sahel security and development	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+0.88	94%
10	Regional security: G5 Sahel police	0	0	+1	0	+1	0	0	+1	+0.38	69%
11	Development: G5 Sahel	0	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	0	0	+0.50	75%
12	Development: Sustainable Development Goals	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.88	94%
13	Development: Entrepreneurship in Africa	+1	+1	+1	-1	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.63	81%
14	Trade: World Trade Organization reform	0	0	0	-1	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.25	63%
15	Trade: Tax policy	+1	0	+1	0	0	+1	-1	0	+0.25	63%
16	Health: Primary health care	+1	-1	+1	-1	-1	0	0	0	-0.13	44%
17	Health: Universal health coverage	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
18	Health: Mental health	-1	+1	+1	-1	-1	+1	0	+1	+0.13	56%
19	Environment: Biodiversity	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.88	94%
20	Crime and corruption: Procurement	-1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+0.63	81%
21	Education: G5 Sahel	+1	+1	0	0	0	0	0	+1	+0.38	69%
	2019 final compliance average	+0.62	+0.67	+0.86	+0.19	+0.48	+0.81	+0.29	+0.71	+0.58	79%
		81%	83%	93%	60%	74%	90%	64%	86%		

Table C: 2019 G7 Biarritz Final Compliance Scores by Member

	2019						2018				2017				2016			
	Final		2nd interim		1st interim		Final		Interim		Final		Interim		Final		Interim	
United Kingdom	+0.86	93%	+0.76	88%	+0.43	72%	+0.85	93%	+0.70	85%	+0.84	92%	+0.56	78%	+0.53	77%	+0.64	82%
Germany	+0.81	90%	+0.76	88%	+0.48	74%	+0.50	75%	+0.40	70%	+0.63	82%	+0.44	72%	+0.67	84%	+0.55	78%
European Union	+0.71	86%	+0.67	83%	+0.52	76%	+0.90	95%	+0.85	93%	+0.95	98%	+0.94	97%	+0.67	84%	+0.91	96%
France	+0.67	83%	+0.67	83%	+0.33	67%	+0.65	83%	+0.45	73%	+0.68	84%	+0.50	75%	+0.26	63%	+0.27	64%
Canada	+0.62	81%	+0.48	74%	+0.05	53%	+0.80	90%	+0.70	85%	+0.68	84%	+0.44	72%	+0.58	79%	+0.55	78%
Japan	+0.48	74%	+0.38	69%	+0.38	69%	+0.68	84%	+0.58	79%	+0.47	74%	+0.25	63%	+0.28	64%	+0.18	59%
United States	+0.29	64%	+0.19	60%	+0.05	53%	+0.47	74%	+0.24	62%	+0.17	59%	+0.13	57%	+0.63	82%	+0.82	91%
Italy	+0.19	60%	+0.10	55%	-0.29	39%	+0.50	75%	+0.15	58%	+0.37	69%	+0.31	66%	+0.21	61%	+0.18	59%
Average	+0.58	79%	+0.50	75%	+0.24	62%	+0.66	83%	+0.51	76%	+0.59	80%	+0.44	72%	+0.49	75%	+0.51	76%
Spread	0.67		0.67		0.81		0.45		0.70		0.78		0.81		0.46		0.73	

Table D: 2019 G7 Biarritz Final Compliance Scores by Commitment

1	Digital economy: Artificial intelligence	+1.00	100%
	Digital economy: Digital democracy		
	Health: Universal health coverage		
4	Development: Sustainable Development Goals	+0.88	94%
	Environment: Biodiversity		
	Gender: Gender equality		
	Regional security: G5 Sahel security and development		
8	Regional security: Iran	+0.75	88%
9	Crime and corruption: Procurement	+0.63	81%
	Development: Entrepreneurship in Africa		
	Gender: Affirmative finance action for women in Africa		
	Gender: Women's entrepreneurship in Africa		
13	Development: G5 Sahel	+0.50	75%
	Digital economy: Digital infrastructure		
15	Education: G5 Sahel	+0.38	69%
	Regional security: G5 Sahel police		
17	Trade: Tax policy	+0.25	63%
	Trade: World Trade Organization reform		
19	Gender: STEM education	+0.13	56%
	Health: Mental health		
21	Health: Primary health care	-0.13	44%