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

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

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

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

*Sahel Partnership Action Plan*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member</th>
<th>No Compliance</th>
<th>Partial Compliance</th>
<th>Full Compliance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>−1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>Germany</td>
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<td>Italy</td>
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<td>United States</td>
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<td>European Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>−0.13 (44%)</td>
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**Background**

On 16 February 2014, the leaders of Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Chad met in Nouakchott, Mauritania to create the G5 Sahel, in order to improve cooperation, security, and development in the Sahel region of Africa.\(^{1589}\) The goals of the G5 Sahel group are to:

- Guarantee the conditions required for economic development and peace in the Sahel Region
- Provide a framework for strategic intervention for improving living conditions in the region
- Combine development with security through democracy and good governance, while promoting regional and international cooperation
- Promote inclusive and sustainable development in the Sahel Region.\(^{1590}\)

On 1 August 2014, France launched Operation Barkhane, a counter-terrorism operation focused on fighting and neutralizing jihadist organizations operating in the Sahel region, deploying 3,000 soldiers to the region to support the G5 Sahel countries.\(^{1591}\)

On 5 June 2017, the European Union pledged EUR50 million for the creation of a larger, multinational joint Sahel task force, merging the French soldiers from the prior Operation Barkhane with soldiers from various other countries, totaling a force of 10,000 soldiers.\(^{1592}\)

With one of the major themes of the Biarritz Summit focusing on cooperation with Africa, the Sahel region was brought forward as a significant discussion point for the first time. In the Sahel

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\(^{1589}\) Le G5 Sahel, G5 Sahel (Nouakchott) 29 September 2015. Access Date: 7 December 2019. https://www.g5sahel.org/qui-sommes-nous/le-g5-sahel


Partnership Action Plan, G7 leaders outlined the major issues facing the region, and how the G7 and G5 Sahel can work together to improve the pace at which the G5 Sahel group reaches its goals. A major focus was the security aspect of the G5 Sahel goals, with the G7 calling for international cooperation between the G7 and G5 Sahel, as well as the United Nations as INTERPOL.

**Commitment Features**

While the goals of the G5 Sahel group focus on both security and development, the commitment text focuses on specifically bolstering the G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities. As such, for all aspects of this commitment only actions that address security issues will be considered for compliance.

The primary measure of compliance for this commitment will be cooperation with the aim of improving regional security in the Sahel. Compliance will be split into two sections; the first type of compliance will be G7 cooperation with UN to address security issues, and the second type of compliance will be cooperation with INTERPOL to address security issues in the Sahel region. Examples of the first type of compliance include, but are not limited to, cooperation with INTERPOL to specifically address security issues, funding provisions for security issues, bolstering of the G5 Sahel joint security force through military or financial contributions, and cooperation with INTERPOL in providing key information that would aid in counter-terrorism operations in the Sahel region. Examples of the second type of compliance include, but are not limited to, cooperation with UN to directly target and neutralize threats from Sahel region jihadist groups, and financial support of or participation in multinational UN security operations in the Sahel region.

In order to achieve a full compliance score, a G7 member must take actions of both the first and second types. In order to achieve a partial compliance score, a G7 member must take actions of either the first or second type. A G7 member who does not take either type of actions will receive a score of no compliance.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

**Scoring Guidelines**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-1</td>
<td>G7 member has not cooperated with United Nations OR with INTERPOL to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>G7 member has cooperated with United Nations OR with INTERPOL to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+1</td>
<td>G7 member has cooperated with United Nations AND with INTERPOL to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Compliance Director: Ian Stansbury
Lead Analyst: Bogdan Stovba

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Canada: -

Canada has not complied with its commitment to work with United Nations and INTERPOL to provide appropriate support to the G5 Sahel group in developing more efficient security and defence capabilities.

On 1 September 2019, Canada ended its peacekeeping mission in Mali that was a part of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission (MINUSMA). Only “a small number of CAF members will remain in the region” until January 2020. There is no indication that Operation PRESENCE Malí would resume at a later date. However, Canada will continue to provide financial, military personnel, military training, and civilian police officers in Mali through the Peace and Stabilization Operations Program and Canadian Policy Arrangements.

On 14 March 2020, a Canadian woman and Italian man kidnapped in Burkina Faso in 2018 were found by MINUSMA peacekeeping forces. Canada Minister of Foreign Affairs François-Phillippe Champagne indicated that the Government of Canada was working closely with the leaders of Burkina Faso and Mali to apprehend the perpetrators.

On April 7 2020, Travel and Tourism Canada updated its travel advisories, warning against “non-essential” to Burkina Faso “due to the threat of terrorism.” Updated travel advisory all recommend to “avoid all travel” to provinces along Mali, Niger, Benin and Togo boarded due to “terrorist threat as well as the risk of banditry and kidnapping.”

Canada has failed to extend its pivotal PRESENCE-MALI mission despite increasing tensions in the region and growing threat of terrorism. Canada has not demonstrated effort to work with INTERPOL and reduced its cooperation with United Nations to support Sahel countries security and defect capabilities improvement.

Thus, Canada receives a score of −1.

**France: 0**

France has partially complied with its commitment to 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.

Between 29 September and 7 October 2019, French soldiers of the “Belleface” desert battle group led a major operation, which mobilized about 200 men and 40 vehicles, to establish zone control in the three-border area of the Liptako region and to strengthen the Operational Military Partnership with the Malian Armed Forces in the area. The operation led to the improvement and reinforcement of passive defense points in the cities and the Malian military camps, with the aim of preventing the armed terrorist groups from operating in the region.

On 3 October 2019, the French Barkhane force participated in the operational coordination committee of the G5 Sahel member countries, organized by the General Staff of the Armies of Chad, which aimed to increase cooperation between the forces. Participation in the coordination committee improved “understanding of the complementary” of the Barkhane and the G5 Sahel members armed forces “in the fight against armed terrorist groups.”

On 10 October 2019, the G5 Sahel Joint Force, backed by the French-led Operation Barkhane force, completed a “major arms seizure” following a 10-day military counter-terrorism operation in northern Niger, during which the French force carried out air drops and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance flights.

Between 1-17 November 2019, the G5 Sahel Joint Force, in cooperation with the armies of Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger, and with support from the Barkhane force, carried out operation Bourgou IV which aimed to disrupt the activity of armed terrorist groups in the in the “three borders” Sahel region. The operation mobilized over 1,400 soldiers, with 600 of them French. Bourgou IV succeeded in the coordination of all the troops and resulted in 25 terrorists neutralized or captured.

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64 vehicles destroyed, a large quantity of ammunition seized, over 100 phones recovered, and a fuel depot and an IED manufacturing workshop destroyed.1610

On 20 November 2019, Permanent Representative to the United Nations Nicolas de Rivière affirmed that France supports “the G-5 countries’ requests for increased multilateral support.” Rivière announced that a European special forces unit named Takuba will be deployed as part of Operation Barkhane in Mali starting in 2020 to support them on their path to autonomy.1611

On 19 December 2019, President Emmanuel Macron delivered a speech in Niamey, Niger following an attack on a military camp in Niger that killed 71 soldiers.1612 Macron vowed to keep fighting extremism in the region, noting that the Sahel is at a “turning point” in the war, and emphasized the need to redefine and clarify military and political objectives at the upcoming summit on 13 January 2020 with the Sahel G5 leaders in Pau, France.1613

On 20 December 2019, Operation Barkhane forces killed 33 Islamist militants in Mali near the Mauritanian border where a “group linked to Al Qaeda operates,” utilizing helicopters, ground troops, and a drone.1614 The operation also included a seizure of four equipped trucks, four motorcycles, and a large volume of armaments including heavy machine guns, as well as a release of two Malian hostage gendarmes.1615

Between 27-29 December 2019, the G5 Sahel Joint Force Staff met with representatives of the Sahel national armies and the Barkhane Force at the Niamey command post.1616 General Facon, Commander of the Barkhane, “stressed that all the conditions are met for increased cooperation in the fight” and reaffirmed the need to continue strengthening the joint operationalization between the partner forces in the region.1617

On 13 January 2020, President Macron hosted the G5 Sahel member countries’ heads of state at a summit in Pau, France, where they reaffirmed their commitment to jointly combat terrorism in the Sahel region and urged international partners to increase their aid. This heads of state formed a new framework, “Coalition for the Sahel,” on the basis of four pillars: the fight against terrorism, strengthening of military capabilities of states in the region, support for the return of the state and administrations on the territory, and development assistance.

On 2 February 2020, the French Ministry of the Armed Forces issued a press release announcing the deployment of 600 more troops in the Barkhane force. This action was taken as part of the Coalition for the Sahel framework agreed upon at the Pau summit and brought the total number of troops to approximately 5,100.

Between 6-7 February 2020, Operation Barkhane neutralized 20 terrorists and destroyed several vehicles in a double targeted strike west of the Gourma region. This operation aimed was conducted to reduce “the potential of armed terrorist groups” by destroying their supply chains.

Between 9-15 February 2020, Operation Barkhane’s “Steel” desert battle group carried out an operation in Liptako, Mali, during which one terrorist was put out of action, several resources were seized, and terrorist group materials were destroyed.

Between 9-17 February 2020, Operation Barkhane utilized drones, jet fighters and combat helicopters to carry out two operations in the Mopti region in Mali, which neutralized approximately 50 jihadist fighters, destroyed over 30 vehicles, and allowed for major weapon seizures. This operation aims to “weaken the offensive potential of armed terrorist groups.”

On 12 February 2020, a Barkhane-taught three-week training course for special Malian anti-terrorism units (USAT-2) was concluded in a ceremony which saw the graduation of 97 Malian soldiers.

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This training also helped with establishing “real working relations … between French and Malian soldiers.”

On 20 February 2020, the Nigerian defense ministry released a balance sheet demonstrating that 120 terrorists have been neutralized in southwestern Niger since the start of the joint military operation conducted by the Nigerian armed forces and the French Barkhane force on 1 February 2020. Niger’s defence minister welcomed the “cooperation with the strategic partner in the fight against terrorism” and noted that the joint operation is “in line with the recommendations resulting from the Pau summit.”

Between 3-23 March 2020, the Barkhane force conducted Operation Monclar in an unprecedented joint commitment with the Malian and Nigerian forces in the three-border region. Operation Monclar mobilized nearly 5,000 soldiers through the establishment of a Joining Command Mechanism, which made the large-scale coordination of forces possible; the operation brought “particularly notable results,” “neutralized a large number of terrorists,” and either seized or destroyed a “very large number of resources.”

On 27 March 2020, French Minister for Armed Forces Florence Parly held a remote conference with five other European Defense Ministers and the Defense Ministers in Mali and Niger to discuss the launch of the Takuba Task Force, a grouping of European special forces whose military contributions will be placed under Operation Barkhane’s command and will operate in the Liptako region. The Takuba Task Force is expected to become operational by early 2021 and will work in coordination with G5 Sahel partners, the UN mission (MINUSMA) and EU missions.

Between 2-5 April 2020, the “Dragon” desert battle group conducted a series of operations and sweeps along the Niger River in the area of the three borders to disrupt the movements of armed terrorist groups through and reassure local populations.

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On 8 April 2020, a French patrol of two Mirage 2000s responded to an air support request from a reconnaissance mission of a G5 Sahel joint in Burkina Faso and successfully supported troops on the ground in repelling an armed terrorist group.\textsuperscript{1637}

France has demonstrated efforts to counter terrorism and provide appropriate support to G5 countries through the work of the Operation Barkhane forces, which have collaborated with the G5 Sahel Joint Force to neutralize jihadist groups and stifle militant operations in all five countries. France, through its leadership role in the United Nations, is advocating for increased multilateral support for the G5 but there is no evidence of its cooperation with INTERPOL.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

\textit{Analyst: Mascha Kopytina}

\textbf{Germany: 0}

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to 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.

On 24 September 2019, Foreign Minister Heiko Maas stated that as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, Germany will focus on “peaceful cooperation and de-escalation” of conflicts in Syria, Gulf states, Yemen, Sahel region and Sudan.\textsuperscript{1638}

On 16 October 2019, at the Franco-German Defense and United Nations Security Council, Germany reaffirmed its commitment to “securing, stabilizing and developing the Sahel region.”\textsuperscript{1639} Germany also committed to working with France and the European Union on “the launch and implementation of the Partnership for Security and Stability in the Sahel (P3S).”\textsuperscript{1640}

In December 2019, the German Defense Ministry rejected for the second time a French request to dispatch “European special forces to tackle Mali’s dangerous security situation.”\textsuperscript{1641,1642} Germany also “turned down the request” to create a Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force.\textsuperscript{1643} This is an instance of lack of compliance with the commitment to cooperate with G5 Sahel nations.

\textsuperscript{1639} Agreed Conclusions, Franco-German Defence and Security Council (Toulouse) 16 October 2019. Access Date 21 January 2020. https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/blob/2258026/d0f478d0223d47c90dbe02f5426fc9c1/191016-erklarung-data.pdf
\textsuperscript{1640} Agreed Conclusions, Franco-German Defence and Security Council (Toulouse) 16 October 2019. Access Date 21 January 2020. https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/blob/2258026/d0f478d0223d47c90dbe02f5426fc9c1/191016-erklarung-data.pdf
On 29 December 2019, Defense Minister Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer stated that “Germany should consider expanding its troop mandate” in Sahel region.\(^\text{1644}\) Currently, 1100 Bundeswehr soldiers are “taking part in a UN mission in the region, as well as an EU military training mission,” however, the German mandate “does not cover taking part in counter-terrorism operations.”\(^\text{1645}\) Thus, Germany expressed desire to cooperate further with the G5 Sahel countries.

While Germany rejected the creation of the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force, it has demonstrated commitment to work with the United Nations and G5 Sahel countries to build more efficient police and defense capabilities. However, Germany has demonstrated that it is or will be working with INTERPOL on improving Sahel countries police capabilities.

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

**Analyst: Shamshir Malik**

**Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to work with the United Nations and INTERPOL in order to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defense capabilities.

On 29 August 2019, the Italian Army team, as part of the Bilateral Support Mission in Niger (MISIN), concluded its two-week improvised explosive device (IED) threat awareness course at the Niamey training centre.\(^\text{1646}\) The course taught the Nigerian Security Forces the procedures of combatting fundamentalist terrorism attacks caused by explosive devices through lessons on the characteristics of the IEDs and their effects.\(^\text{1647}\)

On 13 September 2019, the Mobile Training Team (MTT) of the Carabinieri, the Italian military force, concluded the final exercise of a forest combat techniques course as part of MISIN.\(^\text{1648}\) The course trained the Nigerian military forces on the proper defensive conduct in wooded areas, including specific techniques of concealment, “hand strike,” and ambush.\(^\text{1649}\)

On 27 September 2019, the MTT concluded the final exercise of a two-part Operative Intervention Techniques course as part of MISIN.\(^\text{1650}\) The course trained the National Guard of Niger and the Gendarmes in theoretical and practical skills of engagement in territorial control and police

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operations, and sought to develop the Nigerian forces’ knowledge of criminal law and procedure, the “jus in bello,” and the skills of carrying out immediate relief.\textsuperscript{1651}

On 25 September 2019, at the 74th United Nations General Assembly, Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte declared Italy’s “strong commitment to face the Sahel crisis.”\textsuperscript{1652} Prime Minister stated that Italy plans to “play a high profile role” on the African continent at bilateral level and also through coordination with the European Union.\textsuperscript{1653}

On 4 October 2019, Brigade General Claudio Dei of MISIN and Permanent Secretary Maman Sambo Sidikou of the G5 Sahel signed a military cooperation agreement for the training of personnel at the G5 Sahel Defense College in Nouakchott, Mauritania.\textsuperscript{1654} As part of the agreement, Italy committed to sending two MISIN officers to teach and train at the college.\textsuperscript{1655}

On 14 October 2019, the Ministry of Defense, with the aid of resources from the National Africa Fund and as part of the MISIN commitment, donated ten ambulances and three military tanks to the Government of Niger in a handover ceremony in Niamey.\textsuperscript{1656} This military equipment will increase Nigerian authorities’ capacity in “rescuing migrants and fighting human trafficking.”\textsuperscript{1657}

On 4 December 2019, Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations Stefano Stefanile outlined the Italian efforts to “support the G5 Sahel Joint Force both financially and through capacity building activities” and confirmed Italy’s “strong commitment to the stabilization of the Sahel” in a statement at the Peacebuilding Commission Session.\textsuperscript{1658}

On 22 December 2019, the MTT, under the command of the MISIN Brigadier General Claudio Dei, completed the training of the Paratrooper Battalion of Niger in a launch of 150 paratroopers.\textsuperscript{1659} The


\textsuperscript{1654} Signature of a military cooperation partnership between the G5Sahel Defense College and Italy, G5 Sahel (Nouakchott) 4 October 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. https://www.g5sahel.org/21-nos-activit%C3%A9s/defense-et-securite/1525-signature-d-un-partenariat-de-cooperation-militaire-entre-le-college-de-defense-du-g5sahel-et-l-italie.


Italy has demonstrated independent efforts to train and contribute to the defense of the security forces in Niger through the assistance initiative MISIN, and has cooperated with United Nations in the region. However, Italy has not directly cooperated with INTERPOL to target and neutralize threats in the Sahel region.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

\textit{Analyst: Mascha Kopytina}

\section*{Japan: 0}

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to work with the United Nations and INTERPOL to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.


for Peace and Stability in Africa” (NAPSA). Japan has committed to train 60,000 people in the areas of justice, police, security maintenance and others, as well as provide states with border control equipment. Japan has also committed to strengthen capacity-building through supporting 15 African Peacekeeping Operations Training Centres and enhance capability development through the United Nations Triangular Partnership Project for Rapid Deployment of Enabling Capabilities.

Japan’s cooperation with the United Nations is evidence of its commitment to build more efficient police and defence capabilities. However, it has not cooperated to the same extent with INTERPOL. Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

**United Kingdom 0**

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to 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.

On January 9, 2020, the United Kingdom ambassador Hames Roscoe conducted a briefing at the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel where he stated that “On the security and humanitarian side, as I said, we’re continuing to be concerned about the damaging cycles of violence that we’re seeing” and that to aid in this the UK “has just released a further 20 million pounds in additional humanitarian funding in the Sahel on top of the 50 million pounds we’re already spending to help address this situation.”

On January 16, 2020, United Kingdom ambassador Jonathan Allan, at the Security Council briefing on UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), said “we very much commend MINUSMA’s plans and efforts to adopt a more mobile, flexible and agile posture with high-end capabilities” and that “the UK’s planned deployment of 250 troops to the mission is testament to the important role that we believe MINUSMA plays and also of this region.”

On March 1, 2020, United Kingdom minister for Africa James Duddridge met with Sahel leaders to discuss “how the UK can support the fragile region in key sectors such as health and education, and

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help to build peace and security for millions.” Responding to a question from a Member of Parliament (MP) about terrorism in Sahel Africa, the minister stated that the UK is expanding “development, diplomacy and defence engagement to address the impacts and drivers of conflict and poverty” which included providing of “three CH-47 Chinook helicopters to French counter terrorism operation Barkhane [and] a UN peacekeeping deployment later this year.”

On March 3, 2020, United Kingdom Minister of State (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) James Cleverly answered a question from MP Harriet Baldwin on the potential security effects of developments in the Sahel Libya region, stating that “UK interests will be supported by lasting peace and stability in the Sahel and Libya” and that the UK will increase “support to the Sahel, bringing together our development, diplomacy and defence expertise to help tackle the underlying causes of poverty and conflict in the region.”

On 12 March, 2020, United Kingdom Minister of State answered another question from Baldwin about bi and multilateral programs in Sahel and Libya regions on 12 March, 2020, stating that at the G5 Leaders’ Summit the UK has restated its “commitment to increased efforts to improve security and encourage development in the Sahel.”

On April 7, 2020, United Kingdom ambassador James Roscoe gave a speech in the UN security council briefing on the situation in Mali and “welcoming the deployment of the reconstituted armed forces to Kidal, Gao, Timbuktu and Menaka.”

The United Kingdom has demonstrated commitment to expanding their military and financial commitments to provide support to G5 countries in areas of security and peace through bilateral programs and in cooperation with the United Nation but not INTERPOL.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

**Analyst: Faadil Butt**

**United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to 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.
On 18 September 2019, United States Africa Command (AFRICOM) commander Stephen Townsend met with the G5 Sahel joint force heads. The meeting was held to “get a better understanding of defence and security-related issues in the region” as well as to “ensure … future cooperation is understood and well-coordinated.” 1680 Commander Townsend confirmed US continuous support of “international effort taking place in Burkina Faso” aiming to contain “the spread of terrorism.”1681 The actions taken by the AFRICOM commander display cooperation with the G5 Sahel countries.

On 30 September 2019, the United States cooperated with the G5 Sahel countries and delivered the “second tranche of equipment to Chadian G5 Sahel security forces.”1682 The equipment includes “vehicle, communications gear, and other related support material” worth of US15 million and will “help Chad’s military and police forces fight terrorism and insecurity in the region.”1683

On 17 October 2019, AFRICOM hosted a “high level discussions on G5 Sahel region.”1684 The meeting was attended by the representatives of the US, Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Niger, Chad, as well as Germany, France, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom.

On 1 November 2019, U.S. Africa Command announced that intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance operations were conducted on the military base in Agadez, Niger.1685 AFRICOM commander U.S. Army Gen. Stephen Townsend commented: “We are working with our African and international partners to counter security threats in West Africa.1686 The construction of this base demonstrates our investment in our African partners and mutual security interests in the region.”1687


to Niger. The US also provided “training to troops operating under the Joint Force.” This displays the cooperation of the United States with the United Nations.

On 20 December 2019, according to Foreign Policy, the Trump administration is “creating a new special envoy position and task force” due to the “a growing alarm in Washington about the rise of extremist groups in West Africa.”

On 7 March 2020, Reuters reported that the United States has created a special envoy for Africa’s Sahel region to “counter rising violence from groups linked to al Qaeda and Islamic State which are expanding their foothold.” Envoy Peter Pham, who previously served as U.S. Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region of Africa, holds this newly created role.

The efforts of the United States to engage with G5 Sahel Countries, in partnership with the United Nations, are evidence of its commitment to build more efficient police and defence capabilities. However, there is no evidence that US has cooperated with INTERPOL on these matters.

Thus, the United States receive a score of 0.

**European Union: 0**

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to 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.

On 17-18 October 2019, EU representatives met with researchers, Sahel experts, and representatives from other Sahel partner members to share security and stability analyses for the Sahel region. Representatives also discussed the difficulty of border management and possible solutions.

On 12 November 2019, High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Federica Mogherini spoke at a conference after a meeting of the Foreign Affairs Council in Defense Formation. She announced that the EU decided to increase its presence and support given to

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Sahel partners in fighting terrorism and organized crime, especially Mali, through the support of security forces and diplomatic efforts. On 12 November 2019, the European Council formally adopted 13 new projects under the Permanent Structured Cooperation on Defence and Security (PESCO), including a new EUR10.5 billion “peace facility” proposed by High Representative Mogherini. The purpose of the facility would be to pay for military equipment, including lethal weaponry, for crisis zones such as the Sahel region.

On 25 November 2019, the Vice President of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the EU Special Representative Ambassador met in Nigeria to discuss regional security in West Africa. Parties discussed the importance of signing a Memorandum of Understanding to promote cooperation on G5 Sahel, especially protecting citizens living in areas affected by terrorism.

On 20 January 2020, High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borell announced that the EU Foreign Affairs Council would increase strategic cooperation with Sahel members as the leading partner and donor in the region. The Council expressed support for expanding the existing Sahel Strategy to increase security, stability and development in the region with maximum cooperation between actors involved in the Sahel region.


On 23 March 2020, the Council of the EU expanded the scope of the EU military mission contributing to the training of the Malian Armed Forces and increased the mission budget to

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EUR133.7 million for a four-year period. The Council also prolonged the mission until 18 May 2024. The mission will provide military assistance to the G5 Sahel Joint Force and national forces in G5 Sahel members through military advice, training, and mentoring conducted through coordination with the UN and ECOWAS.

On 24 March 2020, the EU donated 13 armoured vehicles to Niger to strengthen the capacity of Nigerien soldiers fighting against terrorism in the Sahel. Minister of National Defence of Niger Issoufou Katambé clarified that donated vehicles will protect deployed units in areas of operation against traps and explosive devices used by armed terrorist groups that seek to destabilize the border regions of Niger.

The EU has demonstrated efforts to support G5 members through funding and cooperation, as well as UN initiatives to counteract terrorism. However, the EU has not cooperated with INTERPOL to support G5 police capabilities.

Thus, the EU receives a score of 0.

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