

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



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4. Gender: Gender Equality

“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.”

G7 Biarritz Leaders’ Communiqué

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			+1
Average	+0.88 (94%)		

Background

The G7/G8 members initially recognized gender equality in 2000 as an issue in context of schooling and education. At the 2002 Kananaskis Summit, members committed to supporting African efforts to promote gender equality and empowerment of women.⁴⁷⁸ At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, members expressed regret towards not meeting interim targets to eliminate disparities in gender equality in primary and secondary education, and reaffirmed commitment to achieve gender equality in schooling by 2015.⁴⁷⁹

Gender equality was acknowledged as an aspect of promoting good governance for the first time at the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit. Furthermore, members also committed to working together to stop sexual exploitation and gender-based violence at the 2007 summit.⁴⁸⁰ The 2008 Hokkaido Toyako Summit was the first time when gender equality and women’s empowerment were considered an important principle of development.⁴⁸¹ At the 2014 Brussels Summit, members recognized the necessity to promote gender equality and to end all forms of violence and discrimination against girls and women, specifically by ending child, early and forced marriage and promoting empowerment of all women and girls.⁴⁸² At the 2015 Elmau Summit, members once again reaffirmed their commitment to promote gender equality and empowerment of women.⁴⁸³ At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, members agreed to integrate gender equality within all policy areas of the United Nations

⁴⁷⁸ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7/8 (Toronto). Access date: 13 October 2019.

http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf

⁴⁷⁹ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7/8 (Toronto). Access date: 13 October 2019.

http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf

⁴⁸⁰ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7/8 (Toronto). Access date: 13 October 2019.

http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf

⁴⁸¹ G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Declaration: Hokkaido Toyako Summit, G7 (Hokkaido Toyako) 8 July 2008. Access date:

13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

⁴⁸² G7 Brussels Summit Declaration: Brussels Summit, G7 (Brussels) 5 June 2014. Access date: 13 October 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>

⁴⁸³ G7 Leaders’ Declaration: Elmau, G7 (Elmau) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 13 October 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

2030 Sustainable Development Goals. Members at this summit also acknowledged the need to continue promoting gender equality and empowerment of women.⁴⁸⁴

The 2017 Taormina Summit was monumental for the G7's recognition of mainstreaming gender equality into all policies. Focus was directed towards ensuring economic gender equality, including – but not limited to – reducing the gender wage gap. Members not only recognized gender equality as fundamental for fulfilling human rights, but also adopted the first “G7 Roadmap for a Gender-Responsive Economic Environment.” The Roadmap outlines structural policies falling within central governments’ jurisdiction that will “have the greatest impact in delivering gender equality.” This roadmap was developed with outcomes of previous G7 presidencies and other relevant international frameworks including 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals and Women’s 7 Forum – Starting from Girls.⁴⁸⁵

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 members renewed their recognition of gender equality as fundamental for fulfillment of human rights and reaffirmed their commitment to advance gender equality and end gender-based violence. These objectives were endorsed in the “Charlevoix Commitment to End Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, Abuse and Harassment in Digital Contexts.”⁴⁸⁶

Commitment Features

The G7 commitment is to “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” aside from domestic commitments. In this commitment, the targets are to support interested countries to – 1. develop mechanisms to implement laws towards gender equality, and 2. develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

“Adopt” is understood to mean to accept formally and put into effect.

“Implement” is understood to mean taking steps forward. While the commitment may be a part of a longer-term initiative and actions on it may continue into the prolonged future, for steps to be considered implementation, they need to be taken in the near future. This should not, therefore, be interpreted to mean only prolonged or delayed action.

“Laws” are understood to be binding customs or practices of community, rules of conduct or actions prescribed or formally recognized as binding or enforced by a controlling authority.

To “stand ready” is understood to be prepared mentally or physically for some experience or action.

“Expertise” is understood to mean the skills of an expert.

“Develop mechanisms” should be understood as establishment of new initiatives and projects within an area.

“Gender equality” as defined by European Institute of Gender Equality refers to equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of men and women and girls and boys. Equality does not mean that they will be the same; rather, rights, responsibilities and opportunities will not depend on the gender one identifies as. The term implies that interests, needs and priorities of all genders are taken

⁴⁸⁴ G7 Leaders’ Declaration: Ise-Shima Summit, G7 (Ise-Shima) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 13 October 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

⁴⁸⁵ G7 Roadmap for a gender-response economic environment, G7 (Taormina) 27 May 2017. Access date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/gender.html>

⁴⁸⁶ G7 Charlevoix Summit Declaration: Charlevoix Summit, G7 (Charlevoix) 5 June 2018. Access date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>

into consideration and diversity should be recognized. Gender equality should be viewed as a human rights issue and a “precondition for and indicator of sustainable people-centred development.”⁴⁸⁷

Part One: Develop Mechanisms to Implement Laws towards Gender Equality

“Remedy” is understood to mean a measure that corrects or counteracts an action or circumstance.

“Discriminatory laws” refer to legal and legislative frameworks that may disproportionately disadvantage citizens belonging to a specific gender group and/or enable violence against them.

“Legal protection” is understood to be the benefit or safety which the government affords to its citizens.

Compliance is achieved by creating new laws surrounding gender equality in any policy sector. Examples include, but are not limited to, reducing wage gap, creating equal opportunity workplaces, improving access to equal education and reducing gender-based violence. It is important to note that domestic actions to advance gender equality will not count towards compliance.

Full compliance within part one is achieved through supporting interested countries in correcting discriminatory laws and/or implementing laws that provide legal protection to populations discriminated against and/or implementing laws that advance gender equality, using domestic expertise and development mechanisms.

Part Two: Develop Mechanisms to Monitor Laws towards Gender Equality

“Monitor” is understood to mean to watch, to keep track of or check usually for a special purpose.

An example of compliance within part two includes establishment of various relevant indicators that will be monitored over a pre-established time period to measure progress towards achieving gender equality; such examples of relevant indicators include cases of sexual harassment, enrolment in gender equality schemes, and gender wage gap. Another example of compliance within part two includes establishment of dedicated personnel to monitor progress. It is important to note that domestic actions to advance gender equality will not count towards compliance.

Full compliance within part two is achieved through supporting interested countries in developing mechanisms to monitor and measure progress of laws towards improving gender equality.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member does not stand ready to help interested countries implement laws towards equality NOR stands ready to help interested countries develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.
0	G7 member stands ready to help interested countries implement laws towards equality OR stands ready to help interested countries develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.
+1	G7 member stands ready to help interested countries implement laws towards equality AND stands ready to help interested countries develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

*Compliance Director: Drishti Thakkar
Lead Analyst: Kaylin Dave*

⁴⁸⁷ Gender Mainstreaming Concepts and Definitions, European Institute of Gender Equality. Access date: 13 October 2019. <https://eige.europa.eu/gender-mainstreaming/concepts-and-definitions>

Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to stand ready to help interested countries implement laws towards equality and develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

On 29 October 2019, all states of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), of which Canada is a member, adopted Resolution 2492 which promotes a women, peace and security agenda.⁴⁸⁸ UNSC urges members to facilitate full and equal participation of women at every stage of peacebuilding processes, to address threats and violence against women and to increase number of civilian and uniformed women in peacekeeping operations.⁴⁸⁹

On 3 December 2019, Jamaica's Minister of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport Honourable Olivia Grange announced that the High Commission of Canada in Jamaica will offer five grants to local organisations to advance gender equality, peace and security in the communities they serve across the island.⁴⁹⁰ Organizations include the Boxing Board of Jamaica, National Youth Orchestra of Jamaica, Peace Management Initiative, Institute of Law and Economics, and Advocates for Change.⁴⁹¹ The money will be used by each organization in order to further their mandates, specifically those that relate to gender equality.⁴⁹²

On 9 December 2019, Minister of International Development Honourable Karina Gould declared that Canada will provide CAD21 million over five years to “support a gender-sensitive approach to women’s reproductive health services in Pakistan” as part of the United Nations-led “Healthy Families Pakistan” initiative.⁴⁹³ It will also aim to tackle underlying factors that prevent women and girls from accessing health services.⁴⁹⁴

On 6 February 2020, Minister Gould gave a speech with the Canadian Partnership for Women and Children’s Health and Canadian Council for International Cooperation in celebration of International

⁴⁸⁸ Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2492 (2019), Relief Web (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/security-council-urges-recommitment-women-peace-security-agenda-unanimously-adopting>.

⁴⁸⁹ Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2492 (2019), Relief Web (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/security-council-urges-recommitment-women-peace-security-agenda-unanimously-adopting>.

⁴⁹⁰ Canada Gives Grants to Local Organizations to Advance Gender Equality, Jamaican Information Service (Jamaica) 3 December 2019. Accessed Date: 6 December 2019. <https://jis.gov.jm/canada-gives-grants-to-local-organisations-to-advance-gender-equality/>.

⁴⁹¹ Canada Gives Grants to Local Organizations to Advance Gender Equality, Jamaican Information Service (Jamaica) 3 December 2019. Accessed Date: 6 December 2019. <https://jis.gov.jm/canada-gives-grants-to-local-organisations-to-advance-gender-equality/>.

⁴⁹² Canada Gives Grants to Local Organizations to Advance Gender Equality, Jamaican Information Service (Jamaica) 3 December 2019. Accessed Date: 6 December 2019. <https://jis.gov.jm/canada-gives-grants-to-local-organisations-to-advance-gender-equality/>.

⁴⁹³ Minister Gould announces new support for women’s reproductive health services in Pakistan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/12/minister-gould-announces-new-support-for-womens-reproductive-health-services-in-pakistan.html>.

⁴⁹⁴ Minister Gould announces new support for women’s reproductive health services in Pakistan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/12/minister-gould-announces-new-support-for-womens-reproductive-health-services-in-pakistan.html>.

Development Week.⁴⁹⁵ The minister stated that Canada will continue to deliver its Feminist International Policy and work with other countries to advance gender equality on a global level.⁴⁹⁶

On 29 February 2020, Minister of Foreign Affairs Honourable François-Philippe Champagne issued a statement in support of the agreement between the United States and the Taliban.⁴⁹⁷ Champagne declared that Canada continues to support stabilization efforts in Afghanistan and that it will continue to engage in meaningful peace negotiations with the Afghan people, particularly women and other minority populations.⁴⁹⁸

On 6 March 2020, Minister Champagne concluded his visit to Latvia, Ukraine and Poland.⁴⁹⁹ During his visit to Ukraine, he stated Canada's efforts to engage women in peace building efforts throughout the region.⁵⁰⁰ As such, CAD2 million will be invested in a three year period in order to "strengthen the capacity of the National Police of Ukraine in planning, implementing, monitoring and reviewing reform processes."⁵⁰¹

On 8 March 2020, International Women's Day, Minister Champagne, Minister Gould and Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and Trade Honourable Mary Ng issued a statement in which they reiterated Canada's support for gender equality initiatives.⁵⁰² The three ministers highlighted Canada's work with women's organizations and civil society groups both at home and abroad and pledged to actively promote the rights of women and girls across the globe.⁵⁰³

⁴⁹⁵ Address by Minister Gould at Canadian Partnership for Women and Children's Health (CanWaCH) and Canadian Council for International Co-Operation (CCIC) Celebration for International Development Week (IDW) 2020, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 6 February 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/02/address-by-minister-gould-at-canadian-partnership-for-women-and-childrens-health-canwach-and-canadian-council-for-international-co-operation-ccic-c.html>.

⁴⁹⁶ Address by Minister Gould at Canadian Partnership for Women and Children's Health (CanWaCH) and Canadian Council for International Co-Operation (CCIC) Celebration for International Development Week (IDW) 2020, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 6 February 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/02/address-by-minister-gould-at-canadian-partnership-for-women-and-childrens-health-canwach-and-canadian-council-for-international-co-operation-ccic-c.html>.

⁴⁹⁷ Canada Welcomes U.S.-Taliban Agreement in Afghanistan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 February 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. Canada Welcomes U.S.-Taliban Agreement in Afghanistan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 February 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/02/canada-welcomes-us-taliban-agreement-in-afghanistan.html>.

⁴⁹⁸ Canada Welcomes U.S.-Taliban Agreement in Afghanistan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 February 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. Canada Welcomes U.S.-Taliban Agreement in Afghanistan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 February 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/02/canada-welcomes-us-taliban-agreement-in-afghanistan.html>.

⁴⁹⁹ Minister Champagne Concludes Successful Visit to Latvia, Ukraine and Poland, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 7 March 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/03/minister-champagne-concludes-successful-visit-to-latvia-ukraine-and-poland.html>.

⁵⁰⁰ Minister Champagne Concludes Successful Visit to Latvia, Ukraine and Poland, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 7 March 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/03/minister-champagne-concludes-successful-visit-to-latvia-ukraine-and-poland.html>.

⁵⁰¹ Minister Champagne Concludes Successful Visit to Latvia, Ukraine and Poland, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 7 March 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/03/minister-champagne-concludes-successful-visit-to-latvia-ukraine-and-poland.html>.

⁵⁰² Statement on International Women's Day, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 8 March 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/03/statement-on-international-womens-day.html>.

⁵⁰³ Statement on International Women's Day, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 8 March 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/03/statement-on-international-womens-day.html>.

On 20 March 2020, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced CAD50 million in funding to help vulnerable countries respond to the COVID-19 crisis.⁵⁰⁴ This funding will, in part, be used to ensure that these countries respond to the crisis in a way that meets the needs of women and girls who are disproportionately affected by the crisis.⁵⁰⁵

On 10 April 2020, Minister Champagne and Minister Gould announced their support of the UN Secretary-General's call for an immediate global ceasefire.⁵⁰⁶ Both ministers cited their concerns for the plight of women, children and other vulnerable populations during the COVID-19 crisis as a reason for their support.⁵⁰⁷ The ministers also reiterated their support for a multilateral response to the COVID-19 crisis and a rules-based international order in which civilians and vulnerable populations, including women, are prioritized.⁵⁰⁸

On 13 April 2020, Canada's ambassador to France Isabelle Hudon issued a joint statement with a number of other nations in which together they called upon international governments to ensure that all measures taken in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic are legitimate and lawful.⁵⁰⁹ The statement further called for all governments to address the COVID-19 pandemic in a gender-responsive manner, taking into account gender-related consequences of the pandemic, of which include a rise in domestic violence.⁵¹⁰

On 17 April 2020, the Ministerial Coordination Group on COVID-19 issued a declaration in which they urged other countries to take into consideration the populations which are disproportionately affected by COVID-19, particularly women.⁵¹¹ In doing so, Canada called upon these other countries to take into account gender-differentiated concerns and respond accordingly to meet the needs of these groups.⁵¹²

On 21 April 2020, Minister Gould issued a joint statement with Brazil, Italy, and Egypt regarding the effects of COVID-19 on food security and supply.⁵¹³ In the statement, the countries called upon

⁵⁰⁴ Canada's Humanitarian Assistance to Help Developing Countries Prepare and Respond to COVID-19. Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/03/canadas-humanitarian-assistance-to-help-developing-countries-prepare-and-respond-to-covid-19.html>.

⁵⁰⁵ Canada's Humanitarian Assistance to Help Developing Countries Prepare and Respond to COVID-19. Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/03/canadas-humanitarian-assistance-to-help-developing-countries-prepare-and-respond-to-covid-19.html>.

⁵⁰⁶ Statement in Support of Global Ceasefire, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 10 April 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/statement-in-support-of-global-ceasefire.html>.

⁵⁰⁷ Statement in Support of Global Ceasefire, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 10 April 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/statement-in-support-of-global-ceasefire.html>.

⁵⁰⁸ Statement in Support of Global Ceasefire, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 10 April 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/statement-in-support-of-global-ceasefire.html>.

⁵⁰⁹ G7 Must Put a Gender Lens on COVID-19 Efforts, Women Deliver (New York) 13 April 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://womendeliver.org/2020/step-it-up-g7/>.

⁵¹⁰ G7 Must Put a Gender Lens on COVID-19 Efforts, Women Deliver (New York) 13 April 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://womendeliver.org/2020/step-it-up-g7/>.

⁵¹¹ Foreign Ministers From 15 Countries Agree on Key Principles to Keep Transportation Links and Supply Chains Open, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 17 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/foreign-ministers-from-13-countries-agree-on-key-principles-to-keep-transportation-links-and-supply-chains-open.html>.

⁵¹² Foreign Ministers From 15 Countries Agree on Key Principles to Keep Transportation Links and Supply Chains Open, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 17 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/foreign-ministers-from-13-countries-agree-on-key-principles-to-keep-transportation-links-and-supply-chains-open.html>.

⁵¹³ Joint Statement by Brazil, Canada, Italy and Egypt Following the Extraordinary High-Level Meeting of the Group of Friends of Food Security and Nutrition on the Impact of COVID-19 on Food Availability and Supply, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/joint-statement-by-brazil-canada-italy-and-egypt-following-the-extraordinary-high-level-meeting-of-the-group-of-friends-of-food-security-and-nutrit.html>.

other nations to ensure the sustainability of the food supply chain and recognize the effects of changes in demand and supply on agri-food producers.⁵¹⁴ In doing so, the minister encouraged countries to invest in women in particular in order to ensure they have access to land, credit and information regarding COVID-19.⁵¹⁵

On 28 April 2020, Minister Champagne hosted a call with his colleagues from several other countries including France, Germany, Australia, Brazil, Indonesia and Peru to discuss their responses to COVID-19.⁵¹⁶ Several ministers reiterated their desire to coordinate a multilateral response to the crisis in order to address the particular needs of vulnerable communities, including women.⁵¹⁷

On 4 August 2010, Minister Ng signed a new Global Trade and Gender Arrangement with the fellow members of the Inclusive Trade Action Group – Chile and New Zealand.⁵¹⁸ This arrangement will allow for the members to “share best practices and promote gender equality, including in international organizations such as the World Trade Organization” to help build economies “where everyone can succeed.”⁵¹⁹

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to help interested countries implement gender equality laws through providing grants to various organizations, supporting Pakistan monetarily in developing a gender-sensitive reproductive health system and advocating for gender-differentiated responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. Canada has not complied with its commitment to help interested countries develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Aliya Hemani

France: 0

France has partially complied with its commitment to stand ready to help interested countries implement laws towards equality and develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

⁵¹⁴ Joint Statement by Brazil, Canada, Italy and Egypt Following the Extraordinary High-Level Meeting of the Group of Friends of Food Security and Nutrition on the Impact of COVID-19 on Food Availability and Supply, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/joint-statement-by-brazil-canada-italy-and-egypt-following-the-extraordinary-high-level-meeting-of-the-group-of-friends-of-food-security-and-nutrit.html>.

⁵¹⁵ Joint Statement by Brazil, Canada, Italy and Egypt Following the Extraordinary High-Level Meeting of the Group of Friends of Food Security and Nutrition on the Impact of COVID-19 on Food Availability and Supply, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/joint-statement-by-brazil-canada-italy-and-egypt-following-the-extraordinary-high-level-meeting-of-the-group-of-friends-of-food-security-and-nutrit.html>.

⁵¹⁶ Readout: Minister of Foreign Affairs Continues to Coordinate With International Counterparts on COVID-19, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/readout-minister-of-foreign-affairs-continues-to-coordinate-with-international-counterparts-on-covid-190.html>.

⁵¹⁷ Readout: Minister of Foreign Affairs Continues to Coordinate With International Counterparts on COVID-19, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/readout-minister-of-foreign-affairs-continues-to-coordinate-with-international-counterparts-on-covid-190.html>.

⁵¹⁸ Minister Ng signs new Global Trade and Gender Arrangement with Chile and New Zealand, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 4 August 2020. Access Date: 1 September 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/08/minister-ng-signs-new-global-trade-and-gender-arrangement-with-chile-and-new-zealand.html>

⁵¹⁹ Minister Ng signs new Global Trade and Gender Arrangement with Chile and New Zealand, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 4 August 2020. Access Date: 1 September 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/08/minister-ng-signs-new-global-trade-and-gender-arrangement-with-chile-and-new-zealand.html>

On 29 October 2019, all states of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), of which France is a member, adopted Resolution 2492 which promotes a women, peace and security agenda.⁵²⁰ UNSC urges members to facilitate full and equal participation of women at every stage of peacebuilding processes, to address threats and violence against women and to increase number of civilian and uniformed women in peacekeeping operations.⁵²¹

On 25 November 2019, the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs announced their support in the fight to end violence against women internationally.⁵²² They reaffirmed their commitment to the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and called neighboring countries to ratify Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence.⁵²³ As a member of UNSC, France has also adopted and implemented its resolution on women, peace and security, which urges members to increase participation of women in conflict resolution and peacekeeping activities.⁵²⁴

On 19 December 2019, French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian and Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the United Mexican States Marcelo Luis Ebrard Casaubo agreed upon a declaration for effective multilateralism.⁵²⁵ Both countries emphasized the importance of promoting and protecting human rights while acknowledging gender equality and empowerment of women.⁵²⁶ Both countries also reiterated their commitment to Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and will jointly host Generation Equality Forum to promote the commitments within the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.⁵²⁷ Furthermore, both countries agreed to work together to improve access to female education, increase women participation in the labour market, promote the United Nations Women, Peace and Security Agenda, combat violence against women through the European Union and United Nations Spotlight Initiative and provide more comprehensive sexual education to women.⁵²⁸

⁵²⁰ Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2492 (2019), Relief Web (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/security-council-urges-recommitment-women-peace-security-agenda-unanimously-adopting>.

⁵²¹ Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2492 (2019), Relief Web (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/security-council-urges-recommitment-women-peace-security-agenda-unanimously-adopting>.

⁵²² France committed to fighting violence against women internationally (Paris) 25 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/human-rights/women-s-rights/article/france-committed-to-fighting-violence-against-women-internationally-25-nov-2019>.

⁵²³ France committed to fighting violence against women internationally (Paris) 25 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/human-rights/women-s-rights/article/france-committed-to-fighting-violence-against-women-internationally-25-nov-2019>.

⁵²⁴ France committed to fighting violence against women internationally (Paris) 25 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/human-rights/women-s-rights/article/france-committed-to-fighting-violence-against-women-internationally-25-nov-2019>.

⁵²⁵ French-Mexican Declaration for Effective Multilateralism (19 December 2019), France Diplomatie (Paris) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/mexico/news/article/french-mexican-declaration-for-effective-multilateralism-19-dec-2019>.

⁵²⁶ French-Mexican Declaration for Effective Multilateralism (19 December 2019), France Diplomatie (Paris) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/mexico/news/article/french-mexican-declaration-for-effective-multilateralism-19-dec-2019>.

⁵²⁷ French-Mexican Declaration for Effective Multilateralism (19 December 2019), France Diplomatie (Paris) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/mexico/news/article/french-mexican-declaration-for-effective-multilateralism-19-dec-2019>.

⁵²⁸ French-Mexican Declaration for Effective Multilateralism (19 December 2019), France Diplomatie (Paris) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/mexico/news/article/french-mexican-declaration-for-effective-multilateralism-19-dec-2019>.

On 15 January 2020, the French Government announced the Action Coalition themes for the Generation Equality Forum to be held in 2021, which is a global and multi-stakeholder coalition organized by UN women and co-hosted by Mexico and France.^{529,530} The forum will launch coalitions on gender-based violence, economic justice and rights, bodily autonomy and sexual and reproductive health and rights, feminist action for climate justice, technology and innovation for gender equality, and investing in feminist movements and leadership.⁵³¹ Each coalition will develop and implement targeted solutions to advance gender equality with adolescent girls and young women in mind specifically to fulfill United Nations Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.⁵³²

On 16 to 17 January 2020, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian visited Saudi Arabia to meet with his counterparts, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Prince Faisal bin Farhan bin Abdullah al-Saud and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Abdel al-Jubeir.⁵³³ Minister Le Drian will discuss areas of common interest and reaffirm France's priorities as they relate to the Saudi presidency of the G20, of which include gender equality.⁵³⁴

On 6 February 2020, International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation, France encouraged the international community to increase initiatives dedicated towards ending the practice of female genital mutilation.⁵³⁵ France argues these mutilations violate the safety and dignity of women and girls and thus impede a country's ability to achieve substantive equality between men and women.⁵³⁶ This issue and related ones will be addressed by the Gender Equality Forum, which will be held by in July by UN Women and co-chaired by France and Mexico.⁵³⁷

⁵²⁹ In lead up to Generation Equality Forum, Action Coalition Themes Announced (2020) Relief Web (New York) 15 January 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/lead-generation-equality-forum-action-coalition-themes-announced>.

⁵³⁰ Generation Equality Forum Postponed (2020) UN Women (New York) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2020/4/announcer-generation-equality-forum-postponed>.

⁵³¹ In lead up to Generation Equality Forum, Action Coalition Themes Announced (2020) Relief Web (New York) 15 January 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/lead-generation-equality-forum-action-coalition-themes-announced>.

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⁵³³ Visit by Jean-Yves Le Drian to Saudi Arabia (16-17 January 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/saudi-arabia/news/article/visit-by-jean-yves-le-drian-to-saudi-arabia-16-17-jan-2020>.

⁵³⁴ Visit by Jean-Yves Le Drian to Saudi Arabia (16-17 January 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/saudi-arabia/news/article/visit-by-jean-yves-le-drian-to-saudi-arabia-16-17-jan-2020>.

⁵³⁵ United Nations International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (6 February 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 6 February 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/human-rights/women-s-rights/events-6401/article/united-nations-international-day-of-zero-tolerance-for-female-genital>.

⁵³⁶ United Nations International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (6 February 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 6 February 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/human-rights/women-s-rights/events-6401/article/united-nations-international-day-of-zero-tolerance-for-female-genital>.

⁵³⁷ United Nations International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (6 February 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 6 February 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/human-rights/women-s-rights/events-6401/article/united-nations-international-day-of-zero-tolerance-for-female-genital>.

On 19 January 2020, France reaffirmed its commitment to bring peace to Libya at the Berlin Conference on Libya.⁵³⁸ The involved countries called on all parties in Libya to hold individuals accountable for violations of international law, including those who commit sexual and gender-based violence.⁵³⁹ These areas include “the indiscriminate use of force against civilians, attacks on densely populated residential areas, extrajudicial killings, kidnappings, enforced disappearances, sexual and gender-based violence, torture and ill-treatment, human trafficking, and violence against or the abuse of migrants and refugees.”⁵⁴⁰ Involved countries also called on Libya to encourage effective and meaningful participation of women in activities relating to Libya’s democratic transition, conflict resolution and peacebuilding and to support efforts of Special Representative to the United Nations Secretary General Ghassan Salamé to improve female participation in the political process and public institutions.

On 11 March 2020, Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs Ann Linde and Minister Le Drian issued a joint statement from Paris.⁵⁴¹ They confirmed they will continue to collaborate on gender equality initiatives, including the reproductive rights of women and girls as well as equal economic and social conditions.⁵⁴² France and Sweden will jointly increase their efforts to support the participation of women in conflict prevention and post-conflict reconstruction.⁵⁴³ They will also advance gender equality through the European Union and continue to advocate against sex trafficking and sexual exploitation.⁵⁴⁴

On 15 April 2020, France issued a joint statement on the safety of journalists and access to information during the COVID-19 pandemic.⁵⁴⁵ In this statement, France called upon all countries to ensure the internet access of all citizens in order to ensure that those affected by the virus have access to information.⁵⁴⁶ By extension, France calls upon countries to stop internet shutdowns,

⁵³⁸ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵³⁹ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵⁴⁰ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵⁴¹ Joint Press Statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Sweden and France (11 March 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/sweden/events/article/joint-press-statement-by-the-ministers-for-foreign-affairs-of-sweden-and-france>.

⁵⁴² Joint Press Statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Sweden and France (11 March 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/sweden/events/article/joint-press-statement-by-the-ministers-for-foreign-affairs-of-sweden-and-france>.

⁵⁴³ Joint Press Statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Sweden and France (11 March 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/sweden/events/article/joint-press-statement-by-the-ministers-for-foreign-affairs-of-sweden-and-france>.

⁵⁴⁴ Joint Press Statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Sweden and France (11 March 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/sweden/events/article/joint-press-statement-by-the-ministers-for-foreign-affairs-of-sweden-and-france>.

⁵⁴⁵ Joint Statement on Safety of Journalists and Access to Information During the Covid-19 Crisis (15 April 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 15 April 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/coming-to-france/coronavirus-advice-for-foreign-nationals-in-france/coronavirus-statements/article/joint-statement-on-safety-of-journalists-and-access-to-information-during-the/>.

⁵⁴⁶ Joint Statement on Safety of Journalists and Access to Information During the Covid-19 Crisis (15 April 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 15 April 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/coming-to-france/coronavirus-advice-for-foreign-nationals-in-france/coronavirus-statements/article/joint-statement-on-safety-of-journalists-and-access-to-information-during-the/>.

provide the most effective access to internet services, and mend any digital divides, including the gender gap.⁵⁴⁷

On 16 April 2020, Minister Le Drian issued a joint statement with a several other countries and Group of Friends on the Safety of Journalists in New York, Geneva, Vienna (OSCE) and Paris in which they called upon international governments to ensure that all measures taken in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic are legitimate and lawful.⁵⁴⁸ The statement further called for all governments to address the COVID-19 pandemic in gender-responsive manner, taking into account gender-related consequences of the pandemic, of which include a rise in domestic violence.⁵⁴⁹

On 28 April 2020, Minister Le Drian participated in a call hosted by Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs Honourable François-Phillipe Champagne with their colleagues from Germany, Australia, Brazil, Indonesia and Peru to discuss their responses to COVID-19.⁵⁵⁰ Several ministers reiterated their desire to coordinate a multilateral response to the crisis in order to address the particular needs of vulnerable communities, including women.⁵⁵¹

France has fully complied with its commitment to help interested countries implement laws promoting gender equality by calling to other countries to ratify Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence and collaborating with United Mexican States to host the Generation Equality Forum promoting commitment to Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. France has also called upon other countries to ensure that their responses to the COVID-19 pandemic take into consideration the promotion of gender-equality. France has not complied with its commitment to help interested countries develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Roba Hena and Aliya Hemani

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to stand ready to help interested countries implement laws towards equality and develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

⁵⁴⁷ Joint Statement on Safety of Journalists and Access to Information During the Covid-19 Crisis (15 April 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 15 April 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/coming-to-france/coronavirus-advice-for-foreign-nationals-in-france/coronavirus-statements/article/joint-statement-on-safety-of-journalists-and-access-to-information-during-the/>.

⁵⁴⁸ COVID-19 – Joint Declaration of the Alliance for Multilateralism (16 April 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/alliance-for-multilateralism-63158/article/covid-19-joint-declaration-of-the-alliance-for-multilateralism-16-apr-2020>.

⁵⁴⁹ COVID-19 – Joint Declaration of the Alliance for Multilateralism (16 April 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/alliance-for-multilateralism-63158/article/covid-19-joint-declaration-of-the-alliance-for-multilateralism-16-apr-2020>.

⁵⁵⁰ Readout: Minister of Foreign Affairs Continues to Coordinate With International Counterparts on COVID-19, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/readout-minister-of-foreign-affairs-continues-to-coordinate-with-international-counterparts-on-covid-190.html>.

⁵⁵¹ Readout: Minister of Foreign Affairs Continues to Coordinate With International Counterparts on COVID-19, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/readout-minister-of-foreign-affairs-continues-to-coordinate-with-international-counterparts-on-covid-190.html>.

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On 31 October 2019, Germany pledged at the Nairobi Summit to work with partners at home and abroad to ensure that pregnancies are wanted and that births are safe.⁵⁵⁵ This involves creating policies that address sexual and reproductive rights and combat violence against women to ensure that women are empowered to make decisions about their health.⁵⁵⁶

On 19 January 2020, Germany reaffirmed its commitment to bring peace to Libya at the Berlin Conference on Libya.⁵⁵⁷ The involved countries called on all parties in Libya to hold individuals accountable for violations of international law, including those who commit sexual and gender-based violence.⁵⁵⁸ These areas include “the indiscriminate use of force against civilians, attacks on densely populated residential areas, extrajudicial killings, kidnappings, enforced disappearances, sexual and gender-based violence, torture and ill-treatment, human trafficking, and violence against or the abuse of migrants and refugees.”⁵⁵⁹ Involved countries also called on Libya to encourage effective and meaningful participation of women in activities relating to Libya’s democratic transition, conflict resolution and peacebuilding and to support efforts of Special Representative to the United Nations Secretary General Ghassam Salamé to improve female participation in the political process and public institutions.

On 24 January 2020, Germany launched a delegated cooperation agreement with the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Malawi to co-finance the project “Promoting Agricultural Technical Vocational Education and Training for Women.”⁵⁶⁰ The program has been in place in Malawi since 2017, with the objective to bring women into employment.⁵⁶¹ This phase of the cooperation will

⁵⁵² Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2492 (2019), Relief Web (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/security-council-urges-recommitment-women-peace-security-agenda-unanimously-adopting>.

⁵⁵³ Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2492 (2019), Relief Web (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/security-council-urges-recommitment-women-peace-security-agenda-unanimously-adopting>.

⁵⁵⁴ Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2492 (2019), Relief Web (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/security-council-urges-recommitment-women-peace-security-agenda-unanimously-adopting>.

⁵⁵⁵ Investing in Health, Rights and Choices for All, Nairobi Summit ICPD (Nairobi) 31 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.nairobisummiticpd.org/commitment/investing-health-rights-and-choices-all>.

⁵⁵⁶ Investing in Health, Rights and Choices for All, Nairobi Summit ICPD (Nairobi) 31 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.nairobisummiticpd.org/commitment/investing-health-rights-and-choices-all>.

⁵⁵⁷ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵⁵⁸ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵⁵⁹ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵⁶⁰ African Union Project on Malawian Women’s Empowerment in Agriculture: Cooperation with Norway and Germany (Malawi) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/african-union-project-malawian-women%E2%80%99s-empowerment-agriculture-cooperation-norway-and-germany>.

⁵⁶¹ African Union Project on Malawian Women’s Empowerment in Agriculture: Cooperation with Norway and Germany (Malawi) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/african-union-project-malawian-women%E2%80%99s-empowerment-agriculture-cooperation-norway-and-germany>.

focus on hearing feedback from the project's beneficiaries and stakeholders and will be financed with approximately EUR 1 million per year until August 2022.⁵⁶²

On 28 April 2020, Germany participated in a call hosted by Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs Honourable François-Phillipe Champagne with several countries including France, Australia, Brazil, Indonesia and Peru to discuss their responses to COVID-19.⁵⁶³ Several ministers reiterated their desire to coordinate a multilateral response to the crisis in order to address the particular needs of vulnerable communities, including women.⁵⁶⁴

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to help interested countries implement laws promoting gender equality through adopting Resolution 2492 and collaborating with Nairobi and other partners to create policies addressing sexual and reproductive rights of women. Germany has not complied with its commitment to help interested countries develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Daniella Marciano

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to stand ready to help interested countries implement laws towards equality and develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

On 9 September 2019, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation announced a partnership with UN Women to strengthen institutional capacity in Jordan in order to support gender equality and women's empowerment over two years.⁵⁶⁵ The partnership will provide technical assistance to the Jordanian Ministry of Social Development to enhance the quality of services provided to vulnerable girls and women.⁵⁶⁶ UN Women will also support Jordanian Ministry of Social Development to consolidate the experience of model of support for gender mainstreaming and the benefits of it in a report that can be presented to other ministries and at a regional level through a conference.⁵⁶⁷

⁵⁶² African Union Project on Malawian Women's Empowerment in Agriculture: Cooperation with Norway and Germany (Malawi) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/african-union-project-malawian-women%E2%80%99s-empowerment-agriculture-cooperation-norway-and-germany>.

⁵⁶³ Readout: Minister of Foreign Affairs Continues to Coordinate With International Counterparts on COVID-19, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/readout-minister-of-foreign-affairs-continues-to-coordinate-with-international-counterparts-on-covid-190.html>.

⁵⁶⁴ Readout: Minister of Foreign Affairs Continues to Coordinate With International Counterparts on COVID-19, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/readout-minister-of-foreign-affairs-continues-to-coordinate-with-international-counterparts-on-covid-190.html>.

⁵⁶⁵ Government of Italy, UN Women announce partnership to strengthen institutional capacity on women's empowerment, UN Women (Amman) 9 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://jordan.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/september/italy-and-un-women-partnership>

⁵⁶⁶ Government of Italy, UN Women announce partnership to strengthen institutional capacity on women's empowerment, UN Women (Amman) 9 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://jordan.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/september/italy-and-un-women-partnership>

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On 11 March 2020, the United Nations Population Fund-United Nations Children Fund (UNFPA-UNICEF) Global Program to End Child Marriage, of which Italy is a member, was renewed for an additional four years.⁵⁷¹ The program will aim to increase girls’ access to education, health services, skills development, community education, promotion of gender equality, economic support, and enforcement of laws that set 18 years of age as the minimum for marriage. The program is part of the global effort to end child marriages by 2030.¹

On 21 April 2020, Emanuela Claudia Del Re, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Italy, as chair of the Group of Friends of Food Security and Nutrition, along with ministers and vice ministers from Canada, Brazil and Egypt issued a joint statement on the effects of COVID-19 on food security and supply.⁵⁷² In the statement, the countries called upon other countries to ensure the sustainability of the food supply chain and recognize the effects of changes in demand and supply on agri-food producers.⁵⁷³ In doing so, it recognized the contribution of women to the agriculture and food production and the need to invest in women in particular in order to ensure they have access to land, credit and digital information.⁵⁷⁴

On 3 July 2020, Italy held its first meeting for the Advisory Board of “Women in International Security Italy.” The organization “promotes the leadership and professional development of women

⁵⁶⁸ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵⁶⁹ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵⁷⁰ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵⁷¹ UNICEF and UNFPA Renew Multi-Country Initiative to Protect Millions of Girls from Child Marriage (New York) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/unicef-and-unfpa-renew-multi-country-initiative-protect-millions-girls-child>.

⁵⁷² Joint Statement by Brazil, Canada, Italy and Egypt Following the Extraordinary High-Level Meeting of the Group of Friends of Food Security and Nutrition on the Impact of COVID-19 on Food Availability and Supply, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/joint-statement-by-brazil-canada-italy-and-egypt-following-the-extraordinary-high-level-meeting-of-the-group-of-friends-of-food-security-and-nutrit.html>.

⁵⁷³ Joint Statement by Brazil, Canada, Italy and Egypt Following the Extraordinary High-Level Meeting of the Group of Friends of Food Security and Nutrition on the Impact of COVID-19 on Food Availability and Supply, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/joint-statement-by-brazil-canada-italy-and-egypt-following-the-extraordinary-high-level-meeting-of-the-group-of-friends-of-food-security-and-nutrit.html>.

⁵⁷⁴ Joint Statement by Brazil, Canada, Italy and Egypt Following the Extraordinary High-Level Meeting of the Group of Friends of Food Security and Nutrition on the Impact of COVID-19 on Food Availability and Supply, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/joint-statement-by-brazil-canada-italy-and-egypt-following-the-extraordinary-high-level-meeting-of-the-group-of-friends-of-food-security-and-nutrit.html>.

in promoting peace and security national and internationally.” The goal is to have increasing amounts of women involved in peace processes in areas such as the Middle East.⁵⁷⁵

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to implement laws that promote gender equality by committing to support the Jordanian Ministry of Social Development in improving their institutional capacity to support women empowerment and supporting Libya in transitioning towards a more gender-equal democratic system. Italy has not complied with its commitment to help interested countries develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Daniella Marciano

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to stand ready to help interested countries implement laws towards equality and develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

On 30 August 2019, Japanese and African Union delegations participated in the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development, where Japan committed to working with the African Union to reduce the gender gap, combat gender-based violence, and empower women and youth.⁵⁷⁶

On 18 September 2019, Government of Japan provided JPY218 million of grant aid through United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women for the project of “Implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Sri Lanka.”⁵⁷⁷ The project aims to improve economic empowerment of women, awareness of women’s rights and political participation while paying attention to vulnerable groups.⁵⁷⁸

On 4 November 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan released “The Mekong-Japan Initiative for SDGs [Sustainable Development Goals] toward 2030,” which highlighted areas of co-operation between Japan and countries in the Mekong region (e.g. Vietnam, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia).⁵⁷⁹ It included a commitment to promoting gender equality.⁵⁸⁰ Japan offered to microfinance women’s enterprises in Asia, and to collaborate with Mekong countries to eradicate human trafficking.⁵⁸¹

⁵⁷⁵ First meeting of the Advisory Board of “Women in International Security – Italy,” Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 3 July 2020. Access Date: 1 September 2020. https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stamp/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/07/prima-riunione-dell-advisory-board-di-women-in-international-security-italy.html

⁵⁷⁶ Yokohama Declaration 2019 Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Yokohama) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_declaration_en.pdf

⁵⁷⁷ Japan provides USD 2 million grant aid for Implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Sri Lanka, Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka (Colombo), 18 September 2019. Access date: 3 January 2020. https://www.lk.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_ja/00_000930.html

⁵⁷⁸ Japan provides USD 2 million grant aid for Implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Sri Lanka, Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka (Colombo), 18 September 2019. Access date: 3 January 2020. https://www.lk.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_ja/00_000930.html

⁵⁷⁹ The Mekong-Japan Initiative for SDGs toward 2030, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 4 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000535957.pdf>

⁵⁸⁰ The Mekong-Japan Initiative for SDGs toward 2030, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo), 4 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000535957.pdf>

⁵⁸¹ The Mekong-Japan Initiative for SDGs toward 2030, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo), 4 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000535957.pdf>

On 21 February 2020, Japan announced that they will provide a grant of USD83,708 to support women empowerment in Egypt.⁵⁸² This grant will enable training of women in the old Cairo region for self-employment so they have skills to be compatible with the needs of the labour market, including marketing skills.⁵⁸³

On 3 March 2020, Japan donated USD2.3 million to the UN Women's and Sasakawa Africa Association's Grant Aid project to the Lake Chad Region. The Grand Aid aims to support women and girls withstand crises, recover and develop resilience to crises, prepare women to participate in decision making, provide protection from gender-based violence.⁵⁸⁴

On 10 March 2020, Japan donated USD13 million of Emergency Grant Aid to Brazil, Columbia, Ecuador and Peru.⁵⁸⁵ USD3.4 million of Emergency Grant Aid was allocated to Ecuador for the provision of protection services, including sexual and gender-based violence prevention, to people displaced from Venezuela.⁵⁸⁶ USD3.5 million of grant aid was allocated to Peru to develop a protection response for vulnerable people, focusing on sexual and gender-based violence survivors.⁵⁸⁷

On 10 March 2020, Japan donated a total of USD23.7 million to refugees and internally displaced people in the Sahel region. Of this amount, USD 7.3 million was given to the Republic of Niger for the provision of protection activities for people suffering from gender-based violence, along with the improvement of both living and nutritional conditions. Additionally, USD4.7 million was given to the Republic of Mali for the provision of protection activities and legal assistance for people suffering from gender-based violence, along with the provision of educational opportunities, and food assistance, to improvement people's nutritional conditions.⁵⁸⁸

On 21 April 2020, Japan signed a grant agreement with UNICEF of USD2 million to research the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on women and children, along with providing essential services to those in the Pacific region.⁵⁸⁹

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to support interested countries in implementing laws that promote gender equality by committing to collaborate with African Union to reduce gender gap and combat gender-based violence, by providing grant aid to a UN project aiming to improve economic empowerment of women in Sri Lanka and microfinancing women enterprises in Asia to collaborate with Mekong countries to eradicate human trafficking. It has also demonstrated its

⁵⁸² Japan gives Egypt \$US 83,708 grant to support women's empowerment, Egypt Independent (Cairo), 21 February 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://egyptindependent.com/japan-gives-egypt-us-83708-grant-to-support-womens-empowerment/>.

⁵⁸³ Japan gives Egypt \$US 83,708 grant to support women's empowerment, Egypt Independent (Cairo), 21 February 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://egyptindependent.com/japan-gives-egypt-us-83708-grant-to-support-womens-empowerment/>.

⁵⁸⁴ Japan Extends Grand Aid of USD 2.3 Million for Supporting Women and Girls Withstand Crises, Recovery from the Impact of Crises and Increase their Resilience in Nigeria and Cameroon, UN Women (New York City) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.ng.emb-japan.go.jp/files/100018832.pdf>.

⁵⁸⁵ Emergency grant aid to displaced people in neighbouring countries of Venezuela, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002764.html.

⁵⁸⁶ Emergency grant aid to displaced people in neighbouring countries of Venezuela, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002764.html.

⁵⁸⁷ Emergency grant aid to displaced people in neighbouring countries of Venezuela, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002764.html.

⁵⁸⁸ Emergency grant aid in response to the humanitarian crisis in the Sahel region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002744.html.

⁵⁸⁹ Japan supports UNICEF to reach more than one million children in COVID-19 response, UNICEF (Suva) 21 April 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/japan-supports-unicef-reach-more-one-million-children-covid-19-response>.

dedication through grant donations to Nigeria and Cameroon to support women and girls in crisis situations, to countries in the Sahel region to help combat gender-based violence amongst refugees and internally displaced peoples, and to countries in the Pacific region, to provide essential services and research the impact of COVID-19 on women and children. Japan has not complied with its commitment to help interested countries develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Sanjna Ullal

United Kingdom: 0

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to stand ready to help interested countries implement laws towards equality and develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

On 22 September 2019, the United Kingdom announced an additional aid of GBP 87 million to sustain its operations in Cox Bazar for Rohingya refugees. Part of this amount will fund reproductive services, protection for victims, and basic living and healthcare needs for Rohingya women and girls.⁵⁹⁰

On 24 September 2019, the UK announced an education commitment of GBP 515 million for women and girls at the United Nations. The aim is to increase education in areas of warzones and conflict areas to further social and economic empowerment of women.⁵⁹¹ The UK also announced additional GBP 5 billion that will be used move towards education investment in Africa and Asia.⁵⁹²

On 8 October 2019, the British ambassador to Turkmenistan signed a Memorandum of Understanding to encourage and abet gender equality, sensitivity and empowerment in the Turkmen security sector as a part of an Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe project.⁵⁹³ The aim is to promote gender main-streaming, particularly in male-dominated sectors, and provide gender sensitivity training to security officials.⁵⁹⁴

On 12 December 2019, the UK embassy in Cairo announced its moral and financial support of the first Action Plan for Women, Peace and Security in Egypt to prevent the effects of conflict and

⁵⁹⁰ UK announces extra £87 million funding for Rohingya crisis in Bangladesh, British High Commission (Dhaka) 22 September 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-extra-87-million-funding-for-rohingya-crisis-in-bangladesh>

⁵⁹¹ PM steps up UK effort to get every girl in the world into school, Prime Minister Office (London) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 26 December, 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-steps-up-uk-effort-to-get-every-girl-in-the-world-into-school>

⁵⁹² PM steps up UK effort to get every girl in the world into school, Prime Minister Office (London) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 26 December, 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-steps-up-uk-effort-to-get-every-girl-in-the-world-into-school>.

⁵⁹³ British Embassy Ashgabat supports women's empowerment and gender sensitivity, British Embassy (Ashgabat) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-embassy-ashgabat-supports-womens-empowerment-and-gender-sensitivity>.

⁵⁹⁴ British Embassy Ashgabat supports women's empowerment and gender sensitivity, British Embassy (Ashgabat) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-embassy-ashgabat-supports-womens-empowerment-and-gender-sensitivity>

injustice on women and girls.⁵⁹⁵ It also aims to support the involvement of women in peace processes to ensure peace and security in the region.⁵⁹⁶

On 19 January 2020, UK reaffirmed its commitment to bring peace to Libya at the Berlin Conference on Libya.⁵⁹⁷ The involved countries called on all parties in Libya to hold individuals accountable for violations of international law, including those who commit sexual and gender-based violence.⁵⁹⁸ These areas include “the indiscriminate use of force against civilians, attacks on densely populated residential areas, extrajudicial killings, kidnappings, enforced disappearances, sexual and gender-based violence, torture and ill-treatment, human trafficking, and violence against or the abuse of migrants and refugees.”⁵⁹⁹ Involved countries also called on Libya to encourage effective and meaningful participation of women in activities relating to Libya’s democratic transition, conflict resolution and peacebuilding and to support efforts of Special Representative to the United Nations Secretary General Ghassam Salamé to improve female participation in the political process and public institutions.

On 16 January 2020, UK announced an aid package of GBP3.5 million aiming to empower women entrepreneurs and business leaders in Africa.⁶⁰⁰ This aid package will aim to assist female entrepreneurs in acquiring investments through specialist business training, creating up to 3,000 jobs and reducing workplace inequality; create investment and development partnerships; and enable working alongside the governments of Ghana, Nigeria and Kenya to create gender-inclusive trade policies.⁶⁰¹

On 4 March 2020, the UK ambassador to Egypt Sir Geoffrey Adams announced a roundtable meeting with the Arab Women’s Enterprise Fund (AWEF), aiming to decrease barriers for women empowerment, education and employment in the Arab world and North Africa.⁶⁰² The enterprise funded by the UK government and aims to boost financial independence in the home and workplace.⁶⁰³

On 8 July 2020, the UK’s Ambassador to the World Trade Organization and the UN, Julian Braithwaite, reiterated their commitment to gender equality at the Women’s Economic

⁵⁹⁵ UK supports Egypt in developing 1st action plan on women, peace, security, Ahram (Cairo) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/357664/Egypt/Politics-/UK-supports-Egypt-in-developing-st-action-plan-on-.aspx>

⁵⁹⁶ UK supports Egypt in developing 1st action plan on women, peace, security, Ahram (Cairo) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/357664/Egypt/Politics-/UK-supports-Egypt-in-developing-st-action-plan-on-.aspx>

⁵⁹⁷ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵⁹⁸ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵⁹⁹ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁶⁰⁰ UK aid boosts support for African women entrepreneurs to expand businesses into global markets, Department of International Development (London), January 16, 2020. Access Date: April 26, 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-boosts-support-for-african-women-entrepreneurs-to-expand-businesses-into-global-markets>.

⁶⁰¹ UK aid boosts support for African women entrepreneurs to expand businesses into global markets, Department of International Development (London), January 16, 2020. Access Date: April 26, 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-boosts-support-for-african-women-entrepreneurs-to-expand-businesses-into-global-markets>.

⁶⁰² British embassy launches its annual campaign to support gender equality. British Embassy (Cairo) 4 March 2020. Access Date: April 26, 2020. <https://www.dailynewssegypt.com/2020/03/04/british-embassy-launches-its-annual-campaign-to-support-gender-equality/>.

⁶⁰³ British embassy launches its annual campaign to support gender equality. British Embassy (Cairo) 4 March 2020. Access Date: April 26, 2020. <https://www.dailynewssegypt.com/2020/03/04/british-embassy-launches-its-annual-campaign-to-support-gender-equality/>.

Empowerment through Trade event.⁶⁰⁴ Braithwaite highlights the four challenges to gender equality in trade, listed in the International Trade Centre’s report: awareness, expertise, gender-disaggregated data and political will.⁶⁰⁵ Firstly, it was stated that trade is not “gender neutral” and there are barriers for women’s participation.⁶⁰⁶ Secondly, there needs to be increased inclusion of women expertise for policy development and trade.⁶⁰⁷ Thirdly, there is a need to monitor the progress towards implementing these goals.⁶⁰⁸ Particularly, the UK’s Aid for Trade portfolio will show “best practices on trade and gender policies around the world, providing a crucial step forward in identifying, understanding and addressing the barriers for women in international trade.”⁶⁰⁹ Lastly, political will. The UK not only supports free and fair trade but also identifies the importance of the political will of the international community.⁶¹⁰ The UK notes it strongly supports the creation of an Informal working Group on Women’s Economic Empowerment for considering gender equality in international trade.⁶¹¹

United Kingdom has demonstrated its dedication to support interested countries in implementing laws that promote gender equality by funding reproductive and protective services for female Rohingya refugees, signing a MoU with Turkmenistan to encourage gender equality by providing gender sensitivity training to security officials and by announcing moral and financial support for the first Action Plan for Women, Peace and Security in Egypt. United Kingdom has not complied with its commitment to help interested countries develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

Thus, United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Jaijika Kataria

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to stand ready to help interested countries implement laws towards equality and develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

⁶⁰⁴ Ambassador Julian Braithwaite’s statement on Women’s Economic Empowerment, Department for International Development (London) 8 July 2020. Access Date: 1 September 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/ambassador-julian-braithwaites-statement-on-womens-economic-empowerment>

⁶⁰⁵ Ambassador Julian Braithwaite’s statement on Women’s Economic Empowerment, Department for International Development (London) 8 July 2020. Access Date: 1 September 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/ambassador-julian-braithwaites-statement-on-womens-economic-empowerment>

⁶⁰⁶ Ambassador Julian Braithwaite’s statement on Women’s Economic Empowerment, Department for International Development (London) 8 July 2020. Access Date: 1 September 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/ambassador-julian-braithwaites-statement-on-womens-economic-empowerment>

⁶⁰⁷ Ambassador Julian Braithwaite’s statement on Women’s Economic Empowerment, Department for International Development (London) 8 July 2020. Access Date: 1 September 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/ambassador-julian-braithwaites-statement-on-womens-economic-empowerment>

⁶⁰⁸ Ambassador Julian Braithwaite’s statement on Women’s Economic Empowerment, Department for International Development (London) 8 July 2020. Access Date: 1 September 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/ambassador-julian-braithwaites-statement-on-womens-economic-empowerment>

⁶⁰⁹ Ambassador Julian Braithwaite’s statement on Women’s Economic Empowerment, Department for International Development (London) 8 July 2020. Access Date: 1 September 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/ambassador-julian-braithwaites-statement-on-womens-economic-empowerment>

⁶¹⁰ Ambassador Julian Braithwaite’s statement on Women’s Economic Empowerment, Department for International Development (London) 8 July 2020. Access Date: 1 September 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/ambassador-julian-braithwaites-statement-on-womens-economic-empowerment>

⁶¹¹ Ambassador Julian Braithwaite’s statement on Women’s Economic Empowerment, Department for International Development (London) 8 July 2020. Access Date: 1 September 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/ambassador-julian-braithwaites-statement-on-womens-economic-empowerment>

On 29 October 2019, all states of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), of which the United States is a member, adopted Resolution 2492 which promotes a women, peace and security agenda.⁶¹² UNSC urges members to facilitate full and equal participation of women at every stage of peacebuilding processes, to address threats and violence against women and to increase number of civilian and uniformed women in peacekeeping operations.⁶¹³

On 18 November 2019, USAID Administrator Mark Green and Advisor to Ivanka Trump announced that additional USD50 million funding will be directed towards Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative (W-GDP).⁶¹⁴ W-GDP aims to advance women's economic empowerment in developing countries with the goal of reaching 50 million women by 2025 through collaboration with local organizations.⁶¹⁵

On 2 December 2019, USAID and Aga Khan Foundation announced USD37.5 million in funding for project known as "Local Impact."⁶¹⁶ Funds from this project will help Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan "expand opportunity and overall quality of life" for women and girls specifically.⁶¹⁷

On 19 January 2020, United States reaffirmed its commitment to bring peace to Libya at the Berlin Conference on Libya,⁶¹⁸ The involved countries called on all parties in Libya to hold individuals accountable for violations of international law, including those who commit sexual and gender-based violence.⁶¹⁹ These areas include "the indiscriminate use of force against civilians, attacks on densely populated residential areas, extrajudicial killings, kidnappings, enforced disappearances, sexual and gender-based violence, torture and ill-treatment, human trafficking, and violence against or the abuse of migrants and refugees."⁶²⁰ Involved countries also called on Libya to encourage effective and meaningful participation of women in activities relating to Libya's democratic transition, conflict resolution and peacebuilding and to support efforts of United Nations Secretary General Salamé to improve female participation in the political process and public institutions.

⁶¹² Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2492 (2019), Relief Web (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/security-council-urges-recommitment-women-peace-security-agenda-unanimously-adopting>

⁶¹³ Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2492 (2019), Relief Web (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/security-council-urges-recommitment-women-peace-security-agenda-unanimously-adopting>

⁶¹⁴ USAID Administrator Mark Green and Advisor to the President Ivanka Trump announce Women's Global Development and Prosperity (W-GDP) Initiative Fund's increase to \$100 million in first year and launch of new partnerships, USAID (Washington D.C.) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 4 January 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/nov-18-2019-administrator-green-advisor-trump-w-gdp-funding-increase>

⁶¹⁵ USAID Administrator Mark Green and Advisor to the President Ivanka Trump announce Women's Global Development and Prosperity (W-GDP) Initiative Fund's increase to \$100 million in first year and launch of new partnerships, USAID (Washington D.C.) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 4 January 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/nov-18-2019-administrator-green-advisor-trump-w-gdp-funding-increase>.

⁶¹⁶ USAID and The Aga Khan Foundation work to increase the impact of local organizations in Central Asia, USAID (Washington D.C.) 2 December 2019. Access Date: 4 January 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/dec-2-2019-usaid-and-aga-khan-foundation-work-increase-impact-local-organizations>.

⁶¹⁷ USAID and The Aga Khan Foundation work to increase the impact of local organizations in Central Asia, USAID (Washington D.C.) 2 December 2019. Access Date: 4 January 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/dec-2-2019-usaid-and-aga-khan-foundation-work-increase-impact-local-organizations>.

⁶¹⁸ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁶¹⁹ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁶²⁰ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to support interested countries in implementing laws that promote gender equality by collaborating with members of UNSC, Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan to encourage gender equality by supporting women economic empowerment in developing countries and women participation in civil services. The United States has not complied with its commitment to help interested countries develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Shaina Sharma

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to stand ready to help interested countries implement laws toward equality and develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

On 2 September 2019, EU Programmes Officer Mathe Tau signed a financing agreement called “EU Support to Civil Society,” which provided a grant to the Lesotho chapter of Women and Law in Southern Africa (WLSA).⁶²¹ WLSA will use this grant towards a project called ‘Socio-Economic Empowerment through Gender-Responsive Policies, Legislations and Action’ to contribute to the development of gender-sensitive policies and laws, increased knowledge about gender-based violence, and towards women’s economic empowerment.⁶²² WLSA will collaborate with Lesotho National Council of Women, the Women’s Law Clinic, the Migrants Workers Association of Lesotho and the Lesotho Youth Federation for this 48-month project.⁶²³

On 8 October 2019, the EU released an action plan for supporting gender equality in Libya. The action plan reflected the ways in which the EU is working in Libya to prevent and combat violence against women and girls, promote women’s economic and social rights, and strengthen their ability to participate in society.⁶²⁴

On 14 October 2019, the EU Delegation to Egypt and the Embassy of Sweden in Cairo launched the Gender Champion initiative to support Egypt in empowering its women to participate more in public life and support female leadership.⁶²⁵ The EU also stated its intent to help combat female genital mutilation in collaboration with the National Council for Women and United Nations.

On 9 and 10 December 2019, the European Union and Zambia launched the Natwampane Programme. The European Development Fund allocated a budget of EUR25 million to prevent sexual and gender-based violence, while simultaneously improving access to services for survivors

⁶²¹ The EU supports the fight for gender justice in Lesotho European External Action Service (Brussels) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/67216/eu-supports-fight-gender-justice-lesotho_en.

⁶²² The EU supports the fight for gender justice in Lesotho European External Action Service (Brussels) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/67216/eu-supports-fight-gender-justice-lesotho_en.

⁶²³ The EU supports the fight for gender justice in Lesotho European External Action Service (Brussels) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/67216/eu-supports-fight-gender-justice-lesotho_en

⁶²⁴ European Union support to gender equality in Libya European External Action Service (Brussels) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/eu_support_for_gender_equality_final_-_web.pdf

⁶²⁵ EU Gender Champions working with Egypt to support women empowerment (Brussels) 14 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/68873/eu-gender-champions-working-egypt-support-women-empowerment_en

within the Zambia's Northern Province and Luapula Province.⁶²⁶ This will be achieved through sexual education for 235,000 children; sensitization of 335,000 children; engagement of 1,600 faith leaders, 1,800 civic leaders, 1,530 marriage counsellors; and 392 radio programs to reach 200,000 youth.⁶²⁷

On 12 February 2020, the EU called for a vote on a resolution that called on United Nations members to implement an EU strategy to end female genital mutilations across the world.⁶²⁸

On 5 March 2020, the European Union released its Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025, within which it reaffirmed its commitment to ending violence against women and girls, promoting women's empowerment, and ensuring the fulfillment of their rights – human, political, or civil.⁶²⁹ As part of this plan, it has pledged to promote gender equality through its trade policy by gathering gender-disaggregated data to ensure that the gender impact of trade agreements is considered.⁶³⁰ It plans on using its External Investment Plan to promote women's entrepreneurship and labour market participation, both through the 2020 EU Strategy with Africa, and the Women's Financial Inclusion Facility.⁶³¹

On 5 March 2020, the European Union initiated the Spotlight Initiative, in partnership with the United Nations, to end violence against women and girls.⁶³² To this end, the European Union has invested USD550 million to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls in 26 countries⁶³³ by 2030.⁶³⁴ Its foci are to reform the procedural laws that govern legal proceedings, enhance victim rights policy frameworks, improve the capacity for nations to plan, fund, and deliver programmes that prevent and respond to violence against women and girls, while expanding existing programs that work towards the same ends.⁶³⁵

⁶²⁶ Launch of the Natwampane Programme “together to STOP sexual and gender-based violence” European External Action Service (Brussels) 20 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019.

https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/72468/launch-natwampane-programme-%E2%80%9Ctogether-stop-sexual-and-gender-based-violence%E2%80%9D_en.

⁶²⁷ Launch of the Natwampane Programme “together to STOP sexual and gender-based violence” European External Action Service (Brussels) 20 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019.

https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/72468/launch-natwampane-programme-%E2%80%9Ctogether-stop-sexual-and-gender-based-violence%E2%80%9D_en.

⁶²⁸ Coming up: EU-Vietnam trade deal, artificial intelligence and EU-UK cooperation, European Parliament (Brussels) 7 February 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/eu-affairs/20200131STO71520/coming-up-eu-vietnam-trade-deal-artificial-intelligence-and-eu-uk-cooperation>.

⁶²⁹ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. A Union of Equality: Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025 (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2020%3A152%3AFIN/>.

⁶³⁰ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. A Union of Equality: Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025 (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2020%3A152%3AFIN/>.

⁶³¹ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. A Union of Equality: Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025 (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2020%3A152%3AFIN/>.

⁶³² European Union, the Government of Timor-Leste and UN launch Spotlight Initiative to end violence against women and girls (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/75540/european-union-government-timor-leste-and-un-launch-spotlight-initiative-end-violence-against_fi

⁶³³ Empowering women and girls (Brussels) Access Date: 27 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/topics/empowering-women-and-girls_en.

⁶³⁴ European Union, the Government of Timor-Leste and UN launch Spotlight Initiative to end violence against women and girls (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/75540/european-union-government-timor-leste-and-un-launch-spotlight-initiative-end-violence-against_fi.

⁶³⁵ Spotlight Initiative to End Violence Against Women and Girls Launched in Grenada. 6 March 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/75690/spotlight-initiative-end-violence-against-women-and-girls-launched-grenada_fi.

On 6 March 2020, the European Union's executive announced that the European Commission will introduce laws that combat gender equality that include "binding measures on pay transparency," which aim to encourage member states to implement these laws to bridge the gender wage gap.⁶³⁶

On 15 March 2020, Delegation of EU to Nigeria and Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) advocated for equal opportunity for all genders to bridge the gender inequality gap in Nigeria.⁶³⁷ Ambassador of EU to Nigeria and ECOWAS noted that EU is working with Nigerian institutions to improve gender equality and will continue to support opening of a national register against sexual offenders and sexual assault referral centres throughout the country on a call.⁶³⁸

On 11 June 2020, the EU called for a peace agreement in South Sudan. The EU called for an end to the "high number of fatalities, force displacement, sexual and gender-based violence and other human rights abuses" that has been perpetuated by delays in the implementation of said peace agreement. Additionally, the EU states that it must be ensured that women represent 35 per cent of those in public office.⁶³⁹

On 13 July 2020, the the Council set the EU's priorities for the 75th General Assembly of the United Nations.⁶⁴⁰ Among these priorities includes "human rights and gender equality, promoting peace and security, building a fair globalisation, accelerating the global transition towards sustainable and climate neutral future, and leading the transition to a new digital world."⁶⁴¹

European Union has demonstrated its dedication to implement laws that promote gender equality by providing grants to WLSA working to develop gender-sensitive policies, developing an action plan to collaborate with Libya to prevent and combat violence against women and promote women's economic and social rights, launching the Gender Champion Initiative and funding Natwampane' Programme in collaboration with Zambia to improve access to services for survivors of violence in Zambia's Norther Province and Luapula Province. It has also demonstrated its interest through its renewal of its Gender Equality strategy, which reaffirms its commitment to helping women realize their rights, and its joint creation of the Spotlight Initiative, which aims to end violence against women and girls in 26 countries globally.

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

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⁶³⁶ EU Executive seeks to crack down on gender pay gap, Premium Times (Brussels) 6 March 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://nypost.com/2020/03/06/eu-executive-seeks-to-crack-down-on-gender-pay-gap/>.

⁶³⁷ EU advocates gender equality in Nigeria, Premium Times (Brussels) 15 March 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/more-news/382030-eu-advocates-gender-equality-in-nigeria.html>.

⁶³⁸ EU advocates gender equality in Nigeria, Premium Times (Brussels) 15 March 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/more-news/382030-eu-advocates-gender-equality-in-nigeria.html>.

⁶³⁹ South Sudan: declaration by the High Representative, on behalf of the European Union, on delays in the implementation of the peace agreement and widespread violence, Council of the EU (Brussels) 11 June 2020. Access Date: 1 September 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/06/11/south-sudan-declaration-by-the-high-representative-on-behalf-of-the-european-union-on-delays-in-the-implementation-of-the-peace-agreement-and-widespread-violence/>

⁶⁴⁰ EU priorities at the United Nations and the 75th United Nations General Assembly adopted, Council of the EU (Brussels) 13 July 2020. Access Date: 1 September 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/07/13/eu-priorities-at-the-united-nations-and-the-75th-united-nations-general-assembly-adopted/>

⁶⁴¹ EU priorities at the United Nations and the 75th United Nations General Assembly adopted, Council of the EU (Brussels) 13 July 2020. Access Date: 1 September 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/07/13/eu-priorities-at-the-united-nations-and-the-75th-united-nations-general-assembly-adopted/>