

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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14 December 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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## 10. Regional Security: G5 Sahel Police

“As the G7, we will work with the United Nations and INTERPOL in order to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.”

*Sahel Partnership Action Plan*

### Assessment

Member	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France		0	
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
United Kingdom		0	
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average		+0.38 (69%)	

### Background

On 16 February 2014, the leaders of Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Chad met in Nouakchott, Mauritania to create the G5 Sahel, in order to improve cooperation, security, and development in the Sahel region of Africa.<sup>1706</sup> The goals of the G5 Sahel group are to:<sup>1707</sup>

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

On 1 August 2014, France launched Operation Barkhane, a counter-terrorism operation focused on fighting and neutralizing jihadist organizations operating in the Sahel region, deploying 3000 soldiers to the region to support the G5 Sahel countries.<sup>1708</sup>

On 5 June 2017, the European Union pledged EUR50 million for the creation of a larger, multinational joint Sahel task force, merging the French soldiers from the prior Operation Barkhane with soldiers from various other countries, totaling a force of 10,000 soldiers.<sup>1709</sup>

<sup>1706</sup> Le G5 Sahel, G5 Sahel (Nouakchott) 29 September 2015. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://www.g5sahel.org/qui-sommes-nous/le-g5-sahel>

<sup>1707</sup> Le G5 Sahel, G5 Sahel (Nouakchott) 29 September 2015. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://www.g5sahel.org/qui-sommes-nous/le-g5-sahel>

<sup>1708</sup> Welcome to France's New War on Terror in Africa: Operation Barkhane, The National Interest (Washington D.C.) 7 August 2014. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://nationalinterest.org/feature/welcome-frances-new-war-terror-africa-operation-barkhane-11029>

<sup>1709</sup> Mali: la France propose à l'ONU le déploiement d'une force africaine au Sahel, France Info Africa (Niamey) 8 June 2017. Access Date: 7 December 2019. [https://www.francetvinfo.fr/monde/afrique/niger/mali-la-france-propose-a-lonu-le-deploiement-dune-force-africaine-au-sahel\\_3060181.html](https://www.francetvinfo.fr/monde/afrique/niger/mali-la-france-propose-a-lonu-le-deploiement-dune-force-africaine-au-sahel_3060181.html)

With one of the major themes of the Biarritz Summit focusing on cooperation with Africa, the Sahel region was brought forward as a significant discussion point for the first time. In the Sahel Partnership Action Plan, G7 leaders outlined the major issues facing the region, and how the G7 and G5 Sahel can work together to improve the pace at which the G5 Sahel group reaches its goals.<sup>1710</sup> A major focus was the security aspect of the G5 Sahel goals, with the G7 calling for international cooperation between the G7 and G5 Sahel, as well as the United Nations as INTERPOL.<sup>1711</sup>

### Commitment Features

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

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

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

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has not cooperated with United Nations OR with INTERPOL to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.
0	The G7 member has cooperated with United Nations OR with INTERPOL to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.
+1	The G7 member has cooperated with United Nations AND with INTERPOL to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.

*Compliance Director: Ian Stansbury  
Lead Analyst: Bogdan Stovba*

### Canada: 0

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

<sup>1710</sup> Sahel Partnership Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/sahel-partnership-action-plan.html>

<sup>1711</sup> Sahel Partnership Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/sahel-partnership-action-plan.html>

On 30 August 2019, Canada started a project “For a More Inclusive Peace Process in Mali” in partnership with the International Peacebuilding Alliance.<sup>1712</sup> The project aims “to contribute to the implementation of the Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Mali by making the tools for its implementation—Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR), a joint protection force and local police—more participatory, inclusive, and gender and conflict sensitive.”<sup>1713</sup> Canada plans to contribute around CAD2.7 million until the project’s scheduled finish in December 2023.<sup>1714</sup>

On 1 September 2019, Canada ended its peacekeeping mission in Mali that was a part of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission (MINUSMA).<sup>1715</sup> Only “a small number of CAF members will remain in the region” until January 2020.<sup>1716</sup> There is no indication that Operation PRESENCE – Mali would resume at a later date.<sup>1717</sup> However, Canada will continue to provide financial, military personnel, military training, and civilian police officers in Mali through the Peace and Stabilization Operations Program and Canadian Policy Arrangements.<sup>1718</sup> In addition, Canada continues to financially contribute to the Trust Fund in Support of Peace and Security in Mali that is part of MINUSMA. The Trust Fund aims to “(1) provide support to Malian institutions in areas including rule of law and security institutions, mine action, promotion of national dialogue, regional cooperation, security sector reform, human rights, and the initial Demobilization Disarmament and Reintegration (DDR) of former combatants; (2) facilitate activities in providing support to the Malian Defense and Security Forces and activities in support of immediate and long-term efforts by the international community to resolve the crisis in Mali encompassing security, development and humanitarian issues.”<sup>1719</sup> Canada pledged to contribute CAD6 million between January 2017 and August 2020 and additional CAD3.8 million between March 2019 and August 2020.

<sup>1720</sup> <sup>1721</sup>

In 10 October 2019, Canada started a project in partnership with the International Peace Institute to “increase the use of conflict analysis and strategic assessments in the United Nations peace operations mandate renewal decisions and to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations Special

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<sup>1712</sup> Project profile — For a More Inclusive Peace Process in Mali, Government of Canada (Ottawa). n.d., Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007720001>

<sup>1713</sup> Project profile — For a More Inclusive Peace Process in Mali, Government of Canada (Ottawa). n.d., Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007720001>

<sup>1714</sup> Project profile — For a More Inclusive Peace Process in Mali, Government of Canada (Ottawa). n.d., Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007720001>

<sup>1715</sup> Operation PRESENCE, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 26 December 2019. Access Date: 10 January 2020.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/operations/military-operations/current-operations/op-presence.html>

<sup>1716</sup> Canadian Armed Forces Conclude Peacekeeping Mission in Mali, National Defense (Ottawa) 1 September 2019.

Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2019/08/canadian-armed-forces-conclude-peacekeeping-mission-in-mali.html>

<sup>1717</sup> Canadian Armed Forces Conclude Peacekeeping Mission in Mali, National Defense (Ottawa) 1 September 2019.

Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2019/08/canadian-armed-forces-conclude-peacekeeping-mission-in-mali.html>

<sup>1718</sup> Canada’s Engagement in Mali, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 27 December 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.international.gc.ca/country-pays/mali/relations.aspx?lang=eng>

<sup>1719</sup> Project profile — Support to MINUSMA Trust Fund – Mali, Government of Canada (Ottawa). n.d., Access Date: 30 August 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P002431002>

<sup>1720</sup> Project profile — Support to MINUSMA Trust Fund – Mali, Government of Canada (Ottawa). n.d., Access Date: 30 August 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P002431002>

<sup>1721</sup> Project profile — Support to MINUSMA Trust Fund – Mali, Government of Canada (Ottawa). n.d., Access Date: 30 August 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D004268001>

Committee on Peacekeeping through field visits” including “organizing analytical workshops.”<sup>1722</sup> Canada’s planned contribution is CAD228,107.<sup>1723</sup>

On 23 January 2020, Minister of Foreign Affairs François-Phillippe Champagne announced that two police trainers will be deployed to the Alioune Blondin Beye Peacekeeping School.<sup>1724</sup> These police officers will provide “training in community policing techniques.”<sup>1725</sup> In addition, Canada pledged to provide CAD1 million in funding to the school between 2018 and 2020.<sup>1726</sup>

On 14 March 2020, a Canadian woman and Italian man kidnapped in Burkina Faso in 2018 were found by United Nations OPERATION MINUSMA peacekeeping forces. Minister Champagne indicated that the Government of Canada was working closely with the leaders of Burkina Faso and Mali to apprehend the perpetrators.<sup>1727</sup>

On April 7 2020, Travel and Tourism Canada updated its travel advisories, warning against “non-essential” to Burkina Faso “due to the threat of terrorism.”<sup>1728</sup> Updated travel advisory all recommend to “avoid all travel” to provinces along Mali, Niger, Benin and Togo boarded due to “terrorist threat as well as the risk of banditry and kidnapping.”<sup>1729</sup>

On 12 June 2020, Minister Champagne and Minister of National Defence Harjit Sajjan announced that Canada will join the International Coalition for the Sahel.<sup>1730</sup> The aim of the coalition coordinate effort to assist G5 Sahel states across four pillars: the fight against terrorism, strengthening of military capabilities of states in the region, support for the return of the state and administrations on the territory, and development assistance.<sup>1731</sup>

On 30 July 2020, the Global Affairs Canada published its 2020-2021 Departmental Plan. The documents states that Canada will “support and deliver assistance through gender-sensitive programming to address the root causes of conflict and improve security and stability” in several

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<sup>1722</sup> Project profile — Improving United Nations Peacekeeping Mandates, Government of Canada (Ottawa). n.d., Access Date: 30 August 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P008189001>

<sup>1723</sup> Project profile — Improving United Nations Peacekeeping Mandates, Government of Canada (Ottawa). n.d., Access Date: 30 August 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P008189001>

<sup>1724</sup> Minister Champagne concludes visit to Mali, continues on to Morocco, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa). 23 January 2020. Access Date: 30 August 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/minister-champagne-concludes-visit-to-mali-continues-on-to-morocco.html>

<sup>1725</sup> Canadian support projects in Mali, Government of Canada (Ottawa). 23 January 2020. Access Date: 30 August 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/canadian-supported-projects-in-mali.html>

<sup>1726</sup> Canada’s engagement in Mali, Government of Canada (Ottawa). 19 August 2020. Access Date: 30 August 2020. <https://www.international.gc.ca/country-pays/mali/relations.aspx?lang=eng>

<sup>1727</sup> Diallo, Tiemoko. Two Western Hostages Freed after 15-Month Captivity in Africa’s Sahel (Bamako) 14 March 2020. Access Date: April 13 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mali-kidnapping-canada-italy/canadian-woman-and-italian-man-kidnapped-in-burkina-faso-have-been-released-u-n-idUSKBN2110HR?feedType=RSS&feedName=worldNews>

<sup>1728</sup> Official Global Travel Advisory (Ottawa) April 7 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://travel.gc.ca/destinations/burkina-faso?wbdisable=true#levels>

<sup>1729</sup> Official Global Travel Advisory (Ottawa) April 7 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://travel.gc.ca/destinations/burkina-faso?wbdisable=true#levels>

<sup>1730</sup> Canda joins International Coalition for the Sahel, Government of Canada (Ottawa). 12 June 2020. Access Date: <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/06/canada-joins-international-coalition-for-the-sahel.html>

<sup>1731</sup> France and the G5 Sahel agree for a "Coalition for the Sahel" at the Pau Summit, Embassy of France (Washington) 13 January 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9533>

region including the Sahel region.<sup>1732</sup> The support will be provided through the Counter-Terrorism Capacity Building Program “through trusted and new partners at the cutting edge of counterterrorism.”<sup>1733</sup>

On 31 August 2020, the Arms and Ammunition Management for More Stability in Sahel Region project comes to its planned completion. This project was started by Canada in July 2017 in partnership with Mines Advisory Group with Canada contributing is around CAD3.6 million throughout its duration.<sup>1734</sup> The objective of the project is to “improve local, national, and regional security and stability by addressing illicit use and flow of arms and ammunition,” strengthen “capacity of national security forces for arms management and destruction practices,” and increase “accountability and governmentance in the security sector.”<sup>1735</sup> This project is executed in “close cooperation with local authorities in Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger.”<sup>1736</sup>

While Canada did not extend deployment of its military force as a part of MINUSMA, Canada continued to work with the UN and financially support UN programs that aim to assist G5 Sahel countries to develop its police and defence capabilities. However, Canada did not partner with INTERPOL or supported any INTERPOL G5 Sahel security or defence related projects.

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Nicholas Lovrics*

#### **France: 0**

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

On 25 September 2019, Minister of Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian participated in UN hosted high-level meeting on Mali and the Sahel.<sup>1737</sup> Participants “discussed the implementation of the Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Mali, ... welcomed the progress made in the Accelerated Demobilization Disarmament and Reintegration (MDSF), [and called for] ... the early finalization of the comprehensive plan for the progressive redeployment of the reconstituted and reformed MDSF as part of a broader vision for Security Sector Reform.”<sup>1738</sup>

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<sup>1732</sup> Departmental Plan 2020-21, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa). 30 July 2020. Access Date: 27 August 2020. [https://www.international.gc.ca/gac-amc/publications/plans/dp-pm/dp-pm\\_2021.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/gac-amc/publications/plans/dp-pm/dp-pm_2021.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>1733</sup> Departmental Plan 2020-21, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa). 30 July 2020. Access Date: 27 August 2020. [https://www.international.gc.ca/gac-amc/publications/plans/dp-pm/dp-pm\\_2021.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/gac-amc/publications/plans/dp-pm/dp-pm_2021.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>1734</sup> Project profile — Arms and Ammunition Management for More Stability in the Sahel Region, Government of Canada (Ottawa). n.d., Access Date: 30 August 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P005184001>

<sup>1735</sup> Project profile — Arms and Ammunition Management for More Stability in the Sahel Region, Government of Canada (Ottawa). n.d., Access Date: 30 August 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P005184001>

<sup>1736</sup> Project profile — Arms and Ammunition Management for More Stability in the Sahel Region, Government of Canada (Ottawa). n.d., Access Date: 30 August 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P005184001>

<sup>1737</sup> High-Level Meeting on Mali and the Sahel Co-chairs’ summary, United Nations (New York). 25 September 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/note-correspondents/2019-09-25/note-correspondents-high-level-meeting-mali-and-the-sahel-co-chairs%E2%80%99-summary-scroll-down-for-french>

<sup>1738</sup> High-Level Meeting on Mali and the Sahel Co-chairs’ summary, United Nations (New York). 25 September 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/note-correspondents/2019-09-25/note-correspondents-high-level-meeting-mali-and-the-sahel-co-chairs%E2%80%99-summary-scroll-down-for-french>

Between 29 September and 7 October 2019, French soldiers of the “Belleface” desert battle group led a major operation, which mobilized about 200 men and 40 vehicles, to establish zone control in the three-border area of the Liptako region and to strengthen the Operational Military Partnership with the Malian Armed Forces in the area.<sup>1739</sup> The operation led to the improvement and reinforcement of passive defense points in the cities and the Malian military camps, with the aim of preventing the armed terrorist groups from operating in the region.<sup>1740</sup>

On 3 October 2019, the French Barkhane force participated in the operational coordination committee of the G5 Sahel member countries, organized by the General Staff of the Armies of Chad, which aimed to increase cooperation between the forces.<sup>1741</sup> Participation in the coordination committee improved “understanding of the complementary” of the Barkhane and the G5 Sahel members armed forces “in the fight against armed terrorist groups.”<sup>1742</sup>

On 10 October 2019, the G5 Sahel Joint Force, backed by the French-led Operation Barkhane force, completed a “major arms seizure” following a 10-day military counter-terrorism operation in northern Niger, during which the French force carried out airdrops and ISR (Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance) flights.<sup>1743</sup>

Between 1 and 17 November 2019, the G5 Sahel Joint Force, in cooperation with the armies of Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger, and with support from the Barkhane force, carried out operation Bourgou IV which aimed to disrupt the activity of armed terrorist groups in the “three borders” Sahel region.<sup>1744</sup> The operation mobilized over 1,400 soldiers, with 600 of them French.<sup>1745</sup> Bourgou IV succeeded in the coordination of all the troops and resulted in 25 terrorists neutralized or captured, 64 vehicles destroyed, a large quantity of ammunition seized, over 100 phones recovered, and a fuel depot and an IED manufacturing workshop destroyed.<sup>1746</sup>

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<sup>1739</sup> BARKHANE: The Malian armed forces and Barkhane in operation in the Liptako, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019.

<https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-les-forces-armees-maliennes-et-barkhane-en-operation-dans-le-liptako>

<sup>1740</sup> BARKHANE: The Malian armed forces and Barkhane in operation in the Liptako, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019.

<https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-les-forces-armees-maliennes-et-barkhane-en-operation-dans-le-liptako>

<sup>1741</sup> BARKHANE: Operational coordination committee of the G5 Sahel member countries in N'Djamena, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019.

<https://www.defense.gouv.fr/espanol/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-comite-de-coordination-operationnelle-des-pays-membres-du-g5-sahel-a-n-djamena>

<sup>1742</sup> BARKHANE: Operational coordination committee of the G5 Sahel member countries in N'Djamena, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019.

<https://www.defense.gouv.fr/espanol/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-comite-de-coordination-operationnelle-des-pays-membres-du-g5-sahel-a-n-djamena>

<sup>1743</sup> G5 Sahel Joint Force makes ‘major’ weapons seizure in northern Niger, The Defense Post (Washington) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/10/17/g5-sahel-weapons-seizure-niger-madama>

<sup>1744</sup> French and Sahel soldiers step up campaign against jihadists, France 24 (Paris) 25 November 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20191125-french-and-sahel-soldiers-step-up-campaign-against-jihadists>

<sup>1745</sup> BARKHANE: Operation BOURGOU IV in the Gourma, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-operation-bourgou-iv-dans-le-gourma>

<sup>1746</sup> Joint Force G5 Sahel Operation in the Gourma, G5 Sahel (Nouakchott) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://www.g5sahel.org/21-nos-activit%C3%A9s/defense-et-securite/1539-force-conjointe-operation-dans-le-gourma>

On 20 November 2019, Permanent Representative to the United Nations Nicolas de Rivière affirmed that France supports “the G-5 countries’ requests for increased multilateral support.”<sup>1747</sup> Rivière announced that a European special forces unit named Takuba will be deployed as part of Operation Barkhane in Mali starting in 2020 to support them on their path to autonomy.<sup>1748</sup>

On 19 December 2019, President Emmanuel Macron delivered a speech in Niamey, Niger following an attack on a military camp in Niger that killed 71 soldiers.<sup>1749</sup> Macron vowed to keep fighting extremism in the region, noting that the Sahel is at a “turning point” in the war, and emphasized the need to redefine and clarify military and political objectives at the upcoming summit on 13 January 2020 with the Sahel G5 leaders in Pau, France.<sup>1750</sup>

On 20 December 2019, Operation Barkhane forces killed 33 Islamist militants in Mali near the Mauritanian border where a “group linked to Al Qaeda operates,” utilizing helicopters, ground troops, and a drone.<sup>1751</sup> The operation also included a seizure of four equipped trucks, four motorcycles, and a large volume of armaments including heavy machine guns, as well as a release of two Malian hostage gendarmes.<sup>1752</sup>

Between 27-29 December 2019, the G5 Sahel Joint Force Staff met with representatives of the Sahel national armies and the Barkhane Force at the Niamey command post.<sup>1753</sup> General Pascal Facon, Commander of the Barkhane, “stressed that all the conditions are met for increased cooperation in the fight” and reaffirmed the need to continue strengthening the joint operationalization between the partner forces in the region.<sup>1754</sup>

On 13 January 2020, President Macron hosted the G5 Sahel members’ heads of state at a summit in Pau, France, where they reaffirmed their commitment to jointly combat terrorism in the Sahel region

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<sup>1747</sup> Address by Permanent Representative Nicolas de Riviere at the United Nations Security Council, The Permanent Representation of France to the UN (Paris) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019.

<https://onu.delegfrance.org/situation-in-the-Sahel-remains-very-precarious>

<sup>1748</sup> Address by Permanent Representative Nicolas de Riviere at the United Nations Security Council, The Permanent Representation of France to the UN (Paris) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019.

<https://onu.delegfrance.org/situation-in-the-Sahel-remains-very-precarious>

<sup>1749</sup> ‘We are at a turning point in war’ against jihadism: French President Macron in Niger, France 24 (Paris) 22 December 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20191222-we-are-at-a-turning-point-in-war-against-jihadism-french-president-macron-in-niger>

<sup>1750</sup> ‘We are at a turning point in war’ against jihadism: French President Macron in Niger, France 24 (Paris) 22 December 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20191222-we-are-at-a-turning-point-in-war-against-jihadism-french-president-macron-in-niger>

<sup>1751</sup> France Kills 33 Militants in Mali Raid: President, New York Times (New York) 21 December 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. <https://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2019/12/21/world/africa/21reuters-france-mali-conflict.html?searchResultPosition=1>

<sup>1752</sup> BARKHANE: Neutralization of a major armed terrorist group in the Mopti region, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 21 December 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-neutralisation-d-un-important-groupe-arme-terroriste-dans-la-region-de-mopti>

<sup>1753</sup> BARKHANE: The G5 Sahel Joint Force strengthens its preponderant role in cross-border operations, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 3 January 2020. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-la-force-conjointe-du-g5-sahel-renforce-son-role-preponderant-dans-les-operations-transfrontalieres>

<sup>1754</sup> BARKHANE: The G5 Sahel Joint Force strengthens its preponderant role in cross-border operations, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 3 January 2020. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-la-force-conjointe-du-g5-sahel-renforce-son-role-preponderant-dans-les-operations-transfrontalieres>

and urged international partners to increase their aid.<sup>1755</sup> The heads of state formed a new framework, “Coalition for the Sahel,” on the basis of four pillars: the fight against terrorism, strengthening of military capabilities of states in the region, support for the return of the state and administrations on the territory, and development assistance.<sup>1756</sup>

On 2 February 2020, the French Ministry of the Armed Forces issued a press release announcing the deployment of 600 more troops in the Barkhane force.<sup>1757</sup> This action was taken as part of the Coalition for the Sahel framework agreed upon at the Pau summit and brought the total number of troops to approximately 5,100.<sup>1758</sup>

Between 6-7 February 2020, Operation Barkhane neutralized 20 terrorists and destroyed several vehicles in a double targeted strike west of the Gourma region.<sup>1759</sup> This operation aimed was conducted to reduce “the potential of armed terrorist groups” by destroying their supply chains.<sup>1760</sup>

Between 9-15 February 2020, Operation Barkhane’s “Steel” desert battle group carried out an operation in Liptako, Mali, during which one terrorist was put out of action, several resources were seized, and terrorist group materials were destroyed.<sup>1761</sup>

Between 9-17 February 2020, Operation Barkhane utilized drones, jet fighters and combat helicopters to carry out two operations in the Mopti region in Mali, which neutralized approximately 50 jihadist fighters, destroyed over 30 vehicles, and allowed for major weapon seizures.<sup>1762</sup> This operation aims to “weaken the offensive potential of armed terrorist groups.”<sup>1763</sup>

On 12 February 2020, a Barkhane-taught three-week training course for special Malian anti-terrorist units (USAT-2) was concluded in a ceremony which saw the graduation of 97 Malian soldiers.<sup>1764</sup>

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<sup>1755</sup> France and the G5 Sahel agree for a "Coalition for the Sahel" at the Pau Summit, Embassy of France (Washington) 13 January 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9533>

<sup>1756</sup> France and the G5 Sahel agree for a "Coalition for the Sahel" at the Pau Summit, Embassy of France (Washington) 13 January 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9533>

<sup>1757</sup> Official speeches and statements - February 4, 2020, Embassy of France (Washington) 4 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9575#2>

<sup>1758</sup> Official speeches and statements - February 4, 2020, Embassy of France (Washington) 4 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9575#2>

<sup>1759</sup> BARKHANE: Opportunity actions in the region of the three borders, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 7 February 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-actions-d-opportunit-e-dans-la-region-des-trois-frontieres>

<sup>1760</sup> BARKHANE: Opportunity actions in the region of the three borders, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 7 February 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-actions-d-opportunit-e-dans-la-region-des-trois-frontieres>

<sup>1761</sup> BARKHANE: The "Steel" battle group in operation in the Malian Liptako, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-le-groupe-ment-tactique-acier-en-operation-dans-le-liptako-malien>

<sup>1762</sup> BARKHANE: Operations in the Mopti region, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 20 February 2020. Access Date 17 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/operations/actualites2/barkhane-operations-dans-la-region-de-mopti>

<sup>1763</sup> BARKHANE: Operations in the Mopti region, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 20 February 2020. Access Date 17 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/operations/actualites2/barkhane-operations-dans-la-region-de-mopti>

<sup>1764</sup> BARKHANE: End of training for the USAT-2 of the Malian armed forces, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 19 February 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-fin-de-formation-pour-l-usat-2-des-forces-armees-maliennes>

This training also helped with establishing “real working relations ... between French and Malian soldiers.”<sup>1765</sup>

On 20 February 2020, the Nigerian defense ministry released a balance sheet demonstrating that 120 terrorists have been neutralized in southwestern Niger since the start of the joint military operation conducted by the Nigerian armed forces and the French Barkhane force on 1 February 2020.<sup>1766</sup> Niger’s defence minister welcomed the “cooperation with the strategic partner in the fight against terrorism” and noted that the joint operation is “in line with the recommendations resulting from the Pau summit.”<sup>1767</sup>

Between 3 and 23 March 2020, the Barkhane force conducted Operation Monclar in an unprecedented joint commitment with the Malian and Nigerian forces in the three-border region.<sup>1768</sup> Operation Monclar mobilized nearly 5,000 soldiers through the establishment of a Joint Command Mechanism, which made the large-scale coordination of forces possible; the operation brought “particularly notable results,” “neutralized a large number of terrorists,” and either seized or destroyed a “very large number of resources.”<sup>1769</sup>

On 27 March 2020, Minister for Armed Forces Florence Parly held a remote conference with five other European Defense Ministers and the Defense Ministers in Mali and Niger to discuss the launch of the Takuba Task Force, a grouping of European special forces whose military contributions will be placed under Operation Barkhane’s command and will operate in the Liptako region.<sup>1770</sup> The Takuba Task Force is expected to become operational by early 2021 and will work in coordination with G5 Sahel partners, the UN mission (MINUSMA) and EU missions.<sup>1771</sup>

Between 2 and 5 April 2020, the “Dragon” desert battle group conducted a series of operations and sweeps along the Niger River in the area of the three borders to disrupt the movements of armed terrorist groups through and reassure local populations.<sup>1772</sup>

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<sup>1765</sup> BARKHANE: The "Altor" and "Centurion" battlegroups in operation in the Malo-Nigerian Liptako, Ministry of Defense (Paris) 27 February 2020, Access Date: 17 April 2020.

<https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-les-groupements-tactique-altor-et-centurion-en-operation-dans-le-liptako-malo-nigerien>

<sup>1766</sup> Niger. 120 "terrorists neutralized" during an operation, Ouest France (Paris) 22 February 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.ouest-france.fr/monde/niger/niger-120-terroristes-neutralises-au-cours-d-une-operation-6747870>

<sup>1767</sup> Niger. 120 "terrorists neutralized" during an operation, Ouest France (Paris) 22 February 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.ouest-france.fr/monde/niger/niger-120-terroristes-neutralises-au-cours-d-une-operation-6747870>

<sup>1768</sup> BARKHANE: Operation Monclar - unprecedented concentration of efforts in the three border area, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-l-operation-monclar-concentration-inedite-des-efforts-en-zone-des-trois-frontieres>

<sup>1769</sup> BARKHANE: Operation Monclar - unprecedented concentration of efforts in the three border area, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-l-operation-monclar-concentration-inedite-des-efforts-en-zone-des-trois-frontieres>

<sup>1770</sup> Official speeches and statements - March 30, 2020, Embassy of France (Washington) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9690#2>

<sup>1771</sup> Official speeches and statements - March 30, 2020, Embassy of France (Washington) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9690#2>

<sup>1772</sup> BARKHANE: The Desert Dragon Battle Group (GTD) in operation, Ministry of Defense (Paris) 17 April 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-le-groupement-tactique-desert-gtd-dragon-en-operation>

On 8 April 2020, a French patrol of two Mirage 2000s responded to an air support request from a reconnaissance mission of a G5 Sahel joint in Burkina Faso and successfully supported troops on the ground in repelling an armed terrorist group.<sup>1773</sup>

On 3 June 2020, France military forces conducted an operation in Mali and killed al-Qaeda leader in North Africa.

On 5 June 2020, Ambassador de Rivière delivered a statement at the UN Security Council in which he underlined that “the international community has recently its support” to the Sahel states including the launch of the Coalition for Sahel which “resulted in the establishment of a joint command mechanism between the French force Barkhane and the armies of the G5 Sahel.”<sup>1774</sup>

On 15 July 2020, Task Force Takuba was launched with “the deployment of French and Estonian special forces in the Sahel-Sahara belt.”<sup>1775</sup>

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

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Mascha Kopytina*

### **Germany: +1**

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

On 24 September 2019, Foreign Minister Heiko Maas stated that as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, Germany will focus on “peaceful cooperation and de-escalation” of conflicts in Syria, Gulf states, Yemen, Sahel region and Sudan.<sup>1776</sup>

On 16 October 2019, at the Franco-German Defence and United Nations Security Council, Germany reaffirmed its commitment to “securing, stabilizing and developing the Sahel region.”<sup>1777</sup>

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<sup>1773</sup> BARKHANE: Joint force of the G5 Sahel and Mirage 2000D coordinate during an operation, Ministry of Defense (Paris) 15 April 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020.

<https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/brevs/barkhane-force-conjointe-du-g5-sahel-et-mirage-2000d-se-coordonnent-au-cours-d-une-operation>

<sup>1774</sup> The international community can succeed in stabilising the Sahel. Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York). 5 June 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/The-international-community-can-succeed-in-stabilizing-the-Sahel>

<sup>1775</sup> France’s action in the Sahel, France Diplomacy (Paris). April 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/security-disarmament-and-non-proliferation/terrorism-france-s-international-action/article/france-s-action-in-the-sahel>

<sup>1776</sup> Statement by Foreign Minister Maas prior to his departure for New York, Federal Foreign Office 24 September 2019. Access Date: 21 January 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-gneral-assembly/2249318>

<sup>1777</sup> Agreed Conclusions, Franco-German Defence and Security Council (Toulouse) 16 October 2019. Access Date 21 January 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/blob/2258026/d0f478d0223d47c90dbe02f5426fc9c1/191016-erklaerung-data.pdf>

Germany also committed to working with France and the European Union on “the launch and implementation of the Partnership for Security and Stability in the Sahel (P3S).”<sup>1778</sup>

On 11–17 November 2019, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNDOC), INTERPOL Firearms Programme, and 110 “police, customs, border police and prosecution services” from Burkina Faso, Cote d’Ivoire and Mali conducted operation KAFO.<sup>1779</sup> This operation “permitted law enforcement to intercept illicit firearms and identify potential links with other criminal activity across the region and beyond, including terrorism.”<sup>1780</sup> KAFO is “part of joint efforts to strengthen the criminal justice chain” through training “in the use of operation tools ... [and] techniques to support the fight against illicit firearms trafficking.”<sup>1781</sup> In particular, training scope of KAFO includes “UNODC’s training on detection and investigation of firearms trafficking at land border crossing points as well as on INTERPOL global policing capabilities, including iARMS and the INTERPOL Firearms Reference Table (IFRT).”<sup>1782</sup> KAFO “was made possible with the support from Germany, Japan, and the European Union.”<sup>1783</sup>

In December 2019, the German Defense Ministry rejected for the second time a French request to dispatch “European special forces to tackle Mali’s dangerous security situation.”<sup>1784,1785</sup> Germany also “turned down the request” to create a Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force.<sup>1786</sup> This is an instance of lack of compliance with the commitment to cooperate with G5 Sahel nations.

On 10-12 December 2019, UNDOC and INTERPOL conducted a workshop on criminal intelligence for 60 participants from the G5 Sahel states intelligence services.<sup>1787</sup> The key objective of the workshop was “to strengthen the intelligence system of the structures of the G5 Sahel, in order to harmonize the way they exchange information and to strengthen knowledge of tools and models

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<sup>1778</sup> Agreed Conclusions, Franco-German Defence and Security Council (Toulouse) 16 October 2019. Access Date 21 January 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/blob/2258026/d0f478d0223d47c90dbe02f5426fc9c1/191016-erklaerung-data.pdf>

<sup>1779</sup> A joint INTERPOL-UNODC operation against illicit firearms trafficking in West Africa has seen arrests and the seizure of firearms and ammunition, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (New York). 23 December 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/firearms-protocol/news/kafo-operation.html>

<sup>1780</sup> A joint INTERPOL-UNODC operation against illicit firearms trafficking in West Africa has seen arrests and the seizure of firearms and ammunition, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (New York). 23 December 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/firearms-protocol/news/kafo-operation.html>

<sup>1781</sup> A joint INTERPOL-UNODC operation against illicit firearms trafficking in West Africa has seen arrests and the seizure of firearms and ammunition, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (New York). 23 December 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/firearms-protocol/news/kafo-operation.html>

<sup>1782</sup> A joint INTERPOL-UNODC operation against illicit firearms trafficking in West Africa has seen arrests and the seizure of firearms and ammunition, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (New York). 23 December 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/firearms-protocol/news/kafo-operation.html>

<sup>1783</sup> A joint INTERPOL-UNODC operation against illicit firearms trafficking in West Africa has seen arrests and the seizure of firearms and ammunition, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (New York). 23 December 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/firearms-protocol/news/kafo-operation.html>

<sup>1784</sup> Germany twice rejects France plea for military aid in Mali as Paris keeps sending body bags home, Russia Today 21 December 2019. Access Date: 11 January 2020. <https://www.rt.com/news/476973-germany-rejects-help-france-mali/>

<sup>1785</sup> Terrorism poses growing threat in Africa’s Sahel, Germany warns, Deutsche Welle 27 December 2019. Access Date: 21 January 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/terrorism-poses-growing-threat-in-africas-sahel-germany-warns/a-51813261>

<sup>1786</sup> Terrorism poses growing threat in Africa’s Sahel, Germany warns, Deutsche Welle 27 December 2019. Access Date: 21 January 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/terrorism-poses-growing-threat-in-africas-sahel-germany-warns/a-51813261>

<sup>1787</sup> Towards a criminal intelligence system for the G5 Sahel, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (New York). December 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.unodc.org/westandcentralafrica/en/2019-12-12-criminal-intelligence-system-g5-sahel.html>

with regards to criminal intelligence.”<sup>1788</sup> This workshop was financed by the government of Germany.<sup>1789</sup>

On 29 December 2019, Defense Minister Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer stated that “Germany should consider expanding its troop mandate” in Sahel region.<sup>1790</sup> Currently, 1100 Bundeswehr soldiers are “taking part in a UN mission in the region, as well as an EU military training mission,” however, the German mandate “does not cover taking part in counter-terrorism operations.”<sup>1791</sup> Thus, Germany expressed desire to cooperate further with the G5 Sahel countries.

On 27 March 2020, ministers of defence of Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden and the United Kingdom held a remote conference with the Defense Ministers in Mali and Niger to discuss the launch of the Takuba Task Force, a grouping of European special forces whose military contributions will be placed under Operation Barkhane’s command and will operate in the Liptako region.<sup>1792</sup> The Takuba Task Force is expected to become have “initial operational capability” by support 2020 and fully operational by early 2021 and will work in coordination with G5 Sahel partners, the UN mission (MINUSMA) and EU missions.<sup>1793</sup>

On 29 May 2020, Parliament of Germany extended Germany’s troop deployment to Mali until 2021 under the European Union Training Mission in Mali (EUTM).<sup>1794</sup> Around 450 German soldiers take part in EUTM with a mandate “to instruct Malian soldiers, establish a new training center in central Mali, as well as training recruits of other Sahel nations.”<sup>1795</sup>

On 11 June 2020, Minister Maas delivered a speech to the UN Security Council on MINUSMA and situation in Mali. The Foreign Minister stated that making progress in the fight against terrorism requires “the international community ... [to] uphold its commitment to Mali,” “all Malian actions work [ing] together for a better future of their people,” and expansion of “stabilization, development cooperation and humanitarian assistance measures for Mali and the region.”<sup>1796</sup> Minister Maas

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<sup>1788</sup> Towards a criminal intelligence system for the G5 Sahel, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (New York). December 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.unodc.org/westandcentralafrica/en/2019-12-12-criminal-intelligence-system-g5-sahel.html>

<sup>1789</sup> Towards a criminal intelligence system for the G5 Sahel, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (New York). December 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.unodc.org/westandcentralafrica/en/2019-12-12-criminal-intelligence-system-g5-sahel.html>

<sup>1790</sup> Germany ponders bigger troop mandate in Africa's Sahel, Deutsche Welle 29 December 2019. Access Date 21 January 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-ponders-bigger-troop-mandate-in-africas-sahel/a-51828723>

<sup>1791</sup> Germany ponders bigger troop mandate in Africa's Sahel, Deutsche Welle 29 December 2019. Access Date 21 January 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-ponders-bigger-troop-mandate-in-africas-sahel/a-51828723>

<sup>1792</sup> Official speeches and statements - March 30, 2020, Embassy of France (Washington) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9690#2>

<sup>1793</sup> Official speeches and statements - March 30, 2020, Embassy of France (Washington) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9690#2>

<sup>1794</sup> Germany extends Bundeswehr mission in Mali, Deutsche Welle (Bonn). 29 May 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-extends-bundeswehr-mission-in-mali/a-53621405>

<sup>1795</sup> Germany extends Bundeswehr mission in Mali, Deutsche Welle (Bonn). 29 May 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-extends-bundeswehr-mission-in-mali/a-53621405>

<sup>1796</sup> Speech by Federal Foreign Minister Heiko Maas on MINUSMA in the UN Security Council, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin). 11 June 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-security-council-minusma/2352026>

underlined that “Germany has supported MINUSMA from day” and it remains Germany’s “most important military commitment to any UN mission.”<sup>1797</sup>

On 12 June 2020, Minister Maas participated in the International Coalition for the Sahel conference. He stated that the coalition wants “to train and equip the security forces of the Sahel countries in such a way that they can independently ensure the security of the population.”<sup>1798</sup>

On 31 July 2020, INTERPOL published a list of Contributions Agreements Signed in 2020. According to the document, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs committed to contributing more than EUR3.9 million to “Project G5 Sahel.”<sup>1799</sup> The project aims to “promote the effective use of INTERPOL policing capacities in the member countries of the Sahel region to combat terrorism.”<sup>1800</sup>

On 4 August 2020, INTERPOL published a list of Contributions Agreements Signed in 2019. According to the document, German Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs committed to contributing around EUR3.8 million on “support to project integration for Impact, INTERPOL and G5 Sahel Joint Force Police Component” and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ) contributing EUR58,421 to “Enable and enhance security cooperation on biological threats in Mali, G5-Sahel and Tunisia.”<sup>1801</sup>

While Germany rejected the creation of the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force, it has demonstrated commitment to work with the United Nations, INTERPOL and G5 Sahel countries to build more efficient police and defense capabilities.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Shamsbir Malik*

## **Italy: 0**

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

On 29 August 2019, the Italian Army team, as part of the Bilateral Support Mission in Niger (MISIN), concluded its two-week Improvised Explosive Device (IED) threat awareness course at the Niamey training center.<sup>1802</sup> The course taught the Nigerian Security Forces the procedures of

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<sup>1797</sup> Speech by Federal Foreign Minister Heiko Maas on MINUSMA in the UN Security Council, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin). 11 June 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-security-council-minusma/2352026>

<sup>1798</sup> Foreign Minister Maas on the Partnership for Security and Stability in the Sahel, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin). 12 June 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-securityand-stability-sahel/2352460>

<sup>1799</sup> CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT SIGNED IN 2020, INTERPOL (Lyon). 31 July 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.interpol.int/en/content/download/15134/file/NEW%20CONTRIBUTIONS%20AGREEMENTS%20SIGNED%20IN%202020.pdf>

<sup>1800</sup> G5 Sahel, INTERPOL (Lyon). n.d. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.interpol.int/en/Crimes/Terrorism/Counter-terrorism-projects/G5-Sahel>

<sup>1801</sup> CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT SIGNED IN 2019, INTERPOL (Lyon). 4 August 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.interpol.int/content/download/13691/file/NEW%20CONTRIBUTIONS%20AGREEMENTS%20SIGNED%20IN%202019.pdf>

<sup>1802</sup> Niger: IED threat awareness course completed, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. [https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op\\_intern\\_corso/Niger\\_missione\\_bilaterale\\_supporto/notizie\\_teatro/Pagine/Niger\\_concluso\\_corso\\_contro\\_minaccia\\_IED.aspx](https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/Niger_concluso_corso_contro_minaccia_IED.aspx)

combatting fundamentalist terrorism attacks caused by explosive devices through lessons on the characteristics of the IEDs and their effects.<sup>1803</sup>

On 13 September 2019, the Mobile Training Team (MTT) of the Carabinieri, the Italian military force, concluded the final exercise of a forest combat techniques course as part of MISIN.<sup>1804</sup> The course trained the Nigerian military forces on the proper defensive conduct in wooded areas, including specific techniques of concealment, “hand strike,” and ambush.<sup>1805</sup>

On 27 September 2019, the MTT of the Carabinieri concluded the final exercise of a two-part Operative Intervention Techniques course as part of MISIN.<sup>1806</sup> The course trained the National Guard of Niger and the Gendarmes in theoretical and practical skills of engagement in territorial control and police operations, and sought to develop the Nigerian forces’ knowledge of criminal law and procedure, the “jus in bello,” and the skills of carrying out immediate relief.<sup>1807</sup>

On 25 September 2019, at the 74th United Nations General Assembly, Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte declared Italy’s “strong commitment to face the Sahel crisis.”<sup>1808</sup> Prime Minister stated that Italy plans to “play a high profile role” on the African continent at bilateral level and also through coordination with the European Union.<sup>1809</sup>

On 4 October 2019, Brigade General Claudio Dei of MISIN and Permanent Secretary Maman Sambo Sidikou of the G5 Sahel signed a military cooperation agreement for the training of personnel

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<sup>1803</sup> Niger: IED threat awareness course completed, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019.

[https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op\\_intern\\_corso/Niger\\_missione\\_bilaterale\\_supporto/notizie\\_teatro/Pagine/Niger\\_concluso\\_corso\\_contro\\_minaccia\\_IED.aspx](https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/Niger_concluso_corso_contro_minaccia_IED.aspx)

<sup>1804</sup> Niger Mission: combat techniques course, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 13 September 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019.

[https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op\\_intern\\_corso/Niger\\_missione\\_bilaterale\\_supporto/notizie\\_teatro/Pagine/Missione\\_Niger\\_corso\\_tecniche\\_combattimento\\_boschivo\\_per\\_esercito\\_nigerino.aspx](https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/Missione_Niger_corso_tecniche_combattimento_boschivo_per_esercito_nigerino.aspx)

<sup>1805</sup> Niger Mission: combat techniques course, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 13 September 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019.

[https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op\\_intern\\_corso/Niger\\_missione\\_bilaterale\\_supporto/notizie\\_teatro/Pagine/Missione\\_Niger\\_corso\\_tecniche\\_combattimento\\_boschivo\\_per\\_esercito\\_nigerino.aspx](https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/Missione_Niger_corso_tecniche_combattimento_boschivo_per_esercito_nigerino.aspx)

<sup>1806</sup> Mission to Niger: training courses for Nigerian forces, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019.

[http://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op\\_intern\\_corso/Niger\\_missione\\_bilaterale\\_supporto/notizie\\_teatro/Pagine/Missione\\_in\\_Niger\\_corsi\\_di\\_formazione\\_per\\_le\\_forze\\_nigerine.aspx](http://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/Missione_in_Niger_corsi_di_formazione_per_le_forze_nigerine.aspx)

<sup>1807</sup> Mission to Niger: training courses for Nigerian forces, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019.

[http://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op\\_intern\\_corso/Niger\\_missione\\_bilaterale\\_supporto/notizie\\_teatro/Pagine/Missione\\_in\\_Niger\\_corsi\\_di\\_formazione\\_per\\_le\\_forze\\_nigerine.aspx](http://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/Missione_in_Niger_corsi_di_formazione_per_le_forze_nigerine.aspx)

<sup>1808</sup> Address by Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte at the United Nations, The Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 13 September 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. <http://www.governo.it/it/articolo/intervento-del-presidente-conte-alla-74-assemblea-generale-onu/12876>

<sup>1809</sup> Address by Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte at the United Nations, The Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 13 September 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. <http://www.governo.it/it/articolo/intervento-del-presidente-conte-alla-74-assemblea-generale-onu/12876>

at the G5 Sahel Defense College in Nouakchott, Mauritania.<sup>1810</sup> As part of the agreement, Italy committed to sending two MISIN officers to teach and train at the college.<sup>1811</sup>

On 14 October 2019, the Ministry of Defense, with the aid of resources from the National Africa Fund and as part of the MISIN commitment, donated ten ambulances and three military tanks to the Government of Niger in a handover ceremony in Niamey.<sup>1812</sup> This military equipment will increase Nigerian authorities' capacity in "rescuing migrants and fighting human trafficking."<sup>1813</sup>

On 4 December 2019, Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations Stefano Stefanile outlined the Italian efforts to "support the G5 Sahel Joint Force both financially and through capacity building activities" and confirmed Italy's "strong commitment to the stabilization of the Sahel" in a statement at the Peacebuilding Commission Session.<sup>1814</sup>

On 9 December 2019, the Foreign Ministry of Italy announced that EUR800,000 will be allocated to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) "with the aim of building the capacity of the judicial Authorities of Niger in combating human trafficking and enhancing the judicial cooperation with Italy."<sup>1815</sup>

On 22 December 2019, the MTT, under the command of the MISIN Brigadier General Claudio Dei, completed the training of the Paratrooper Battalion of Niger in a launch of 150 paratroopers.<sup>1816</sup> The training team included three instructors from the Pisa Parachuting Training Center in Italy, who carried out the 21-week course.<sup>1817</sup>

On 25 February 2020, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Emanuela Del Re participated in the General Assembly of the Sahel Alliance. She highlighted "Italy's multi-dimensional commitment" to

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<sup>1810</sup> Signature of a military cooperation partnership between the G5 Sahel Defense College and Italy, G5 Sahel (Nouakchott) 4 October 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. <https://www.g5sahel.org/21-nos-activit%C3%A9s/defense-et-securite/1525-signature-d-un-partenariat-de-cooperation-militaire-entre-le-college-de-defense-du-g5sahel-et-l-italie>.

<sup>1811</sup> Niger: two Italian officers in the Collège de Défense du G5 Sahel, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 4 October 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. [https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op\\_intern\\_corso/Niger\\_missione\\_bilaterale\\_supporto/notizie\\_teatro/Pagine/Niger\\_due\\_ufficiali\\_italiani\\_nel\\_Collage\\_de\\_Defence\\_du\\_G5\\_Sahel.aspx](https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/Niger_due_ufficiali_italiani_nel_Collage_de_Defence_du_G5_Sahel.aspx).

<sup>1812</sup> Italy donates 10 ambulances to the government of Niger, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 15 October 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. [https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/10/l-italia-dona-10-ambulanze-al-governo-del-niger.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/10/l-italia-dona-10-ambulanze-al-governo-del-niger.html).

<sup>1813</sup> Italy donates 10 ambulances to the government of Niger, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 15 October 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. [https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/10/l-italia-dona-10-ambulanze-al-governo-del-niger.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/10/l-italia-dona-10-ambulanze-al-governo-del-niger.html).

<sup>1814</sup> Statement by Ambassador Stefano Stefanile at the Peacebuilding Commission Annual Session, The Permanent Representation of Italy to the UN (Rome) 4 December 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. [https://italyun.esteri.it/rappresentanza\\_onu/en/comunicazione/archivio-news/2019/12/peacebuilding-commission-sessione.html](https://italyun.esteri.it/rappresentanza_onu/en/comunicazione/archivio-news/2019/12/peacebuilding-commission-sessione.html).

<sup>1815</sup> The Foreign Ministry provides two new allocations for refugees in Niger and Ethiopia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome). 9 December 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. [https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/12/due-nuovi-contributi-maeci-per-rifugiati-in-niger-e-etiofia\\_0.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/12/due-nuovi-contributi-maeci-per-rifugiati-in-niger-e-etiofia_0.html)

<sup>1816</sup> Mission to Niger: the 2019 Zebu exercise is over, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 22 December 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. [https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op\\_intern\\_corso/Niger\\_missione\\_bilaterale\\_supporto/notizie\\_teatro/Pagine/Missione\\_in\\_Niger\\_terminata\\_lesercitazione\\_Zebu\\_2019.aspx](https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/Missione_in_Niger_terminata_lesercitazione_Zebu_2019.aspx).

<sup>1817</sup> Mission to Niger: the 2019 Zebu exercise is over, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 22 December 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. [https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op\\_intern\\_corso/Niger\\_missione\\_bilaterale\\_supporto/notizie\\_teatro/Pagine/Missione\\_in\\_Niger\\_terminata\\_lesercitazione\\_Zebu\\_2019.aspx](https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/Missione_in_Niger_terminata_lesercitazione_Zebu_2019.aspx).

the region.<sup>1818</sup> She also expressed “reat satisfaction for the recent signing of the cooperation agreement in the field of defence, which will enhance bilateral cooperation for training in border control activities and the struggle against illegal trafficking.”

On 6 March 2020, the Italian Air Force donated equipment to the Niger Armée de l’Air as part of the MISIN training program.<sup>1819</sup> Donation of the equipment will allow Nigerian army to proceed with the practical training of the personnel that protects the country’s main airport.<sup>1820</sup>

On 12 June 2020, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Luigi di Maio participated in the ministerial meeting of the Coalition for the Sahel. Minister reiterated Italy’s support of the Colation and its commitment to “stability, security and sustaitanble development” of the region.<sup>1821</sup>

On 9 July 2020, Defence Minister of Italy Lorenzo Guerini and Defence Minister of France Florence Parly met in Rome. Minister Guerini stated that Italy intents to join Takuba Task Force once the Italian Partliament approval is granted.<sup>1822</sup>

On 8 August 2020, Deputy Minister Del Re was intervied by Agenzia DIRE. Commiting the situation on Mali, she stated that “Italy considered the stability of the Sahel to be a priority objective” and that Italy “should also participate” in the Task Force Takuba.<sup>1823</sup> Deputy Minister Del Re underlined that “instability in the area.. confirmed the need for greater non-military involvement of the Euroipean Union in Sahel.”<sup>1824</sup>

Italy has demonstrated independent efforts to train and contribute to the defense of the security forces in Niger through the assistance initiative MISIN, and has cooperated with United Nations in the region. However, Italy has not directly cooperated with INTERPOL support development of the G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Mascha Kopytina*

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<sup>1818</sup> Del Re visits Nouakchott: Italy supports security and development in the Sahel, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome). 25 February 2020. Access Date: [https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/02/del-re-a-nouakchott-italia-per-sicurezza-e-sviluppo-in-sahel.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/02/del-re-a-nouakchott-italia-per-sicurezza-e-sviluppo-in-sahel.html)

<sup>1819</sup> MISIN: donated material to Niger’s Armee de l’Air, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 6 March 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020.

[https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op\\_intern\\_corso/Niger\\_missione\\_bilaterale\\_supporto/notizie\\_teatro/Pagine/MISIN\\_donato\\_materiale\\_a\\_Armee\\_de\\_l\\_Air\\_Niger.aspx](https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/MISIN_donato_materiale_a_Armee_de_l_Air_Niger.aspx)

<sup>1820</sup> MISIN: donated material to Niger’s Armee de l’Air, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 6 March 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020.

[https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op\\_intern\\_corso/Niger\\_missione\\_bilaterale\\_supporto/notizie\\_teatro/Pagine/MISIN\\_donato\\_materiale\\_a\\_Armee\\_de\\_l\\_Air\\_Niger.aspx](https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/MISIN_donato_materiale_a_Armee_de_l_Air_Niger.aspx)

<sup>1821</sup> Participation by Minister Di Maio in the first Ministerial Meeting of the Coalition for the Sahel, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome). 12 June 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020.

[https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/approfondimenti/2020/06/partecipazione-del-ministro-di-maio-alla-prima-conferenza-ministeriale-della-coalizione-per-il-sahel.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/approfondimenti/2020/06/partecipazione-del-ministro-di-maio-alla-prima-conferenza-ministeriale-della-coalizione-per-il-sahel.html)

<sup>1822</sup> Minister Guerini receives French Defense Minister Parly in Rome, Defence Ministy (Rome). 9 July 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020.

[https://www.difesa.it/Primo\\_Piano/Pagine/Difesa\\_Guerini\\_incontra\\_omologa\\_francese\\_Parly.aspx](https://www.difesa.it/Primo_Piano/Pagine/Difesa_Guerini_incontra_omologa_francese_Parly.aspx)

<sup>1823</sup> VM Del Re: "Truce in Libya offers ways out of the crisis" (Agenzia DIRE), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome). 21 August 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. [https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\\_stampa/interviste/2020/08/del-re-tregua-in-libia-offre-possibilita-di-uscita-dalla-crisi.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/interviste/2020/08/del-re-tregua-in-libia-offre-possibilita-di-uscita-dalla-crisi.html)

<sup>1824</sup> VM Del Re: "Truce in Libya offers ways out of the crisis" (Agenzia DIRE), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome). 21 August 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. [https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\\_stampa/interviste/2020/08/del-re-tregua-in-libia-offre-possibilita-di-uscita-dalla-crisi.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/interviste/2020/08/del-re-tregua-in-libia-offre-possibilita-di-uscita-dalla-crisi.html)

## Japan: +1

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

On 28 August 2019, the government of Japan co-hosted the seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 7) with the United Nations, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Bank and African Union Commission (AUC).<sup>1825</sup> The Government of Japan and the African Union also co-organized the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Sahel region, which occurred on the margins of TICAD 7.<sup>1826</sup> The participants renewed their commitment to further enhancing peace and stability in the Sahel region and strengthening the coordination of their efforts.

On 30 August 2019, the Yokohama Declaration 2019 was produced, endorsing the theme of TICAD 7, “Advancing Africa’s Development through People, Technology and Innovation.”<sup>1827</sup> The Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019, which accompanies the Declaration, lists actions expected to be implemented by the TICAD partners in order to promote focus areas of the three main pillars of the Yokohama Declaration 2019 adopted at TICAD 7.<sup>1828</sup> These actions include Japan’s “New Approach for Peace and Stability in Africa” (NAPSA).<sup>1829</sup> Japan has committed to train 60,000 people in the areas of justice, police, security maintenance and others, as well as provide states with border control equipment.<sup>1830</sup> Japan has also committed to strengthen capacity-building through supporting 15 African Peacekeeping Operations Training Centers and enhance capability development through the UN Triangular Partnership Project for Rapid Deployment of Enabling Capabilities.<sup>1831</sup>

On 26 September 2019, Deputy Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs Takeshi Akahori attended a UN-hosted High-Level Meeting of the Peacebuilding Commission on Prevention and Peacebuilding on Burkina Faso. The statement delivered by the representative of Japan “highlighted the four foundational elements of Japan’s assistance to the [Sahel] region: institution-building, vocational training to youth, human resources, and assistance to refugees and their host communities” and reiterated that “Japan also supports these priorities through contribution to the Peacebuilding Fund.”<sup>1832</sup>

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<sup>1825</sup> The Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/afr/af2/page25e\\_000274.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/afr/af2/page25e_000274.html)

<sup>1826</sup> Co-chairs’ Summary of the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Sahel Region on the Margins of TICAD7, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000511802.pdf>

<sup>1827</sup> Yokohama Declaration 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama\\_declaration\\_en.pdf](https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_declaration_en.pdf)

<sup>1828</sup> Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019 Actions for Implementation of the Yokohama Declaration 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 August 2019, Access Date: 28 December 2019. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama\\_action\\_plan\\_en.pdf](https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_action_plan_en.pdf)

<sup>1829</sup> TICAD7: Japan’s contributions for Africa, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 August 2019, Access Date: 29 December 2019. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/ticad7\\_torikumi\\_en.pdf](https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/ticad7_torikumi_en.pdf)

<sup>1830</sup> TICAD7: Japan’s contributions for Africa, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 August 2019, Access Date: 29 December 2019. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/ticad7\\_torikumi\\_en.pdf](https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/ticad7_torikumi_en.pdf)

<sup>1831</sup> TICAD7: Japan’s contributions for Africa, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 August 2019, Access Date: 29 December 2019. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/ticad7\\_torikumi\\_en.pdf](https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/ticad7_torikumi_en.pdf)

<sup>1832</sup> Statement by Mr. Takeshi Akahori, Deputy Assistant Minister, Foreign Policy Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, at the High-Level Meeting of the Peacebuilding Commission on Prevention and Peacebuilding in Burkina Faso, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (New York). 26 September 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. [https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_en/akahori092619.html](https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/akahori092619.html)

On 21 October 2019, Minister of Foreign Affairs Toshimitsu Motegi met with Burkina Faso's Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Alpha Barry. Minister Motegi reiterated Japan's commitment to "back up the efforts made by Burkina Faso [as the Chair of the G5 Sahel] in the fight against terrorism."<sup>1833</sup>

On 11–17 November 2019, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNDOC), the INTERPOL Firearms Programme, and 110 "police, customs, border police and prosecution services" from Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire and Mali conducted operation KAFO.<sup>1834</sup> This operation "permitted law enforcement to intercept illicit firearms and identify potential links with other criminal activity across the region and beyond, including terrorism."<sup>1835</sup> KAFO is "part of joint efforts to strengthen the criminal justice chain" through training "in the use of operation tools ...[and] techniques to support the fight against illicit firearms trafficking."<sup>1836</sup> In particular, training scope of KAFO includes "UNODC's training on detection and investigation of firearms trafficking at land border crossing points as well as on INTERPOL global policing capabilities, including iARMS and the INTERPOL Firearms Reference Table (IFRT)."<sup>1837</sup> KAFO "was made possible with the support from Germany, Japan, and the European Union."<sup>1838</sup>

On 10 December 2019, Junya Nakano, Minister, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations, made a statement on the UN Resolution on the Sahel. The statement reiterated Japan's commitment to continue to "provide vital assistance for peace and stability, and sustainable development" of the Sahel region and stated that JAPAN provided USD23 million "in humanitarian response funding to the G5 Sahel countries."<sup>1839</sup>

Japan's cooperation with both the United Nations and the INTERPOL is evidence of its commitment to build more efficient police and defence capabilities.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jonathan Banfield*

## **United Kingdom 0**

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

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<sup>1833</sup> Japan-Burkina Faso Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 21 October 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_002657.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002657.html)

<sup>1834</sup> A joint INTERPOL-UNODC operation against illicit firearms trafficking in West Africa has seen arrests and the seizure of firearms and ammunition, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (New York). 23 December 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/firearms-protocol/news/kafo-operation.html>

<sup>1835</sup> A joint INTERPOL-UNODC operation against illicit firearms trafficking in West Africa has seen arrests and the seizure of firearms and ammunition, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (New York). 23 December 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/firearms-protocol/news/kafo-operation.html>

<sup>1836</sup> A joint INTERPOL-UNODC operation against illicit firearms trafficking in West Africa has seen arrests and the seizure of firearms and ammunition, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (New York). 23 December 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/firearms-protocol/news/kafo-operation.html>

<sup>1837</sup> A joint INTERPOL-UNODC operation against illicit firearms trafficking in West Africa has seen arrests and the seizure of firearms and ammunition, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (New York). 23 December 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/firearms-protocol/news/kafo-operation.html>

<sup>1838</sup> A joint INTERPOL-UNODC operation against illicit firearms trafficking in West Africa has seen arrests and the seizure of firearms and ammunition, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (New York). 23 December 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/firearms-protocol/news/kafo-operation.html>

<sup>1839</sup> Statement by Mr. NAKANO Junya, Minister, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations, EOP of Japan on the Resolution on the Sahel, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (New York). 10 December 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. [https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_en/nakano121019.html](https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/nakano121019.html)

On January 9, 2020, Ambassador James Roscoe conducted a briefing at the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel where he stated that “On the security and humanitarian side, as I said, we’re continuing to be concerned about the damaging cycles of violence that we’re seeing”<sup>1840</sup> and that to aid in this the UK “has just released a further 20 million pounds in additional humanitarian funding in the Sahel on top of the 50 million pounds we’re already spending to help address this situation.”<sup>1841</sup>

On January 16, 2020, Ambassador Jonathan Allan, at the Security Council briefing on UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), said “we very much commend MINUSMA’s plans and efforts to adopt a more mobile, flexible and agile posture with high-end capabilities”<sup>1842</sup> and that “the UK’s planned deployment of 250 troops to the mission is testament to the important role that we believe MINUSMA plays and also of this region.”<sup>1843</sup>

On March 1, 2020, Minister for Africa James Duddridge met with Sahel leaders to discuss “how the UK can support the fragile region in key sectors such as health and education, and help to build peace and security for millions.”<sup>1844</sup> Responding to a question from a member of Parliament (MP) about terrorism in Sahel Africa, the minister stated that the UK is expanding “development, diplomacy and defence engagement to address the impacts and drivers of conflict and poverty” which included providing of “three CH-47 Chinook helicopters to French counter terrorism operation Barkhane [and] a UN peacekeeping deployment later this year.”<sup>1845</sup>

On March 3, 2020, Minister of State (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) James Cleverly answered a question from MP Harriet Baldwin on the potential security effects of developments in the Sahel Libya region, stating that “UK interests will be supported by lasting peace and stability in the Sahel and Libya”<sup>1846</sup> and that the UK will increase “ support to the Sahel, bringing together our

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<sup>1840</sup> Statement by Ambassador James Roscoe at the Security Council briefing on the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), United Nations (New York). 9 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/preparing-for-elections-and-addressing-root-causes-of-conflict-in-west-africa>

<sup>1841</sup> Statement by Ambassador James Roscoe at the Security Council briefing on the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), United Nations (New York). 9 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/preparing-for-elections-and-addressing-root-causes-of-conflict-in-west-africa>

<sup>1842</sup> Statement by Ambassador Jonathan Allen, UK Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN, at the Security Council briefing on UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), United Nations (New York). 16 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/inclusive-government-action-needed-to-bring-stability-to-mali>

<sup>1843</sup> Statement by Ambassador Jonathan Allen, UK Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN, at the Security Council briefing on UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), United Nations (New York). 16 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/inclusive-government-action-needed-to-bring-stability-to-mali>

<sup>1844</sup> Minister for Africa James Duddridge meets Sahel leaders and partners, championing the UK’s role in girls’ education and ending preventable deaths, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (London). Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/africa-minister-champions-uk-leadership-to-help-educate-girls-and-end-preventable-deaths--2>

<sup>1845</sup> Sahel and West Africa: Terrorism:Written question - 29866, Parliament (London). Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-03-16/29866/>

<sup>1846</sup> Libya and Sahel: Politics and Government:Written question - 20480, Parliament (London). Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-25/20480/>

development, diplomacy and defence expertise to help tackle the underlying causes of poverty and conflict in the region.”<sup>1847</sup>

On 12 March, 2020, Minister Cleverly answered another question from Baldwin about bilateral and multilateral programs in Sahel and Libya regions on 12 March, 2020, stating that at the G5 Leaders’ Summit the UK has restated its “commitment to increased efforts to improve security and encourage development in the Sahel.”<sup>1848</sup>

On 27 March 2020, the ministers of defence of Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden and the United Kingdom held a remote conference with five other European Defense Ministers and the Defense Ministers in Mali and Niger to discuss the launch of the Takuba Task Force, a grouping of European special forces whose military contributions will be placed under Operation Barkhane’s command and will operate in the Liptako region.<sup>1849</sup> The Takuba Task Force is expected to become have “initial operational capability” by support 2020 and fully operational by early 2021 and will work in coordination with G5 Sahel partners, MINUSMA and EU missions.<sup>1850</sup>

On April 7, 2020, Ambassador Roscoe gave a speech in the UN security council briefing on the situation in Mali and “welcoming the deployment of the reconstituted armed forces to Kidal, Gao, Timbuktu and Menaka.”<sup>1851</sup>

On 5 June 2020, Ambassador Roscoe delivered a statement during the Security Council briefing on G5 Sahel. He reiterated UK’s commitment to “continue to play its part, working with the UN, the G5 Sahel states and all ... [UK’s] partners across the region, in pursuit of peace, stability, sustainable development and justice for the people of the Sahel.”<sup>1852</sup> Ambassador Roscoe also underlined UK’s ongoing contributions to the peace and security of the region through deployment of its forces to MINUSMA, “non-combat assistance to Operation BARKHANE,” support of the EU Training Mission to Mali, and USD3.4 million in bilateral contributions to the G5 Sahel Joint Force.<sup>1853</sup>

On 11 June 2020, Lord Ahmad, UK Minister of State for the Commonwealth and the UN, delivered a statement at the UN Security Council briefing on MINUSMA. The Minister welcomed African Union commitment to deploy forces, stated that this year UK deployed 250 UK “roops in a long-range mechanised infantry Reconnaissance Task Patrol Group,” reiterated UK’s commitment to

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<sup>1847</sup> Libya and Sahel: Politics and Government:Written question - 20480, Parliament (London). Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-25/20480/>

<sup>1848</sup> Libya and Sahel: Politics and Government:Written question - 25093, Parliament (London). Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-03-04/25093/>

<sup>1849</sup> Official speeches and statements - March 30, 2020, Embassy of France (Washington) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9690#2>

<sup>1850</sup> Official speeches and statements - March 30, 2020, Embassy of France (Washington) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9690#2>

<sup>1851</sup> Statement by Ambassador James Roscoe, acting UK Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN, at the Security Council briefing on the situation in Mali, United Nations (New York). Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/commitment-from-all-parties-is-necessary-for-sustainable-peace-in-mali>

<sup>1852</sup> Pursuing peace in the Sahel, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London). 5 June 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pursuing-peace-in-the-sahel>

<sup>1853</sup> Pursuing peace in the Sahel, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London). 5 June 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pursuing-peace-in-the-sahel>

continue providing funds to the Peacekeeping Intelligence Policy and support the Mission Adaption Plan.<sup>1854</sup>

On 12 June 2020, Africa Minister James Duddridge attended the virtual ministerial meeting of the Coalition for the Sahel. He announced an “extension of the UK’s deployment of three Chinook helicopters to Operation Barkhane” and underlined that the UK will be deploying 250 troops to MINUSMA.<sup>1855</sup> Minister Duddridge also underlined that UK is “third largest humanitarian donor to the region and has provided over GDP500 million in bilateral development and humanitarian assistance since 2015.”<sup>1856</sup> Minister of Defence James Heapey announced that besides the extension of the UK’s helicopters to Operation Barkhane, 100 personnel will remain to support the Operation.<sup>1857</sup>

On 2 July 2020, Lord Ahmed delivered a statement at the UN Security Council briefing on COVID19. The Minister stated that COVID19 impedes effort “to prevent or resolve conflict” in Lake Chad Basin and the Sahel regions and underlined that “the Security Council has a key role to play” while countries “should all stand firm on ... peacekeeping troops contributions.”<sup>1858</sup>

On 9 July 2020, Minister for the Armed Forces James Heapey announced that UK will loan four armed vehicle to the Estonian Special Forces that will be deployed to Mali.<sup>1859</sup> Defence personnel will also deliver a three-week training on the vehicles.

On 21 August 2020, UK Secretary of Defence Ben Wallace during a meeting with defence ministers of France and Germany stated that UK is “monitoring the developments in Mali very closely” and UK will “continue to work strongly together to make sure that ... [UK, France, and Germany] uphold te UN mandate, ... [and] support counterterrorism efforts.”<sup>1860</sup>

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

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Faadil Butt*

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<sup>1854</sup> Adapting MINUSMA while working towards lasting peace in Mali, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London). 11 June 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/adapting-minusma-while-working-toward-lasting-peace-in-mali>

<sup>1855</sup> International Ministers discuss a new Coalition for the Sahel, Department of International Development (London) 12 June 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/international-ministers-discuss-a-new-coalition-for-the-sahel>

<sup>1856</sup> International Ministers discuss a new Coalition for the Sahel, Department of International Development (London) 12 June 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/international-ministers-discuss-a-new-coalition-for-the-sahel>

<sup>1857</sup> UK extends commitment to fight violent extremism in the Sahel, Ministry of Defence (London). 12 June 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-extends-commitment-to-fight-violent-extremism-in-the-sahel>

<sup>1858</sup> Maintaining international peace and security, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London). 2 July 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/maintaining-international-peace-and-security>

<sup>1859</sup> UK loans Estonia four Jackal vehicles to support counter-terror mission in Mali, Ministry of Defence (London). 9 July 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-loans-estonia-four-jackal-vehicles-to-support-counter-terror-mission-in-mali>

<sup>1860</sup> Defence Secretary’s speech at meeting of UK, German and French defence ministers, Ministry of Defence (London). 21 August 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/defence-secretarys-speech-at-meeting-of-uk-german-and-french-defence-ministers>

## United States: 0

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

On 18 September 2019, United States Africa Command (AFRICOM) commander Stephen Townsend met with the G5 Sahel joint force heads. The meeting was held to “get a better understanding of defence and security-related issues in the region” as well as to “ensure ... future cooperation is understood and well-coordinated.”<sup>1861</sup> Commander Townsend confirmed US continuous support of “international effort taking place in Burkina Faso” aiming to contain “the spread of terrorism.”<sup>1862</sup> The actions taken by the AFRICOM commander display cooperation with the G5 Sahel countries.

On 30 September 2019, the United States cooperated with the G5 Sahel countries and delivered the “second tranche of equipment to Chadian G5 Sahel security forces.”<sup>1863</sup> The equipment includes “vehicle, communications gear, and other related support material” worth of USD15 million and will “help Chad’s military and police forces fight terrorism and insecurity in the region.”<sup>1864</sup>

On 17 October 2019, AFRICOM hosted a “high level discussions on G5 Sahel region.”<sup>1865</sup> The meeting was attended by the representatives of the US, Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Niger, Chad, as well as Germany, France, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom.

On 1 November 2019, U.S. Africa Command announced that intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) operations were conducted on the military base in Agadez, Niger.<sup>1866</sup> AFRICOM commander U.S. Army Gen. Stephen Townsend commented: “We are working with our African and international partners to counter security threats in West Africa.”<sup>1867</sup> The construction of

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<sup>1861</sup> US AFRICOM commander Townsend meets G5 Sahel leaders in inaugural trip, The Defence Post. 18 September 2019. Access Date: 13 January 2020. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/09/18/us-africom-townsend-g5-sahel-mali-burkina-faso-niger/>

<sup>1862</sup> US AFRICOM commander Townsend meets G5 Sahel leaders in inaugural trip, The Defence Post. 18 September 2019. Access Date: 13 January 2020. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/09/18/us-africom-townsend-g5-sahel-mali-burkina-faso-niger/>

<sup>1863</sup> U.S. Equipment Donation Strengthens Chadian G5 Sahel Forces, US Embassy in Chad (Ndjamen) 30 September 2019. Access Date: 12 January 2020. <https://td.usembassy.gov/u-s-equipment-donation-strengthens-chadian-g5-sahel-forces/>

<sup>1864</sup> U.S. Equipment Donation Strengthens Chadian G5 Sahel Forces, US Embassy in Chad (Ndjamen) 30 September 2019. Access Date: 12 January 2020. <https://td.usembassy.gov/u-s-equipment-donation-strengthens-chadian-g5-sahel-forces/>

<sup>1865</sup> AFRICOM hosts high level discussions on G5 Sahel region, United States Africa Command (Stuttgart) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 13 January 2020. <https://www.africom.mil/media-room/photo/32255/africom-hosts-high-level-discussions-on-g5-sahel-region>

<sup>1866</sup> Armed drones to fly out of Niger air base now operational after delayed completion. Air Force Times (Vienna, United States) 1 November 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.airforcetimes.com/flashpoints/2019/11/01/armed-drones-to-fly-out-of-niger-air-base-now-operational-after-delayed-completion/>

<sup>1867</sup> Armed drones to fly out of Niger air base now operational after delayed completion. Air Force Times (Vienna, United States) 1 November 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.airforcetimes.com/flashpoints/2019/11/01/armed-drones-to-fly-out-of-niger-air-base-now-operational-after-delayed-completion/>

this base demonstrates our investment in our African partners and mutual security interests in the region.”<sup>1868</sup>

On 11 November 2019, the UN Secretary-General delivered a report to the UN Security Council on the Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel.<sup>1869</sup> The report states that the United States provided US\$15 million worth of equipment to Chad, US\$15 million to Mauritania, US\$21 million to Niger.<sup>1870</sup> The US also provided “training to troops operating under the Joint Force.”<sup>1871</sup> This displays the cooperation of the United States with the United Nations.

On 14 November 2019, Secretary of State Michel Pompeo delivered a speech on the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS. The speech stated that “West Africa and Sahel would be a preferred initial area of focus for the Coalition outside of the ISIS core space.”<sup>1872</sup>

On 20 December 2019, according to Foreign Policy, the Trump administration is “creating a new special envoy position and task force”<sup>1873</sup> due to the “a growing alarm in Washington about the rise of extremist groups in West Africa.”<sup>1874</sup>

On 7 March 2020, Reuters reported that the United States has created a special envoy for Africa’s Sahel region to “counter rising violence from groups linked to al Qaeda and Islamic State which are expanding their foothold.”<sup>1875</sup> Envoy Peter Pham, who previously served as U.S. Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region of Africa, holds this newly created role.<sup>1876</sup>

On 7 April 2020, Acting Deputy Permanent Representative US Mission to the United Nations Ambassador Cherith Norman Chalet issued remarks at the Security Council Briefing on the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali. US Representative welcomed the progress made in implementation of the Algiers Peace Accord and restated US commitment “to helping bring about peace, security, and a brighter future for the people of Mali, the Sahel, and West Africa.”<sup>1877</sup>

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<sup>1868</sup> Armed drones to fly out of Niger air base now operational after delayed completion. Air Force Times (Vienna, United States) 1 November 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.airforcetimes.com/flashpoints/2019/11/01/armed-drones-to-fly-out-of-niger-air-base-now-operational-after-delayed-completion/>

<sup>1869</sup> Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel - Report of the Secretary-General, United Nations. 11 November 2019. Access Date: 14 January 2020. <https://undocs.org/S/2019/868>

<sup>1870</sup> Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel - Report of the Secretary-General, United Nations. 11 November 2019. Access Date: 14 January 2020. <https://undocs.org/S/2019/868>

<sup>1871</sup> Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel - Report of the Secretary-General, United Nations. 11 November 2019. Access Date: 14 January 2020. <https://undocs.org/S/2019/868>

<sup>1872</sup> Secretary Michael R. Pompeo At the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS Small Group Ministerial, U.S Embassy to Georgia (Tbilisi). 14 November 2019. Access Date: 20 August 2020. <https://ge.usembassy.gov/secretary-michael-r-pompeo-at-the-global-coalition-to-defeat-isis-small-group-ministerial-november-14/>

<sup>1873</sup> U.S. to Ramp Up Counterterrorism Efforts in Sahel Region, Foreign Policy. (Washington DC) 20 December 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/12/20/us-ramp-up-counterterrorism-sahel-africa/>

<sup>1874</sup> U.S. to Ramp Up Counterterrorism Efforts in Sahel Region, Foreign Policy (Washington DC) 20 December 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/12/20/us-ramp-up-counterterrorism-sahel-africa/>

<sup>1875</sup> U.S. creates new envoy position to counter rising terrorism in Sahel, Reuters. 7 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-sahel/u-s-creates-new-envoy-position-to-counter-rising-terrorism-in-sahel-idUSKBN20T2ZJ>

<sup>1876</sup> U.S. creates new envoy position to counter rising terrorism in Sahel, Reuters. 7 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-sahel/u-s-creates-new-envoy-position-to-counter-rising-terrorism-in-sahel-idUSKBN20T2ZJ>

<sup>1877</sup> Remarks at a UN Security Council Briefing on the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (via VTC), United States Mission to the United Nations (New York). 7 April 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. [https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-a-un-security-council-briefing-on-the-un-multidimensional-integrated-stabilization-mission-in-mali-via-rtc/?\\_ga=2.37053536.1526610288.1598976781-618746497.1598976781](https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-a-un-security-council-briefing-on-the-un-multidimensional-integrated-stabilization-mission-in-mali-via-rtc/?_ga=2.37053536.1526610288.1598976781-618746497.1598976781)

On 9 April 2020, US Ambassador Dennis Hankins and the Malian Minister of Defense and Veterans Affairs Major General Ibrahim Dahirou Dembélé signed an agreement “to facilitate an in-kind fuel donation to the Malian military.”<sup>1878</sup> This donation aims to support Malian Air Force “operations for the G5 Sahel Joint Force.”<sup>1879</sup>

On 11 May 2020, the US Embassy in Chad provided 33,000 litres of diesel and 8,400 of gas to the Chad’s Special Anti-Terrorism Group.<sup>1880</sup> This fuel assistance aims to “help government’s cross-border counter-terrorism operations.”<sup>1881</sup>

On 5 June 2020, Ambassador Chalet delivered remarks at the Security Council Briefing on the G5 Sahel Joint Force and reiterated the US commitment “supporting the Joint Force by providing equipment, training, and advisory support to fill critical capability gaps on a bilateral basis and continue to call on other countries to do the same.”<sup>1882</sup> He underlined that Joint Force alone is not sufficient as “root cause on the conflict must be addressed through coordinated humanitarian aid and long-term assistance in health, agriculture, citizen-responsive governance, democracy, and human rights.”<sup>1883</sup>

On 11 June 2020, Ambassador Kelly Craft, U.S. Permanent Representative to the United States, stated at the Security Council Briefing on the Situation in Mali that “the United States is committed to establishing peace, security, and a brighter future for the people of Mali, the Sahel, and West Africa” and remained that US is “the largest financial contributor on MINUSMA and the and the largest supporter of pre-deployment training for its contingents.”<sup>1884</sup> Ambassador Craft also restated US commitment “to supporting the G5 Sahel Joint Force by providing equipment, training, and advisory support to fill critical capability gaps on a bilateral basis, and continue to call on other countries to do the same.”<sup>1885</sup>

On 12 June 2020, Deputy Secretary Stephen E. Beigun participated in the International Coalition for the Sahel ministerial. He “expressed [US] support for the Coalition’s objectives ... and noted that a secure, stable Sahel is in the best interest of the United States and the world”<sup>1886</sup>

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<sup>1878</sup> United States and Mali Sign Agreement for Fuel Donation, U.S. Embassy in Mali (Bamako). 9 April 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://ml.usembassy.gov/united-states-and-mali-sign-agreement-for-fuel-donation/>

<sup>1879</sup> United States and Mali Sign Agreement for Fuel Donation, U.S. Embassy in Mali (Bamako). 9 April 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://ml.usembassy.gov/united-states-and-mali-sign-agreement-for-fuel-donation/>

<sup>1880</sup> U.S. Embassy provides fuel assistance to Chadian Military, U.S. Embassy in Chad (Ndjamena). 11 May 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://td.usembassy.gov/us-embassy-provides-fuel-assistance-to-chadian-military/>

<sup>1881</sup> U.S. Embassy provides fuel assistance to Chadian Military, U.S. Embassy in Chad (Ndjamena). 11 May 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://td.usembassy.gov/us-embassy-provides-fuel-assistance-to-chadian-military/>

<sup>1882</sup> Remarks at a UN Security Council Briefing on the G5 Sahel Joint Force (via VTC), United States Mission to the United Nations (New York). 5 June 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-a-un-security-council-briefing-on-the-g5-sahel-joint-force-via-vtc/>

<sup>1883</sup> Remarks at a UN Security Council Briefing on the G5 Sahel Joint Force (via VTC), United States Mission to the United Nations (New York). 5 June 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-a-un-security-council-briefing-on-the-g5-sahel-joint-force-via-vtc/>

<sup>1884</sup> Remarks at a UN Security Council Briefing on the Situation in Mali (via VTC), United States Mission to the United Nations (New York). 11 June 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-a-un-security-council-briefing-on-the-situation-in-mali-via-vtc/>

<sup>1885</sup> Remarks at a UN Security Council Briefing on the Situation in Mali (via VTC), United States Mission to the United Nations (New York). 11 June 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-a-un-security-council-briefing-on-the-situation-in-mali-via-vtc/>

<sup>1886</sup> Deputy Secretary Beigun’s Participation in the International Coalition for the Sahel Virtual Ministerial, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.). 12 June 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.state.gov/deputy-secretary-beiguns-participation-in-the-international-coalition-for-the-sahel-virtual-ministerial/>

On 3 July 2020, the United States provided USD8.5 million in material aid to Chad's Special Anti-Terrorism Group.<sup>1887</sup> This aid is designated for Chad's troops contributing to the G5 Sahel forces and aims to support G5 forces with addressing "growing security concerns in the Sahel."<sup>1888</sup>

On 9 July 2020, a US State Department spokesperson issued a statement on human rights abuses in the Sahel region.<sup>1889</sup> She underlined that "the United States has made clear that ... [US] assistance to the region must not be used in any way that contributes to violations or abuses of human rights and that without prompt and thorough action to address these allegations, U.S. security assistance may be at risk."<sup>1890</sup>

On 9 July 2020, Ambassador Chalet stated at the Security Council Briefing on the Situation in West Africa and the Sahel that the Sahel region countries are "grappling with significant threats to peace, security, and stability due to the confluence of internal political tensions, the COVID-19 pandemic, violence by armed groups, and a worsening food security and humanitarian situation" and highlighted US concern over "increasing instability across the Sahel and specifically in parts of Nigeria."<sup>1891</sup> Ambassador Chalet called on UN Security Council members to urge "signatory parties of the Algiers Accord to meet the implementation benchmarks in the recently-renewed MINUSMA mandate."<sup>1892</sup>

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

Thus, the United States receive a score of 0.

*Analyst: Shamsbir Malik*

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

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to work with the United Nations and INTERPOL in order to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.

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<sup>1887</sup> The United States Provides \$8.5 Million in Materiel Aid to Chad in Support of G5 Sahel, U.S. Embassy in Chad (Ndjamena). 3 July 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://td.usembassy.gov/the-united-states-provides-8-5-million-in-materiel-aid-to-chad-in-support-of-g5-sahel/>

<sup>1888</sup> The United States Provides \$8.5 Million in Materiel Aid to Chad in Support of G5 Sahel, U.S. Embassy in Chad (Ndjamena). 3 July 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://td.usembassy.gov/the-united-states-provides-8-5-million-in-materiel-aid-to-chad-in-support-of-g5-sahel/>

<sup>1889</sup> U.S. warns aid at risk unless alleged abuses in West Africa's Sahel region addressed, Reuters (Washington D.C.). 9 July 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-sahel-security-usa/u-s-says-alleged-human-rights-abuses-in-sahel-must-be-addressed-idUSKBN24A223>

<sup>1890</sup> U.S. warns aid at risk unless alleged abuses in West Africa's Sahel region addressed, Reuters (Washington D.C.). 9 July 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-sahel-security-usa/u-s-says-alleged-human-rights-abuses-in-sahel-must-be-addressed-idUSKBN24A223>

<sup>1891</sup> Remarks at a UN Security Council Briefing on the Situation in West Africa and the Sahel (via VTC), United States Mission to the United Nations (New York). 9 July 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-a-un-security-council-briefing-on-the-situation-in-west-africa-and-the-sahel-via-rtc/>

<sup>1892</sup> Remarks at a UN Security Council Briefing on the Situation in West Africa and the Sahel (via VTC), United States Mission to the United Nations (New York). 9 July 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-a-un-security-council-briefing-on-the-situation-in-west-africa-and-the-sahel-via-rtc/>

On 17-18 October 2019, EU representatives met with researchers, Sahel experts, and representatives from other Sahel partner members to share security and stability analyses for the Sahel region.<sup>1893</sup> Representatives also discussed the difficulty of border management and possible solutions.<sup>1894</sup>

On 12 November 2019, High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Federica Mogherini spoke at a conference after a meeting of the Foreign Affairs Council in Defense Formation.<sup>1895</sup> She announced that the EU decided to increase its presence and support given to Sahel partners in fighting terrorism and organized crime, especially Mali, through the support of security forces and diplomatic efforts.<sup>1896</sup>

On 12 November 2019, the European Council formally adopted 13 new projects under the Permanent Structured Cooperation on Defence and Security (PESCO), including a new EUR10.5 billion “peace facility” proposed by Representative Mogherini.<sup>1897</sup> The purpose of the facility would be to pay for military equipment, including lethal weaponry, for crisis zones such as the Sahel region.<sup>1898</sup>

On 11–17 November 2019, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNDOC), the INTERPOL Firearms Programme, and 110 “police, customs, border police and prosecution services” from Burkina Faso, Cote d’Ivoire and Mali conducted operation KAFO.<sup>1899</sup> This operation “permitted law enforcement to intercept illicit firearms and identify potential links with other criminal activity across the region and beyond, including terrorism.”<sup>1900</sup> KAFO is “part of joint efforts to strengthen the criminal justice chain” through training “in the use of operation tools ... [and] techniques to support the fight against illicit firearms trafficking.”<sup>1901</sup> In particular, training scope of KAFO includes “UNODC’s training on detection and investigation of firearms trafficking at land border crossing points as well as on INTERPOL global policing capabilities, including iARMS and the INTERPOL Firearms Reference Table (IFRT).”<sup>1902</sup> KAFO “was made possible with

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<sup>1893</sup> 7th special envoys for the Sahel and partners meeting, West Africa Brief (Paris) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 29 December 2019. <http://www.west-africa-brief.org/content/en/7th-special-envoys-sahel-and-partners-meeting>

<sup>1894</sup> 7th special envoys for the Sahel and partners meeting, West Africa Brief (Paris) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 29 December 2019. <http://www.west-africa-brief.org/content/en/7th-special-envoys-sahel-and-partners-meeting>

<sup>1895</sup> EU to ‘increase presence and improve support’ for Sahel partners fighting terrorism, 13 November 2019. Access Date: 29 December 2019. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/11/13/eu-support-sahel-terrorism-mali/>

<sup>1896</sup> EU to ‘increase presence and improve support’ for Sahel partners fighting terrorism, 13 November 2019. Access Date: 29 December 2019. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/11/13/eu-support-sahel-terrorism-mali/>

<sup>1897</sup> EU launches 13 new PESCO defense cooperation projects, 12 November 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/11/12/new-pesco-projects-eu-defense-cooperation/>

<sup>1898</sup> EU launches 13 new PESCO defense cooperation projects, 12 November 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/11/12/new-pesco-projects-eu-defense-cooperation/>

<sup>1899</sup> A joint INTERPOL-UNODC operation against illicit firearms trafficking in West Africa has seen arrests and the seizure of firearms and ammunition, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (New York). 23 December 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/firearms-protocol/news/kafo-operation.html>

<sup>1900</sup> A joint INTERPOL-UNODC operation against illicit firearms trafficking in West Africa has seen arrests and the seizure of firearms and ammunition, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (New York). 23 December 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/firearms-protocol/news/kafo-operation.html>

<sup>1901</sup> A joint INTERPOL-UNODC operation against illicit firearms trafficking in West Africa has seen arrests and the seizure of firearms and ammunition, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (New York). 23 December 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/firearms-protocol/news/kafo-operation.html>

<sup>1902</sup> A joint INTERPOL-UNODC operation against illicit firearms trafficking in West Africa has seen arrests and the seizure of firearms and ammunition, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (New York). 23 December 2019. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/firearms-protocol/news/kafo-operation.html>

the support from Germany, Japan, and the European Union.<sup>1903</sup> In addition, the EU funds the INTERPOL's illicit Arms Records and tracing Management System.<sup>1904</sup>

On 25 November 2019, Finda Koroma, Vice President of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and the EU Special Representative Ambassador Angel Losada met in Nigeria to discuss regional security in West Africa.<sup>1905</sup> Parties discussed the importance of signing a Memorandum of Understanding to promote cooperation on G5 Sahel, especially protecting citizens living in areas affected by terrorism.<sup>1906</sup>

On 17 January 2020, European Union provide 13 armed vehicles to the G5 Sahel Joint Force.<sup>1907</sup> These vehicles will be used by two Malian battalions and are part of 46 armored vehicle that EU committed to provide to the G5 Sahel forces.<sup>1908</sup>

On 20 January 2020, High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borell announced that the EU Foreign Affairs Council would increase strategic cooperation with Sahel members as the leading partner and donor in the region.<sup>1909</sup> The Council expressed support for expanding the existing Sahel Strategy to increase security, stability and development in the region with maximum cooperation between actors involved in the Sahel region.<sup>1910</sup>

On 25 February 2020, Commissioner for International Partnerships Jutta Urpilainen attended the G5 Sahel Summit in Mauritania.<sup>1911</sup> Commissioner Urpilainen donated seven armoured vehicles to the Mauritanian battalion of the G5 Sahel Joint Force and emphasized the EU's commitment to the stabilization and recovery of the Sahel region.<sup>1912</sup>

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<sup>1903</sup> A joint INTERPOL-UNODC operation against illicit firearms trafficking in West Africa has seen arrests and the seizure of firearms and ammunition, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (New York). 23 December 2019. Acces Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/firearms-protocol/news/kafo-operation.html>

<sup>1904</sup> A joint INTERPOL-UNODC operation against illicit firearms trafficking in West Africa has seen arrests and the seizure of firearms and ammunition, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (New York). 23 December 2019. Acces Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/firearms-protocol/news/kafo-operation.html>

<sup>1905</sup> ECOWAS Commission and European Union Discuss Regional Security, Economic Community of West African States (Abuja) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.ecowas.int/ecowas-commission-and-european-union-discuss-regional-security/>

<sup>1906</sup> ECOWAS Commission and European Union Discuss Regional Security, Economic Community of West African States (Abuja) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.ecowas.int/ecowas-commission-and-european-union-discuss-regional-security/>

<sup>1907</sup> The European Union continues to support the G5 Sahel Joint Force with the supply of 13 armored vehicles, European Union External Action (Brussels). 17 January 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020.

[https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/73170/union-europ%C3%A9enne-poursuit-son-appui-%C3%A0-la-force-conjointe-du-g5-sahel-avec-la-fournitue-de-13\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/73170/union-europ%C3%A9enne-poursuit-son-appui-%C3%A0-la-force-conjointe-du-g5-sahel-avec-la-fournitue-de-13_en)

<sup>1908</sup> The European Union continues to support the G5 Sahel Joint Force with the supply of 13 armored vehicles, European Union External Action (Brussels). 17 January 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020.

[https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/73170/union-europ%C3%A9enne-poursuit-son-appui-%C3%A0-la-force-conjointe-du-g5-sahel-avec-la-fournitue-de-13\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/73170/union-europ%C3%A9enne-poursuit-son-appui-%C3%A0-la-force-conjointe-du-g5-sahel-avec-la-fournitue-de-13_en)

<sup>1909</sup> Foreign Affairs Council, 20 January 2020, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/fac/2020/01/20/>

<sup>1910</sup> Foreign Affairs Council, 20 January 2020, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/fac/2020/01/20/>

<sup>1911</sup> G5 Sahel Summit: Commissioner Urpilainen underlines importance of continued partnership with Sahel region, European Commission (Brussels) 25 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/g5-sahel-summit-commissioner-urpilainen-underlines-importance-continued-partnership-sahel\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/g5-sahel-summit-commissioner-urpilainen-underlines-importance-continued-partnership-sahel_en)

<sup>1912</sup> G5 Sahel Summit: Commissioner Urpilainen underlines importance of continued partnership with Sahel region, European Commission (Brussels) 25 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/g5-sahel-summit-commissioner-urpilainen-underlines-importance-continued-partnership-sahel\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/g5-sahel-summit-commissioner-urpilainen-underlines-importance-continued-partnership-sahel_en)

On 23 March 2020, the Council of the EU expanded the scope of the EU military mission contributing to the training of the Malian Armed Forces and increased the mission budget to EUR133.7 million for a four-year period.<sup>1913</sup> The Council also prolonged the mission until 18 May 2024.<sup>1914</sup> The mission will provide military assistance to the G5 Sahel Joint Force and national forces in G5 Sahel members through military advice, training, and mentoring conducted through coordination with the UN and ECOWAS.<sup>1915</sup>

On 24 March 2020, the EU donated 13 armoured vehicles to Niger to strengthen the capacity of Nigerien soldiers fighting against terrorism in the Sahel.<sup>1916</sup> Minister of National Defence of Niger Issoufou Katambé clarified that donated vehicles will protect deployed units in areas of operation against traps and explosive devices used by armed terrorist groups that seek to destabilize the border regions of Niger.<sup>1917</sup>

On 8 April 2020, President of the European Council Charles Michel co-chaired a EU-G5 Sahel video conference which was attended by the Heads of State of the G5 Sahel, the President of the European Commission, the High Representative of the EU, the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and the President of African Union Commission.<sup>1918</sup> In the Joint Declaration, leaders “reaffirm[ed] their joint commitment to the security, stability and development of the Sahel.”<sup>1919</sup>

On 28 April 2020, the European Council and the Member States of the G5 Sahel held a EU-G5 Sahel video conference and adopted a joint declaration “to reaffirm ... commitment to the security, stability and development of the Sahel.”<sup>1920</sup> The declaration states that this commitment “will drive engagement at regional and international level” in cooperation with the UN, African Union, and

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<sup>1913</sup> EUTM Mali: Council extends training mission with broadened mandate and increased budget, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 23 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/03/23/eutm-mali-council-extends-training-mission-with-broadened-mandate-and-increased-budget/>

<sup>1914</sup> EUTM Mali: Council extends training mission with broadened mandate and increased budget, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 23 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/03/23/eutm-mali-council-extends-training-mission-with-broadened-mandate-and-increased-budget>

<sup>1915</sup> EUTM Mali: Council extends training mission with broadened mandate and increased budget, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 23 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/03/23/eutm-mali-council-extends-training-mission-with-broadened-mandate-and-increased-budget>

<sup>1916</sup> European Union armored vehicle donation to Niger, Secrétariat Permanent du G5 Sahel (Nouakchott) 24 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.g5sahel.org/nos-activites/infrastructures/1588-don-de-vehicules-blindes-de-l-union-europeenne-au-niger>

<sup>1917</sup> European Union armored vehicle donation to Niger, Secrétariat Permanent du G5 Sahel (Nouakchott) 24 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.g5sahel.org/nos-activites/infrastructures/1588-don-de-vehicules-blindes-de-l-union-europeenne-au-niger>

<sup>1918</sup> EU-G5 Sahel video conference, European Council (Brussels). 28 April 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2020/04/28/>

<sup>1919</sup> Joint declaration of the members of the European Council with the Member States of the G5 Sahel, European Council (Brussels). 28 April 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/04/28/joint-declaration-of-the-members-of-the-european-council-with-the-member-states-of-the-g5-sahel/>

<sup>1920</sup> Joint declaration of the members of the European Council with the Member States of the G5 Sahel, European Council (Brussels). 28 April 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/04/28/joint-declaration-of-the-members-of-the-european-council-with-the-member-states-of-the-g5-sahel/>

ECOWAS.<sup>1921</sup> In addition, the European Commission announced that additional EUR194 million will be provided “to support the security, stability and resilience in the Sahel” that includes EUR112 million that will be dedicated to helping strengthening “the security and defence capabilities of the G5 Sahel countries.”<sup>1922</sup>

On 30 June 2020, President Michel delivered a speech to G5 Sahel summit in Nouakchott.<sup>1923</sup> He outlined the “clear and very tangible progress” that the EU and EU member states achieved since April including more EU members committing to contribute special forces or equipment to the Takuba Task Force, EU adopting “a new programme in support of Niger’s efforts to combat the criminal networks linked to terrorism,” broadening of the mandate and increasing the budget of the EU training mission in Mali, rebuilding the Command Post of the Joint Force, and pledging EUR200 million “in additiona financing ... to strengthen the region’d security, stability and resilience.”<sup>1924</sup>

On 26 August 2020, the European Union announced that it was suspending its training missions in Mali due to the military coup in the country.<sup>1925</sup> High Representative Borrell said that none of the “top officers behind the coup” had participated in the EUTM Mali training mission and expressed his hope that the missions “could resume as soon as possible.”<sup>1926</sup>

The EU has demonstrated efforts to support G5 members through funding and cooperation, as well as UN and INTEPOL initiatives to counteract terrorism and support G5 police capabilities.

Thus, the EU receives a score of +1.

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<sup>1921</sup> Joint declaration of the members of the European Council with the Member States of the G5 Sahel, European Council (Brussels). 28 April 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/04/28/joint-declaration-of-the-members-of-the-european-council-with-the-member-states-of-the-g5-sahel/>

<sup>1922</sup> EU announces €194 million additional support to the Sahel, European Commission (Brussels). 28 April 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/eu-announces-eu194-million-additional-support-sahel\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/eu-announces-eu194-million-additional-support-sahel_en)

<sup>1923</sup> Speech by President Charles Michel to the summit in Nouakchott, European Council (Brussels). 30 June 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/06/30/aux-cotes-du-g5-sahel-l-union-europeenne-tient-ses-engagements-discours-du-president-charles-michel-au-sommet-de-nouakchott/>

<sup>1924</sup> Speech by President Charles Michel to the summit in Nouakchott, European Council (Brussels). 30 June 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/06/30/aux-cotes-du-g5-sahel-l-union-europeenne-tient-ses-engagements-discours-president-charles-michel-au-sommet-de-nouakchott/>

<sup>1925</sup> EU freezes Mali training missions after military coup, Deutsche Welle (Bonn). 26 August 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/eu-freezes-mali-training-missions-after-military-coup/a-54710608>

<sup>1926</sup> EU freezes Mali training missions after military coup, Deutsche Welle (Bonn). 26 August 2020. Access Date: 28 August 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/eu-freezes-mali-training-missions-after-military-coup/a-54710608>